Hoosick Area Community Participation Work Group (CPWG)
Meeting Summary – October 24, 2023

CPWG Member	Present	Excused	Absent
Marianne Zwicklbauer	X		
Eric Sheffer	X		
Mark Surdam	X		
Rob Allen	X		
Pat Dailey	X		
David Lukas			X
Connor MacNeil	X		
Jack Cavanaugh	X		
Jennifer Schuttig			X
Sean Nealon	X		
Chris Bettis	X		
Facilitator			
Nancy Pattarini, The Paige Group	X		
Carrie McMurray, The Paige Group	X		
Presenters			
Dan Servetas, WSP	X		
Ian Beilby, NYSDEC	X		
Barbara Firebaugh, NYSDEC	X		

Note: The October 24, 2023 public meeting of the CPWG was held at the Hoosick Falls High School in the auditorium. A press release was issued to local media, meeting posters were posted around the community, and email blasts were sent via organization and individual networks. A meeting date reminder was also emailed to all community members that signed up on the CPWG Listserv. Meeting-related materials may be found on the Hoosick Area CPWG website www.hoosickareacpwg.org and on the NYSDEC website http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/108791.html

Discussion Summary:

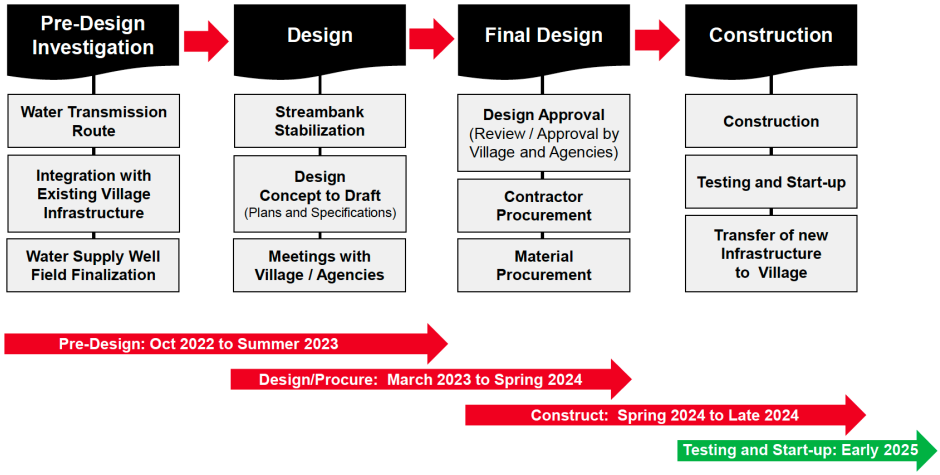
I. Welcome – The Paige Group
   a. Meeting Moderator – Pat Dailey, Hoosick Area CPWG Co-chair
      i. The Moderator provided an overview of the Hoosick Area CPWG, the meeting agenda, and introduced Mayor Allen
   b. Opening Remarks – Village of Hoosick Falls Mayor Rob Allen
      i. Mayor Allen thanked everyone for coming and welcomed the presenters

II. New Water Source Update – Dan Servetas, WSP
   a. ROD Requirements
      i. Development of new groundwater supply wells; convert 2 wells (recently installed) south of Hoosick Falls to production wells (primary wells)
      ii. Provide redundancy by maintaining a minimum of one existing Village well as backup in case of an outage of primary supply wells
      iii. Construction of water transmission line from new wells to Hoosick Falls water supply treatment plant (Note: this is a raw/untreated water transmission line between wells)

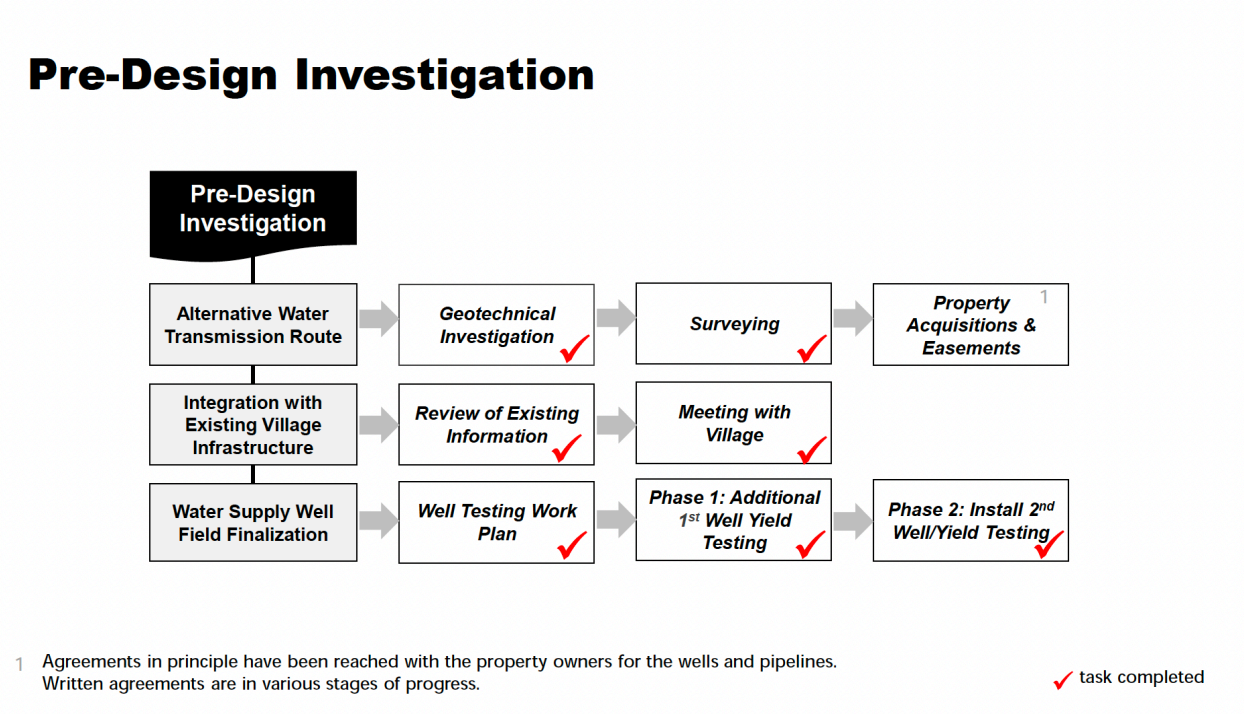
iv. Continued maintenance and operation of public water treatment plant, including carbon filtration system for removal of naturally occurring elements, disinfection, and distribution
v. Retain existing granular activated carbon treatment system

