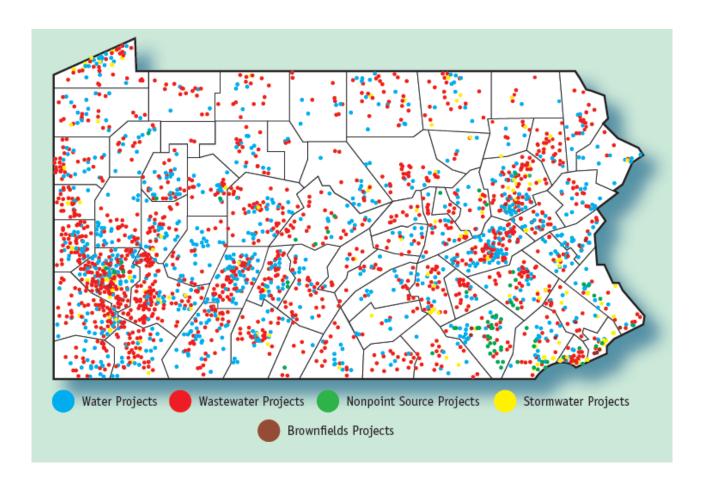


# PENNVEST FUNDING TO DATE



### \$7.9 BILLION

- Projects Approved
  - 3,318
    - 1014 Drinking Water
    - 1,554 Sewer
    - · 492 On-Lot
    - · 116 Storm Water
    - 124 Non Point Source
    - 15 Brownfield
    - · 3 Acid Mind Drainage

# COMPETITVE TERMS

# Funding Impact





# Why and When do you need multiple funding sources?

- Private Funding Sources do not result in an affordable project
- Available Public Sources are insufficient to provide for an affordable funding package to allow project to Proceed
- Projects are too large for any one funding entity to cover
- Pockets of residential users may have difficulty in paying for improvements and could help project qualify for additional subsidy.
- Economic Development Opportunities may qualify the project for participation by related funding entities
- Existing funding may require matching funds

# How to Succeed when using Multiple Funding Sources

- Meet Early on in the process
  - Earlier is better, no matter what...you can always have a subsequent meeting to follow-up if necessary. You can set the pace for a successful project at the start.
- Have Regular Progress Reports and Involve Public
  - Keep Funders in the loop build a good report, co-opt them into the project
  - Public involvement is necessary for successful implementation of any project
  - Develop a sense of ownership top to bottom.
- Involve the Regulators in the Process
  - Nothing to lose but valuable time and \$ with non compliance make them your advocates
- Coordinate Funding Requirements
  - Minimize duplication target funding where it best fits the project for implementation and eligibility You may have to step out of our comfort zone a bit but it keeps everyone's idea of the project on the same page. Reach out, don't wait.
- Coordinate Implementation Schedules With Funding Cycles
  - This can be targeted at the planning meetings no need to Hurry Up....and wait but....
- Be Prepared to Move as soon as the Planets Align!
  - I have seen more projects move to construction because they were ready to move when the \$ was there, than projects that just begin the process when the money becomes available.

Dry Tavern Sewer Authority



Country United States
State Pennsylvania
County Greene

Established 1903

Government

 Mayor Ryan T Belski (Preceded by Brad Kline).

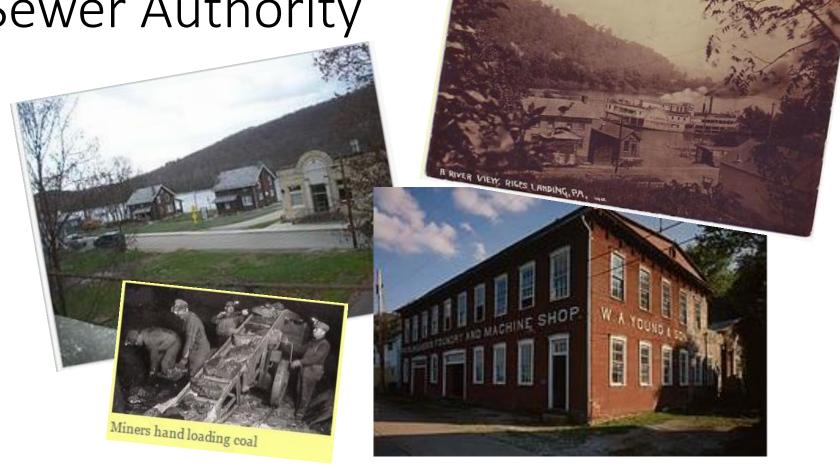
Area

• Total 0.9 sq mi (2 km²) • Land 0.8 sq mi (2 km²) • Water 0.1 sq mi (0.3 km²)

Population (2010)

• Total 463

Density 510/sq mi (200/km²)



The availability of valuable resources such as trees, clay, sand coal and transportation allowed the community to thrive. Shops, trading posts, taverns, and other businesses once lined its busy streets. It was so prosperous, that it was regarded as the Gateway to Western Pennsylvania by frontier settlers.

