

**Draft Minutes of the April 10, 2023, Water Authority Meeting  
Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority  
1649 Route 12, Gales Ferry, CT**

*This meeting was held virtually per Public Act No. 22-3, which permanently established the requirements for virtual public meetings in Connecticut.*

**Present**

**Authority:** Chairman Edward Monahan, Vice-Chair Harry Watson, Claudia Koerting, Nick Mullane, and Alex Masse.

**Authority Staff:** General Manager Josh Cansler

**Call to Order**

Chairman Monahan called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.

**Public Comment on any Item on the Agenda** – None

**Approval of Prior Minutes**

On a motion of Mr. Mullane, seconded by Mr. Masse, the Authority approved the minutes of the March 13, 2023, Authority Meeting, by a unanimous vote of all members present.

**Correspondence** – None

**General Manager's Report**

**1. Oakdale Heights Subdivision (Montville)**

Oakdale Heights is a 219-home subdivision in Montville that has been operating its own water system since the subdivision was developed in the mid-1960's. Last December the Oakdale Heights Homeowners Association (HOA) expressed interest in turning over full-time operation to SCWA. Their system consists of two fully operational pump houses, five wells, and 2.5 miles of distribution main. At the January meeting, the Authority authorized the General Manager to open discussions with the Oakdale Heights HOA, and consult with our attorney regarding a legal agreement.

General Manager Cansler stated that he met with SCWA Attorney Nick Kepple in January, and again in February and March, to discuss preparation of a draft agreement with the Oakdale Heights HOA. He said he and SCWA staff have also met several times with the Oakdale Heights HOA since December. In addition, Mr. Cansler said that he reached out to the State DPH and DEEP regarding the Oakdale Heights water system.

Mr. Cansler stated that he received a draft Letter of Intent from Attorney Kepple the day before, which he provided to the Authority. After some discussion, and a few minor changes, the Authority agreed the letter was a good first step towards a formal agreement. Mr. Cansler said the final agreement will have to be approved by the Authority, and submitted to the State along with a Request for Transfer Application.

## **2. Capital Projects Update**

### **a) Seven Oaks/Montville Interconnection Project**

This project will complete the interconnection between Seven Oaks and Montville divisions. This past summer the owners of the property (100 Waterfall LLC) agreed to an easement for the proposed water main interconnection across their property. They plan on constructing a housing development on this property in the next few years. The proposed water main connection route and grading design was completed by Haley-Ward Engineering (formerly Lenard Engineering) in August.

General Manager Cansler said that in February he and Jim Ericson from Haley-Ward Engineering made a presentation to the Town of Montville Wetlands Commission, and requested a wetlands permit. He said the wetlands permit was approved in late March. The Pre-bid Construction Package, which included the initial plans and specifications, was submitted to the State Department of Health (DPH) Drinking Water Section (DWS) on March 29, 2023. Mr. Cansler said he hopes to receive project approval from DPH in the late spring and award the project this summer.

### **b) Upgrades at the Ledyard Pump Station and Spicer Hill Booster Station**

This project includes installation of variable frequency pumps (VFDs) at the Ledyard Pump Station and the Spicer Hill Booster Station, which is part of the Ledyard distribution system. This project also includes the elimination of the hydropneumatic pressure tanks at both stations, which is a top priority for DPH. General Manager Cansler stated that unfortunately, because the recently completed Tower Division water main replacement project cost significantly more than estimated, SCWA will have to delay this project a few months, until more Capital Funds are available.

### **c). Proposed New Well at Ledyard Division**

At the September meeting the Authority authorized the General Manager to contract with Haley-Ward/Lenard Engineering to complete survey, engineering/design, wetlands reviews, permit applications, and field inspections for a new well at the Ledyard Division. A new well is needed because the Ledyard pump station is averaging between 30 to 40 thousand gallons/day, which is the maximum yield of the two existing wells at Ledyard Division. DPH approved the new well in November. General Manager Cansler stated that SCWA is now working with legal counsel to obtain an easement because the State requires that SCWA control a 150-foot radius around each well.