Public Health

veal Date: 4/22/2015

4/15/2015

		Board St	ımmary R	eview		Appiovai Da	16: 4/22/2015	
			SUM	MARY				
	y Tavern Sewer 0045031501-CS	Authority - Phase 2	-B Sanitary	Sewer Exter Fur	sion and F iding Requ	emcliff Road Pu uest Type: Wasto	mp Station Water	
County(s)		Service Area Population	Serv Conne		Sena	te District(s)	House of Rep	s District(s)
Greene		502	29	6	Bartolot	tta, Camera C.	Snyder, Par	n
Legal Entity Name: Address:	Authority Address: 1971 Jefferson Road  P.O. Box 194 P.O. Box 194  Rices Landing, PA 15357							
Telephone: Organization Type:	724-592-	ajar.	- coperation			UC Regulated:	No	
			TECH	INICAL				
Project Description: Construction of 20,00 family grinder pumps	0 linear feet of n	ew gravity sanitary set of low pressure	sewers, one	pump statio	n and 4,70	0 linear feet of fo	orce main along w	ith 6 single
Dul-Es Usalth	Economic	Aquatic I	Tealth	Infrastru	cture	Community	Complian	ice

Health

MH	L		Nobi			
Proposed Construc	tion Schedule:	Start Date: 8/3/2	015	Complet	ion Date: 7/31/20	16
		FINAN	CIAL/LEGAL			
Est. Total Project (	Cost: \$4,100,00	00.00	Legal Rev	iew:	)	Recommended
Proposed Method	of Financing Rema	inder of Project Costs:	Est. Annu	al Avg. Residential U	ser Rate:	\$600.00
Non-Repayment	USACE Grant	\$500,000		Funding Loan Amour	its: Loan:	\$0.00
Other Loans	N/A	\$0	.00	Non-Rep	payment:	\$0.00
Other Sources	Tap Fee	\$148,500	.00			
Amount of Project Through Other So		s648,500	.00			
Collateral (Hard)	The note of the Dry	Tavern Sewer Authority secu	red by a lien on its sev	ver revenues.		
		STAFF RE	COMMENDATIO	N		
PENNVEST Recei	nmendation:	<x> A</x>	approved <> Do	efer <> Disa	pprove	
Loan Amount:		\$741,500.00			Term of Loan:	240
Non-Repayment:		\$2,710,000.00	Interest On	ly Period and First 5	Yrs of Amort:	1.000%
				Yrs 6 to Ma	aturity Amort:	1.000%
Total PENNVEST	Funding:	\$3,451,500.00				

Total Pro	ject Cost =	\$4,100,000

### **Funding Sources:**

US Army Corps Grant	\$ 500,000
Tap Fees	\$ 148,500
PENNVEST (SRF Loan)	\$ 741,500
PENNVEST (SRF P/F)	\$2.710.000

**Service Connections** = 296 **Monthly Fee** = \$50.00

**Project Description:** extension of 20,000 ft of gravity sewers, 4,700 ft of force main, 6 grinder pumps and 800 ft of low pressure sewers, and related appurtenances.

**Problem Statement:** documented on lot malfunctions greater than 55%, including a number of wildcat sewer systems.

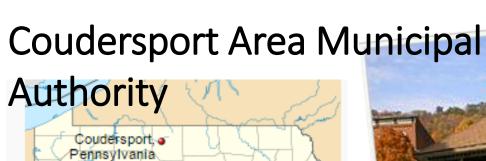
This project was able to utilize US Army Corps Grant, local tap fees, and PV Loan and Grant. Army Corps can play a significant role for some projects, but will tend to slow down the implementation.











Location within the state of Pennsylvania
Coordinates: 41°46′26″N 78°01′07″W

Country United States
State Pennsylvania

County Potter

Settled 1807 Incorporated 1848

(borough)

Government

Mayor Brenda Whitman

Area

• Total 5.7 sq mi (14.7 km<sup>2</sup>)

Population (2000)

• Total 2,650

Density 467.2/sq mi (180.5/km²)



### Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority Wastewater Facility

LOAN APPLICATION REVIEW SUMMARY

APPLICANT INFORMATION PROJECT ID: 53018010001-CS

Board Meeting Date: 03/22/2000

Project Name: COUDERSPORT AREA MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Address: PO BOX 820

COUDERSPORT , PA 16915

Contact Person: MATTHEW LOWE

Phone No.: 814 274 9776

Date Application Received: 01/19/2000

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

County: POTTER

Ownership Type:

Municipal Authority

Residential Customers:

1,016 Service Area Population:

3,204 Federal Tax ID #: 25-1843978

PUC Regulated: No

Senate District: 025

House District: 067

PRIORITY CRITERIA

Publ/Hith/Safety/Environment: Medium High

Compliance: High

Adeq/Eff/Soc: High

Environmental/Aquatic/Recreation: No Impact

Econ/Dev: High

PROPOSED BUDGET

Total Estimated Project Cost:

\$9,110,000

Other Sources Of Financing: Economic Development Admin (EDA) Grant

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Grant

\$1,000,000

Tap Fees

\$125,000

Total Other Sources:

\$1,525,000

Total PENNVEST Funding:

\$7,585,000

Previous PENNVEST Adv Funding:

New PENNVEST Financing:

\$7,585,000

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Collateral/Equity: Satisfactory

Debt/Equity: Satisfactory

Trend In Operating Results: Marginal

Cash Flow vs. Debt Service:

Current: Unsatisfactory

Projected: Satisfactory

Proposed Repayment Method: User Rate Increase

Estimated Projected Annual Average User Rate:

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Action: APPROVED

Loan Amount: \$6,585,000

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000

Interest Rate 1st (5) Years:

1.000

Bal of Term:

Term: 360 Months

Collateral:

First lien on the sewer revenues of Coudersport Area Municipal Authority. Pro-rata guarantees of the three participating municipalities secured by a pledge of their respective taxing authorities.

**Total Project Cost =** 

\$9,110,000

### **Funding Sources:**

Economic Development Administration (EDA) Grant: \$ 1,000,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Grant 400,000 Tap Fees 125,000 \$ 6,585,000 PENNVEST (SRF Loan) \$ 1,000,000 PENNVEST (State Grant)

**Service Connections** = 1,016 **Monthly Fee** = \$37.75

**Project Description:** Construction to expand the treatment facilities to .95 MGD to provide adequate treatment for existing as well as capacity for neighboring communities.

**Problem Statement:** Hydraulic and Organic overloading of the existing treatment facilities and documented on lot malfunctions greater than 26%.

**Benefits** – environmental and economic development / consent order compliance and support creation of tech related 500 jobs

## A New Day for Coudersport



Borough Secretary Marlin Moore tours the project site.

by Brion Johnson PENNVEST Deputy Executive Director for Project Management

Along the northern tier of Pennsylvania, nestled among the beautiful rolling hills in Potter County, lies the Borough of Coudersport. The Borough was incorporated in 1848, named for Jean Samuel Couderc, an Amsterdam banker, is the county seat and population center.

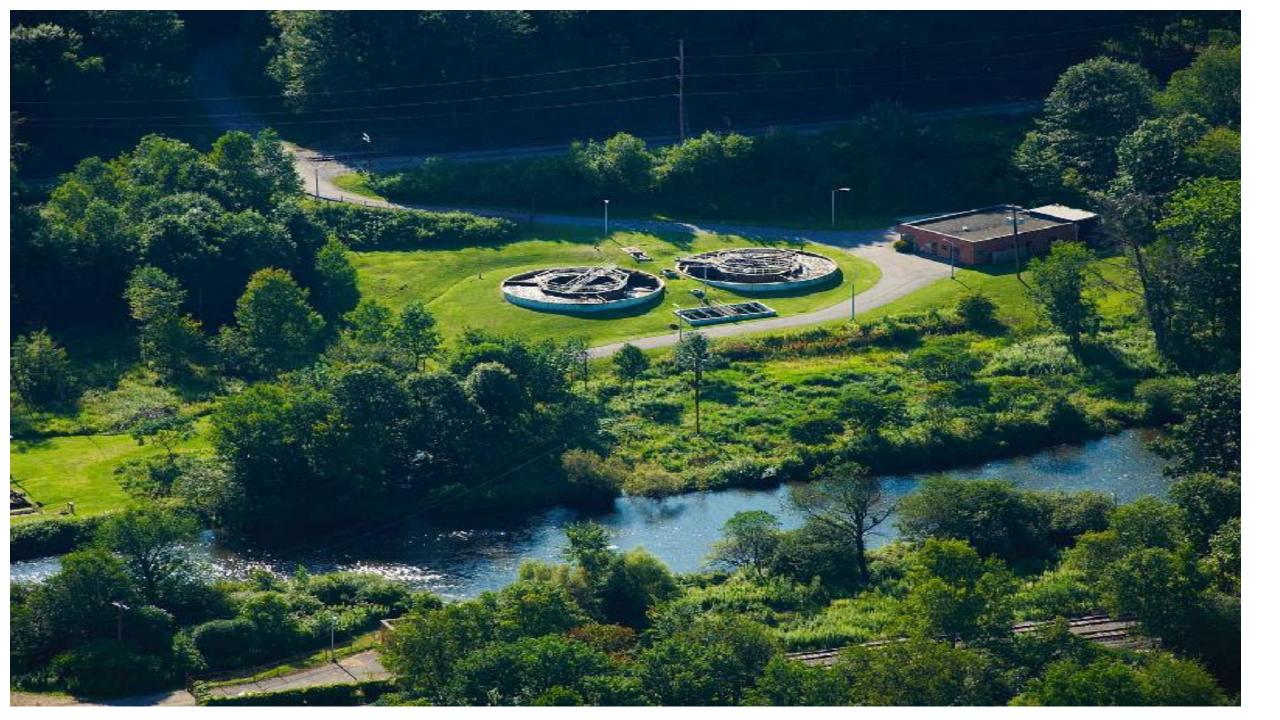
The Borough's original wastewater system was constructed in 1966, and two upgrades have been constructed since. Over the last several years, the wastewater treatment facilities have been experiencing wet weather overflow problems that have caused the discharge of untreated or partially treated sewage and digested sludge into the Allegheny River. The treatment plant had insufficient capacity and was at the end of its design life. The collection system has excessive inflow and infiltration and several areas of the surrounding townships were experiencing widespread on-lot system malfunctions, compromising public health. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) entered into a Consent Order and Agreement with Coudersport to correct the system problems.