### **d). Funding for Tower Division Upgrades**

In January State Senator Kathy Osten and State Representative Kevin Ryan submitted Bill 364, which is titled "An Act Authorizing Bonds of the State for Projects of the Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority". This bill would allow the state to issue bonds up to \$3 million for the upgrade of a pump station, addition of a storage tank, and the extension of an emergency interconnection in the Town of Ledyard. This bill is still with the Joint Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding.

## **3. Lead Service Line Inventory**

*(Attachment A: List of Lead Service Line (LSL) Inventory Requirements)*

General Manager Cansler stated that the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for Lead and Copper, which went into effect in 2021, requires all public water systems to develop a lead service line (LSL) inventory that identifies all materials used to construct or repair all service lines connected to a public water distribution system. He said last fall the EPA released their guidance for developing the LSL inventory, and that this LSL inventory must be completed and submitted by October 16, 2024. Mr. Cansler said the actual information requested in this LSL inventory is attached.

#### **4. PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances)**

*(Attachment B: DPH DWS Circular Letter 2023-12; dated March 15, 2023; EPA Draft Rule for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)).*

General Manager Cansler stated that on March 14, 2023 the EPA finally announced their draft regulations regarding PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances), which included draft maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for 6 different PFAS in drinking water. He said the release of the draft PFAS regulations initiated a 60-day review and comment period. Last June the CT DPH issued action levels for four of the PFAS that are included in the EPA draft standards. Mr. Cansler stated that a comparison of the proposed EPA PFAS MCLs versus the CT DPH PFAS action levels are discussed in a DPH letter (DWS Circular Letter #2023-12), dated March 15, 2023, which is attached. He also mentioned that there are currently two bills under consideration by the Connecticut State Legislature that will provide grants to municipalities and utilities to provide potable water, assessment, and remedial action to address PFAS.

#### **5. Green Village**

In 2020 SCWA signed an agreement to take over as the owner/operator of the pumphouse and water distribution system at the new Green Village development in Salem once it is completed. Green Village is a 55 and over community with 48 townhouse units, each unit with individual meters. After multiple delays involving water quality and quantity in the wells, DPH finally granted approval of the system on November 1, 2022. Final approval was contingent on installation of a treatment system, which has been completed. Mr. Cansler said that currently there are 18 units occupied.

#### **6. Construction of Millwood Subdivision (part of Hillcrest Division) in Montville**

Sun Communities, Inc. is continuing construction of the new Millwood development, adjacent to their Hillcrest subdivision in Montville. The roads and infrastructure were completed in 2019 before Jensen Communities was sold to Sun Communities. The proposed Millwood development will have 46 modular homes for people aged 55+ and will tie into the existing Hillcrest water distribution system. The first fourteen homes have been sold, and several more homes are nearing completion.

#### **7. Mystic Village Apartments - Dieldrin**

Mystic Village Apartments (MVA) are one of SCWA's Contract Operations, which are water systems not owned by SCWA. For these systems the owners are responsible for all maintenance, upgrade costs, and sampling fees, and SCWA is paid to serve as their certified operator. Recently the chemical Dieldrin, which was used to treat termites until the 80s, was detected in the water samples taken at MVA. The property owner of MVA hired a company to install a treatment system for Dieldrin; however the project stalled when SCWA informed them that a project application form requesting a change in the treatment must be submitted to DPH. General Manager Cansler stated that he submitted the required General Application form on behalf of the owners on March 1, 2023. He said DPH requested more information and a design for the treatment system on March 7<sup>th</sup>, which he has not received from the contractor.

#### **8. Tower-Ferry View Division OCCT (Optimal Corrosion Control Treatment) Report**

General Manager Cansler stated that in October 2022 SCWA submitted an optimal corrosion control treatment (OCCT) report to DPH for a copper exceedance that occurred in 2021 when 4 of 35 samples analyzed from the Tower-Ferry View Division exceeded the maximum contaminant level (MCL). Although none of the samples analyzed in 2022 exceeded the MCL, SCWA was required to prepare an OCCT report. The primary purpose of the report is to address changes that can be made to the treatment process to preclude further copper MCL exceedances. Mr. Cansler said that in February DPH responded by requesting SCWA take additional samples at the sources to better determine the level of lead in the raw water. He stated that SCWA had just completed the multi-week sampling process.