Local economic growth in the area added more stress to the already overloaded collection and treatment facilities. Adelphia Communications, the fourth largest cable operator in the United States, was in the process of expanding their operations to add 500 new jobs and invest over \$12,000,000 in their local operations. The existing wastewater collection and treatment facilities needed to be upgraded in order to ensure that this investment and much needed employment would not be diverted to other Adelphia facilities outside of Pennsylvania. The project also allows for economic diversity by allowing expansion of existing businesses and drawing economic strength for "spin-off" businesses associated with the telecommunications industry.

The Authority needed a great deal of state, federal and local effort in order to get this \$9.4 million project underway. In addition to economic incentives provided to Adelphia from the Department of Community and Economic Development, the federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) and Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) provided \$1.4 million in grants to the Authority. An additional \$375,000 was obtained through the Community Development Block Grant program and \$50,000 was contributed from tap fees. PENNVEST was able to fund the remaining portion of the project with a loan in the amount of \$6,585,000 carrying an interest rate of 1% over a 30-year pay pack period. In addition, the PENNVEST Board approved a \$1,000,000 grant in order to help keep the residential user rates in line with other similar systems.

The Authority's customer base of just over 1,000 will be looking at a user fee of around \$40 per month. "That is a great deal, when you consider how much work we're getting done here. The reduced interest rate and grants really make this project work. Without this funding package we would either still be looking for money or we'd be paying a lot more for service," said Borough Secretary Marlin Moore. PENNVEST Project Specialist Paul Natale has been working with the Authority for a couple of years. He summarized his view of the project by saying, "This project brings the best of both worlds together in one project. We are able to take care of the public health and environmental problems and help create jobs with same project."

The Coudersport Authority was the recipient of grant funds made available through the Growing Greener Grants legislation. "A year ago we wouldn't have been able to make this project as good of an offer", Natale explained, "We are now able to help those projects that until now have not requested funding because they couldn't afford the project with loan only financing."











Newton-Wayne Joint Municipal Authority

### Newton Hamilton, Pennsylvania

### Borough



Country United States
State Pennsylvania
County Mifflin

Settled 1802 Incorporated 1843

### Government

Type
 President
 Councilman
 Councilman
 Councilman
 Councilman
 Councilman
 Councilman
 Councilman
 Councilman
 Kenneth Renninger

Area

• Total 0.2 sq mi (0.5 km²)

### Population (2000)

• Total 272

• Density 1,624.1/sq mi (617.8/km²)







**Board Summary Review** 

Approval Date: 01/26/2009

SUMMARY

Project Name: Newton-Wayne Jt MA - Wastewater Collection and Conveyance System Project

Project ID: 44039040811-0	S	Funding R	equest Type: Waste Water	T
County(s)	Service Area	Service	Senate District(s)	House of Reps
	Population	Connections		District(s)
Mifflin	1106	460	Cormon Joke	Fleck Mike

Legal Entity Name: Newton-Wayne Joint Municipal Authority

Address:319 Country Club Road

Victor Dimoff Contact's Name:

Address:

3055 Ferguson Valley Road

Mount Union, PA 17066

McVeytown, PA 17051 717-899-7130

Telephone: 814-542-8255

Telephone:

Organization Type: Municipal Authority

Year Incorporated: 2005

TECHNICAL

PUC Regulated:No

Construct 3 pump stations, 56,490 feet of sewer main; 20,772 feet of sewer force main; acquisition of interceptor and treatment capacity from Kistler and Mount Union Boroughs; decommission of an overloaded 0.024 million gallons per day sewage treatment plant.

Public Health	Economic Development	Aquatic Health	Infrastructure Health	Compliance	Community Health	
MH	L	MH	M	- Н	H	

Proposed Construction Schedule:

Start Date: 07/01/2009

Completion Date: 04/01/2010

FINANCIAL/LEGAL

Est. Total Project Cost: \$ 10,645,000.00

Proposed Method of Financing Remainder of Pro	ject Costs:
Grants	
CDBG	\$299,350.00
Growing Greener 2	\$200,000.00
PENNVEST Advance Funding Grant	\$255,445.00

Other Loans PENNVEST Advance Funding Loan \$398,185.00

Other Sources

Advance Funding Loan Amounts: Loan:

Amount of Project Cost To

Grant Amount \$ 3,326,554.00

Be Obtained Through other Sources: Collateral:

\$1,152,980.00

Legal Review: Recommended

Financial Review Collateral: Equity Satisfactory Total Debt: Equity Marginal

NA Trend in Operating Results

Cash Flow vs. Debt Service For Current Cash Flow NA For Projected Cash Flow Satisfactory

Applicant's Proposed Repayment Method of Other Project Loans:

Specify: Establish sewer rates

Est. Annual Avg. Residential User Rate \$975.51

\$0.00

A first lien on the sewer revenues of Newton-Wayne Joint Municipal Authority; the pro rata guaranties of Newton Hamilton Borough and Wayne Township secured by a pledge of their respective taxing authorities.

Grant:

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

PENNVEST Recommendation: <X> Approve <> Defer Loan Amount \$ 6,165,466.00 Term: 360 months

<> Disapprove PENNVEST Amount: Interest Only Period and First 5 Yrs of Amort: 1.000%

Yrs 6 to Maturity Amort: 1.000%

SIGNATURE:

01/16/2009

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PROJECT NAME:

Newton-Wayne Jt MA - Wastewater Collection and Conveyance System Project

APPLICANT:

Newton-Wayne Joint Municipal Authority

TOTAL PROJECT COST:

\$10.645,000.00

#### PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED BY PROJECT:

The main problem addressed by this project is the existence or suspected existence of many malfunctioning sewage disposal systems. The approved and amended Act 537 Plan describes 214 such confirmed or suspected malfunctions in the project area.

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Construct 3 pump stations, 56,490 feet of sewer main; 20,772 feet of sewer force main; acquisition of interceptor, and treatment capacity from Kistler and Mount Union Boroughs; decommission of an overloaded 0.024 million gallons per day sewage treatment plant.

The project will serve 460 low income households in Newton-Hamilton Borough and Wayne Township. It is a start-up system with no existing user fees.

#### MAJOR BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT:

Public Health/Safety: The project will eliminate the health hazards associated with raw or inadequately treated waste contaminating drinking water wells or surface areas.

Environmental: This project will eliminate the potential for raw or inadequately treated waste being discharged into streams.

Compliance: The project will allow the municipalities to comply with a Consent Order and Agreement issued to both by the Department of Environmental Protection on January 24, 2003 and their Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan.

Adequacy/Efficiency/Social: This project will provide a regional solution to the sewage problems in these communities.

#### PLANNING COMMENTS:

This project is consistent with land use planning and farmland preservation efforts.

### **Newton-Wayne Joint Municipal Authority**

Total Project Cost =

\$10,645,000

### **Funding Sources:**

HUD CDBG Grant \$ 299,350 State Growing Greener Grant \$ 103,360 PENNVEST (SRF Loan/30 yrs) \$6,165,466 PENNVEST (State Grant) \$3,326,554

PENNVEST (Adv Funding) \$ 398,185

**Service Connections** = 460 **Monthly Fee** = \$81.29

**Project Description:** construct 3 pump stations, 56,490 ft of sewer mains, 20,772 feet of sewer force main, acquisition of interceptor at regional treatment facility, and decommission existing overloaded treatment plant.

**Problem Statement:** documented on lot malfunctions greater than 50%, including a number of wildcat sewer systems.

Combine State and HUD grant \$ / PV 30 yr loan/ grant and Advance Funding

Advance Funding from PV allowed this project to get permit level Plans and Specifications in place to obtain construction funding.













Board Summary Review

Approval Date: 7/20/2011

#### SUMMARY

Shamokin-Coal Township Jt SA - Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Project Project Name:

Funding Request Type:

County(s)	Service Area Service Population Connections		Senate District(s)	House of Reps District(s)
Northumberland	19000	7741	Gordner, John R.	Masser, Kurt A.

Year Incorporated: 1971

Legal Entity Name: Shamokin-Coal Township Joint Se

Contact's Name: Daniel Weaver

Address: 114 Bridge Street

Address: 114 Bridge St.

Shamokin, PA 17872-7690

Shamokin, PA 17872

Telephone: 570-648-1262

Telephone: 570-648-1262 Ext

Organization Type: Municipal Authority

PUC Regulated: No

TECHNICAI

The proposed project includes increasing the exisiting wastewater treatment facility capacity from 7.0 to 8.5 million gallons per day, in addition to providing enhanced biological nutrient removal.

	Public Health	Economic Development	Aquatic Health	Infrastructure Health	Compliance	Community Health
1	L	Н	М	MH	МН	ML

Proposed Construction Schedule:

11/28/2011

Completion Date: 11/21/2013

#### FINANCIAL / LEGAL

Est. Total Project Cost: \$40,246,700.00 Proposed Method of Financing Remainder of Project Costs: Grants

Financial Review

Cash Flow vs. Debt Service

Collateral: Equity Satisfactory Total Debt: Equity Satisfactory

Trend in Operating Results Satisfactory

Applicant's Proposed Repayment Method of

Other Loans

\$17,640,000,00 United States Department of

Agriculture Loan

Start Date:

For Current Cash Flow Unsatisfactory For Projected Cash Flow Satisfactory

Legal Review: Recommended

Other Sources

\$2,606,700.00

Existing Authority Bond Financing

Est. Annual Avg. Residential User Rate

Advance Funding Loan Amounts:

\$0.00 \$0.00 Grant:

\$514.22

Specify:

Project Loans:

Amount of Project Cost To Be Obtained Through other Sources:

SIGNATURE

The Note of Shamokin-Coal Township Joint Sewer Authority secured by a lien on its sewer revenues.