**9. Truck Purchase**

General Manager Cansler stated that starting in January 2022 he requested quotes several times throughout the year for a new 3/4-ton truck from the dealers listed on the Connecticut State Contract for the Sale of Light Trucks. Due to manufacturing delays, SCWA was not able to submit a formal order until last fall. At that time he was told the delivery window was between February and November of 2023. The truck was delivered on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**10. Regional Considerations**

**a) FY 2024 State Legislative Cycle- Potential Bills Impacting SCWA and/or other Water Utilities:**

General Manager Cansler stated that there are several proposed bills under consideration by the State Legislature that could impact water utilities if passed. He addressed the following bills:

**HB-5163 – An Act Concerning the Adjudication of Disputes Between Municipalities and Certain Municipal Waterworks Systems.** This bill would give the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) responsibility for overseeing and adjudicating any dispute that arises between a municipality and a municipal waterworks system owned or operated by a neighboring municipality. This bill was proposed by Rep. Kathleen McCarthy (Waterford/Montville), at the request of the Schacht Family (Miller’s Pond). This bill appears to have died in committee.

**HB-6852- An Act Concerning the Affordability of Utilities** – Includes provisions requiring the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) to consider discount rates for low-income customers of gas and private water companies. Status: Awaiting a public hearing before the Energy & Technology Committee.

**b) Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC):** The Eastern Connecticut Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) and the Statewide WUCC both last met on November 16, 2022. Currently the Statewide WUCC is trying to address several topics involving interconnections/regionalization, non-community water systems design requirements, conservation/drought, and the process requiring non-community systems to connect to existing community water systems.

**c) SCWA Interaction with SCCOG:** SCWA and the SCCOG continue to interact cooperatively. To this end, SCWA attends the monthly SCCOG meetings if there are items relating to water on the agenda, and the SCCOG Regional Water Committee, which meets only as needed.

**d) SCWA Interaction with the WPC, CWWA, and AWWA:** The General Manager represents SCWA as a member of the Connecticut Water Planning Council Advisory Group (WPCAG), which meets monthly. Mr. Cansler is also a member of the Connecticut Water Works Association (CWWA) Legislative Affairs Committee, which generally meets monthly between November and June.

**Other Business** - None

**Report from Chairman** – None

**Report from Authority Members** – None

**Public Comment** – None

**Adjourn**

On motion of Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Mullane, the Authority voted to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:48 p.m. It was noted the next Authority meeting is scheduled to occur on May 8, 2023, at 5:15 pm, either virtually, or at 1649 Rt. 12, Gales Ferry, CT.

Josh Cansler  
Secretary

# **ATTACHMENT A**

**INITIAL LEAD SERVICE LINE (LSL) INVENTORY REQUIREMENTS**

Site ID  
Location Identifier  
Street Address  
Town  
State  
Connector Or Gooseneck Material  
Connector Or Gooseneck Material Install Year  
Was Connector or Gooseneck Previously Lead?  
System Service Line Material (Initial Inventory Only)  
Was System Service Line Material Ever Previously Lead?  
System Service Line Diameter (Inches)  
System Service Line Install Year  
System Verification Date  
System Verification Source  
Is System Service Line Replacement Required?  
Customer Service Line Material (Initial Inventory Only)  
Customer Service Line Diameter (Inches)  
Customer Service Line Install Year  
Customer Side Verification Date  
Customer Side Verification Source  
Is Customer Service Line Replacement Required?  
Entire Service Line Material Classification  
Is There Lead Solder in Service Line?  
Building Type  
# Of Service Connections Served By Service Line?  
Point-Of-Entry or Point-Of-Use Treatment Present?  
Building Plumbing Material 1  
Building Plumbing Material 2  
Building Plumbing Material Installed Date  
Building Plumbing Verification Date  
Building Plumbing Verification Source  
Current LCR Sampling Site?  
LCRR Sample Site  
Sample Site Tier Level  
Sampling Point ID  
Comments