	STA	FF F	ECOM	MEND.	ATTON
 -1/-	٨		Dofor		Diese

\$20,246,700,00

PENNVEST Recommendation: Term: 240 months Lean Amount: \$7,760,000.00

Interest Only Period and First 5 Yrs of Amort: Yrs 6 to Maturity Amort: 1.000 %

Principal Forgiveness: \$12,240,000.00

DATE:

07/13/2011

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Total Project Cost =

\$40.246.700

### **Funding Sources:**

US Dept of Agriculture (Loan) \$ 17,640,000

**Local Financing** 2.606.700

PENNVEST (SRF Loan) 7,760,000

PENNVEST (SRF PF) \$ 12,240,000

**Service Connections** = 7,741

**Monthly Fee** = \$42.85

**Project Description:** increasing the existing treatment facilities from 7 to 8.5 MGD and provide enhanced nutrient

**Problem Statement:** hydraulically overloaded treatment facilities, need to treat to a lower discharge limits in order to comply with the Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy.

**Extra Benefits** – this project will support the investment of over \$11 Million in private investment in local industries securing existing and creating over 250 new jobs

Good example of using USDA and SRF to help with a project that may have been too large for either one individually

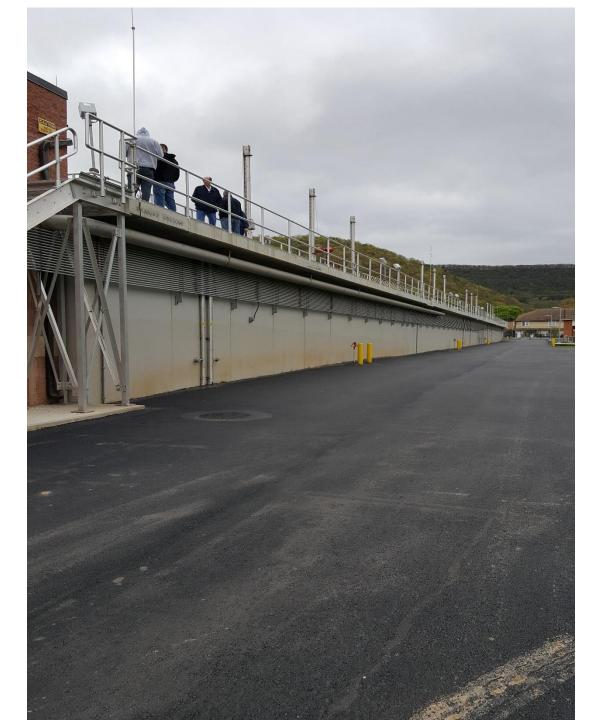


















Map of Washington County, Pennsylvania

Country United States
State Pennsylvania
County Washington

Established 1781

### Government

• Type Council

Chairman James F. Berquist

### Area

• Total 19.8 sq mi (51 km²) • Land 19.6 sq mi (51 km²) • Water 0.2 sq mi (0.5 km²)

### Population (2010)

• Total 21,213

• Density 896.6/sq mi (396/km²)

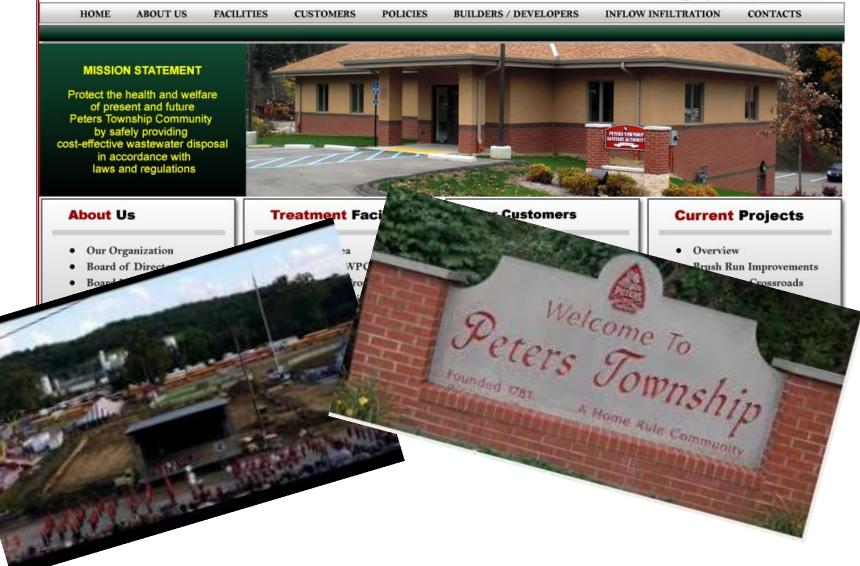


# PETERS TOWNSHIP SANITARY AUTHORITY

111 Bell Drive, McMurray Pennsylvania 15317

Phone: (724) 941-6709 Fax: (724) 941-2283

Emergency Cell: (724) 263-7166



**Board Summary Review** 

Approval Date: 10/21/2015

#### STIMMADY

Determination of the contract	T	SUMMARY		
	s Township SA- Donaldson's Cro 17021504-CS		ding Request Type:Wa	ste Water
County(s)	Service Area Population	Service Connections	Senate District(s)	House of Reps District(s)
Washington	16456	5790	, Vacant	Maher, John A.
Legal Entity Name:	Peters Township Sanitary Authority 111 Bell Drive	Contact's Name: Address:	James Miskis 3244 Washington Road	
	McMurray, PA 15317	Telephone:	McMurray, PA 1 724-941-6709	
Telephone:	724-941-6709 Ext	Year Incorporate	ed: 1964	PUC Regulated: No
Organization Type:	Municipal Authority			
		TECHNICAL		

#### Project Description:

This is the first phase of a multi-phase project. Construction of a new 1.75 million gallons per day sewage treatment plant that will replace an old existing deficient sewage treatment plant to correct wet weather overload.

Public Health	ealth Economic Aquation Development		Infrastructure Health	Community Compliance Health	
ML	L	MH	MH	NSDI	L

Proposed	Construction	Schedule:	
----------	--------------	-----------	--

Start Date: 1/13/2016

Completion Date: 3/13/2018

		FINANCIAI	/LEGAL	
Est. Total Project	Cost: \$23,725,000.00		Legal Review:	Recommende
Proposed Method of Financing Remainder of Project Costs:		Est. Annual Avg. Residential User Rate:	\$503.00	
Non-Repayment			Advance Funding Loan Amounts:	
04	Other Grant	\$500,000.00	Loan:	\$0.00
Other Loans	N/A	\$0.00	Non-Repayment:	\$0.00
Other Sources		4		
	Local Contribution Local Financing	\$900,000.00 \$11,325,000.00		
Amount of Projec	t Cost To Be Obtained	\$12,725,000.00		

		STA	FF RECOMMEN	DATION		
PENNVEST Rec	commendation:		<x> Approved</x>	< > Defer	<> Disapprove	
Loan Amount:		\$11,000,000.00			Term of Loan;	240
Non-Repayment:		\$0.00	0 Interest Only Period and First 5 Yrs of Amort:		od and First 5 Yrs of Amort:	1.055%
					Yrs 6 to Maturity Amort:	1.835%
Total PENNVES	T Funding:	\$11,000,000.00				
SIGNATURE:	Paul K N	Uard St	DATE:		10/14/2015	

**Total Project Cost** = \$23,725,000

### **Funding Sources:**

State Grant \$ 500,000 Local Financing \$ 11,325,000 Local Contribution \$ 900,000 PENNVEST (SRF Loan) \$ 11,000,000

**Service Connections** = 5,790 **Monthly Fee** = \$42

**Project Description:** Replacement of existing 50+ year old deficient treatment facilities with a 1.75 MGD plant

**Problem Statement:** wet weather sewage overflows and discharge of untreated wastewater into Canonsburg

Not every community needs grant – this large project was only part funded with SRF the balance from local funds and local financing,













## "HELPING THY NEIGHBOR" IN NORTHEAST PA



Left to right: Nelson Contress, President, Sandy Run Water Association (SRWA); Mike Gallagher, PENNVEST; Ed Barna, Vice Chair, Freeland Municipal Authority and Bill Ondish, Interim President, SRWA

by Michael J. Gallagher, Project Specialist Northeastern Pennsylvania

An eight year old Department of Environmental Protection boil water advisory will soon be suspended for the village of Sandy Run in Northeast Pennsylvania because of the "Help Thy Neighbor" spirit demonstrated by "neighbors" of this small, old coal mining community.

### Background

Sandy Run is a former mining community composed of about twenty-one families. Nearly all of the residents are elderly and retired. It is located about two miles east of Freeland Borough, south of Hazleton, in Luzerne County.

Water was supplied by the mining company via a deep well, piped to a few outdoor community faucets. The water flowed from the well into a small, open pond affectionately (and justifiably) referred to as "Frog Pond". After the mining operations ceased, many of the residents left, however a few families remained. These people continued to use the company well, and later extended service into their homes. The system was operated by one of the residents who would trek the mountain to turn on the pump when needed. Eventually the volunteer caretaker passed on. The distribution pipe became tuberculated down to a trickle and only muddy water flowed into the homes.

### Compliance issue

About eight years ago the situation was brought to the attention of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Their inspection revealed:

- · there never had been a permit issued for the system
- · the finished water pond was unprotected from contamination
- · there was no operator
- there was no automatic means of controlling the operations of the pump - when turned on it would run until the overheat mechanism shut it down
- the well site and some of the lines were not even owned by the residents but were on the property of the mining company
- · there was bacteriological contamination
- the pressure at some of the homes was about half the required minimum pressure

### Community action/assistance

DEP recognized the complexity of the problem and the limited resources of the residents. Thus, the Department provided some suggestions for immediate action, but recognized that the residents needed organizational assistance and asked the Northeast Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP) to help the community form the necessary organizational structure.