**SERVICE LINE MATERIAL UPDATE**

System Service Line Verified Material  
System Service Line Verification Source  
System Service Line Verified  
Material Date  
Is System Service Line Replacement Required?  
Customer Service Line Verified Material  
Customer Service Line Verification Source  
Customer Service Line Verified Material Date  
Is Customer Service Line Replacement Required?  
Comments

**LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT UPDATE**

System Service Line Replacement Date  
System Service Line Replacement Material  
Customer Initiated Lslr Date  
Customer Initiated Lslr Extension Deadline  
Customer Service Line Replacement Date  
Customer Service Line Replacement Material  
Customer Refusals / Non-Responses For Lslr  
Lead Gooseneck, Pigtail, Or Connector Replacement Date  
Lead Gooseneck, Pigtail, Or Connector Replacement Material  
Comments

# **ATTACHMENT B**

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Manisha Juthani, MD  
Commissioner

Ned Lamont  
Governor  
Susan Bysiewicz  
Lt. Governor

### Environmental Health and Drinking Water Branch

DWS Circular Letter #2023-12

To: Community and Non-Transient Non-Community Public Water Systems, Certified Operators, Local Directors of Health, Certified Environmental Laboratories

From: Lori J. Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief *Lori J. Mathieu*

Date: March 15, 2023

Subject: EPA Draft Rule for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

On March 14, 2023, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a draft National Primary Drinking Water Rule (NPDWR) for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in public drinking water that includes draft Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) for six (6) PFAS. The release of the draft rule in the Federal Register initiates a 60-day review and comment period. DPH looks forward to reviewing the draft rule and EPA's finalization of enforceable standards for PFAS in public drinking water.

On June 15, 2022, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) updated its health-protective guidance values, also known as Action Levels, for four (4) of the PFAS that EPA proposes to regulate. The DPH welcomes EPA's announcement as we continue to strive for the most protective health-based standards for PFAS that reflect the evolving scientific evidence on their toxicity.

Draft MCLs for PFAS per EPA's proposed rule and current DPH guidelines are:

| Analyte   | EPA Draft MCL<br>(parts per trillion, ppt, ng/L) | CT Action Level<br>(parts per trillion, ppt, ng/L) |
|---|--|--|
| Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)                         | 4  | 16   |
| Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)                  | 4  | 10   |
| Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)                         | 1.0 (unitless) Hazard Index*                     | 12   |
| Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)                 | 1.0 (unitless) Hazard Index*                     | 49   |
| Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)                   | 1.0 (unitless) Hazard Index*                     | -  |
| Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA / GenX) | 1.0 (unitless) Hazard Index*                     | -  |

\*The Hazard Index is a tool used to evaluate potential health risks from exposure to chemical mixtures. For more information, please see EPA's Fact Sheets.



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EPA will be holding a general informational webinar on March 16, 2023, and a webinar for water utilities on March 29, 2023. You can register for the webinars and find out more information about EPA's proposed rule at: [Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances \(PFAS\) | US EPA](#).

**DPH is renewing the recommendation to all community and non-transient non-community public water systems (PWS) to test the water delivered to their customers as well as source water for PFAS and that results be reported to DPH via the [Compliance Monitoring Data Portal](#). DPH will work directly with PWSs found to be in exceedance of DPH's for PFAS to assure the protection of public health.**

Please use this [link](#) to access EPA's [Frequently Asked Questions](#) that includes more detailed information for on the proposed rule. For more information regarding PFAS and drinking water, please refer to the [DPH](#) website. For more information on the EPA's draft National Primary Drinking Rule, please visit the EPA's website. If you have any questions regarding this Circular Letter, please contact Pat Bisacky of the DPH's Emerging Contaminants Unit at 860-509-7356 or email the DPH Emerging Contaminants Unit at [DPH.EmergingContaminants@ct.gov](mailto:DPH.EmergingContaminants@ct.gov).

C: Lisa Morrissey, MPH, Deputy Commissioner  
Graham Stevens, Director, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
Executive Directors of the Councils of Governments  
John W. Betkowski III, Vice Chairman, DEEP PURA; Chairman, CT WPC