In 1992 they formed a non-profit association with the help of Donald Schwartz from Northeast RCAP. Another neighbor, George Hludzik Esq, prepared the incorporation paperwork at no cost to the residents. The residents did not wait for grants! In 1995-96 they chipped-in, purchased some pipe, hired a backhoe and installed about 2700 feet of pipe themselves!

Other neighbors also came to the aid of Sandy Run. The Hazleton City Authority arranged for Schumacher Engineers to prepare the boundary survey and subdivision plan, a prerequisite for acquisition of the well site and related pipes. In 1998, the landowner, Pagnotti Enterprises, donated the well site and 3.5 acres to the newly formed association. During the construction of the lines, Foster Township cut the blacktop and dug the road crossing, and later waived the subdivision review and approval fee. The acquisition of the land and well site enabled the association to now pursue (continued)

funding for the remaining required improvements.

Pennsylvania State Representative Todd Eachus and State Senator Raphael Musto worked with the Department of Community and Economic Development to provide a "Community Revitalization" grant for the association. Wal-Mart Foundation contributed \$5,000 towards the project from its Clean air/Clean water fund. The Wal-Mart Disaster fund also contributed a trailer load of bottled water to be used by the residents until the final improvements are operational.

PENNVEST completed the financing by providing a low interest loan of \$85,587, along with a grant of \$45,000. However, Michael Gallagher, a PENNVEST Project Specialist, recognized the questionable ability of such a small system to be able to provide adequate operation and managerial resources, in addition to generating sufficient revenues. Thus, at the urging of Senator Musto and Representative Eachus, the Freeland Borough Authority graciously agreed to take over the Sandy Run system.

### Conclusion

- This project is a vivid demonstration that if we all do just a small part, great things can be accomplished.
- The village of Sandy Run will have adequate, safe drinking water because the "Help Thy Neighbor" spirit is alive in northeast Pennsylvania!

## TEA PARTY IN INDIANA COUNTY



Left to right: Paul Hensel, Armaugh Borough President; Margie Larkin, Armaugh Borough Secretary; Robert Kunkle, ICMSA Chairman; and Mike Duffalo, ICMSA Executive Director

by

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Just as the Boston Tea Party of 1773 signaled a revolution, a Tea Party in Armagh Borough, Indiana County in 1994 initiated a regional sewer project titled: "Sewage Renovation III."

Armagh Borough is a rural community of approximately 250 homes perched atop of the Chestnut Ridge. Plagued by renegade sewers, open sewage ditches, and years of sewage permit denials, Marge Larkin, Borough Secretary, decided to have a "Tea Party" at her home. Teamed with Council President Paul Hensel, they wanted to invite people that could a make a new sanitary sewer system a reality. They invited Larry Gasparato, PENNVEST Project Specialist; Donna Davis; Steve Weitz, Project Manager; and Water Quality Supervisors from the Pittsburgh Regional Office of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). After Tea, Mr. Gasparato promised the full support of PENNVEST funding and DEP agreed to assist in the planning and permit process.

While Armagh Borough had all the resolve in the

world, they weren't sure how a small rural community went about developing a project. At that point, Mr. Gasparato suggested to the Borough that they contact Bob Kunkle, Chairman, and Mike Duffalo, Executive Director of the Indiana County Municipal Services Authority (ICMSA). For 27 years the ICMSA Directors have been organizing and successfully completing countywide water and wastewater projects. Four of those projects were previously developed through PENNVEST funding. It just so happened that two other communities, Marion Center Borough (200 homes), and the Village of Hollwood in Pine Township (150) homes), were already working with ICMSA to organize a project to develop new sanitary sewer systems.

After feasibility studies and many public meetings, the project was expanded. In addition to these three municipalities, portions of East Wheatfield Township, the United School District, and the Marion Center School District were included in the project. All four municipalities and both school districts signed co-operation agreements with ICMSA and a new partnership was created.

The proposed project of three separate sanitary sewer systems incorporated as one project would have 750 EDUs and cost 7.2 million dollars. The only detriment to the project was a proposed \$56 a month user fee in rural communities with low medium incomes. With the prospect of some grant assistance from the Growing Greener Grants Legislation, ICMSA submitted a PENNVEST application for action at the November 2000 meeting. The timing could not have been better. PENNVEST made every effort to support the regional efforts of the Indiana County Municipal Services Authority and every effort to ensure that each community received funding based on their actual needs. The result was the award of a Growing Greener Grant of \$2,770,000 and a PENNVEST Loan of \$2,770,000 coupled with a "313 Watershed Grant" of \$850,000. The projected user fee was reduced to \$35 per month.

Needless to say, the communities and ICMSA are excited about their new partnership with PENNVEST and a regional sewer project that will help clean up the communities and make them greener. Says Authority Chairman Robert Kunkle, "The Growing Greener grants are helping PENNVEST fulfill its mission of providing vital infrastructure to all of Pennsylvania." According to Borough Secretary Marge Larkin, PENNVEST officials are invited to have Tea anytime they have the occasion to visit Armagh Borough.