b. Agreement Overview
   i. Amends Consent Order with Companies (first signed in 2016): Companies agreed to
      1. Implement new Municipal Water Supply; OU2 Record of Decision
      2. Reimburse New York State for portion of future costs to operate and maintain Point of Entry Treatment (POET) systems installed by DEC
      3. Pay $30 million to New York State to reimburse certain costs incurred by State prior to 12/31/2022
      4. Pay $5 million to resolve potential Natural Resource Damages; DEC to consult Town and Village before selecting project(s)
   ii. Village Agreement
      1. Companies agreed to design and construct new Hoosick Falls Municipal Water Supply wells and connecting infrastructure; i.e., implement OU2 ROD
      2. Describes Village's participation and cooperation during design and implementation of new Municipal Water Supply
      3. Creates an Escrow Account funded by Companies (initial amount of $80,000) to cover Village's costs associated with reviewing design and construction of new Municipal Water Supply
      4. Defines process to evaluate long-term O&M costs associated with existing GAC system and new infrastructure
      5. New Well Field will be owned by Village

Design and Construction Process



c. Pre-design Investigation (red check mark indicates task completed)

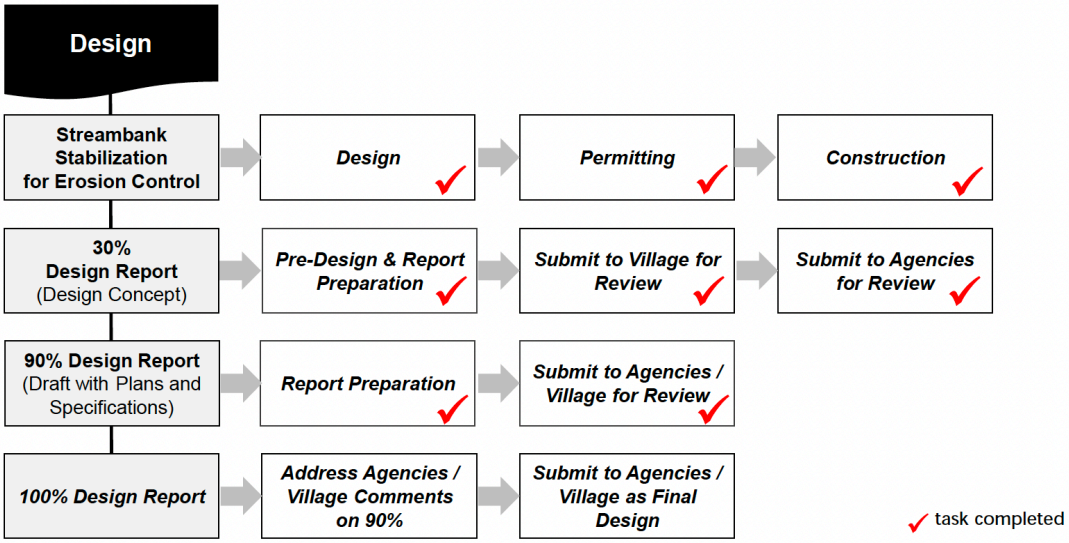


d. Proposed Alternate Water Main Route
    i. Benefits of new route:
        1. Avoids using Rt. 22 Bridge to cross Hoosic River
        2. Avoids disruption associated with installation of water main through Village streets
        3. Shorter, more direct route to Water Treatment Plant
        4. Utilizes public right-of-way and easements across private properties
    ii. Field studies confirmed the viability of proposed route – geotechnical borings, archaeological surveying, and wetland delineation
e. Integration with Existing Village Infrastructure
    i. Meetings held with Village (Water Department, DPW, consultant)
    ii. Reviewed as-built drawings of existing treatment system
    iii. Evaluated connection of new water transmission line to existing system
    iv. Proposed selection of pumps, generators, security measures, wellhead completion details, and system controls
    v. Project does not include creation of new water district
f. Water Supple Well Field Evaluation
    i. Prior DEC approved work determined that the LaCroix/Wysocki properties were the best option
    ii. Verifying the two wells within the proposed well field can each sustain the demand required by ROD (785 gallons per minute [gpm])
        1. New well added at LaCroix well field

2. Pump testing confirmed both wells at LaCroix well field sustained production of 800 gpm (more than OU2 ROD required)

iii. The final configuration of new water supply will consist of this new well field south of Village (two new primary production wells) and Village Well #7 (backup)

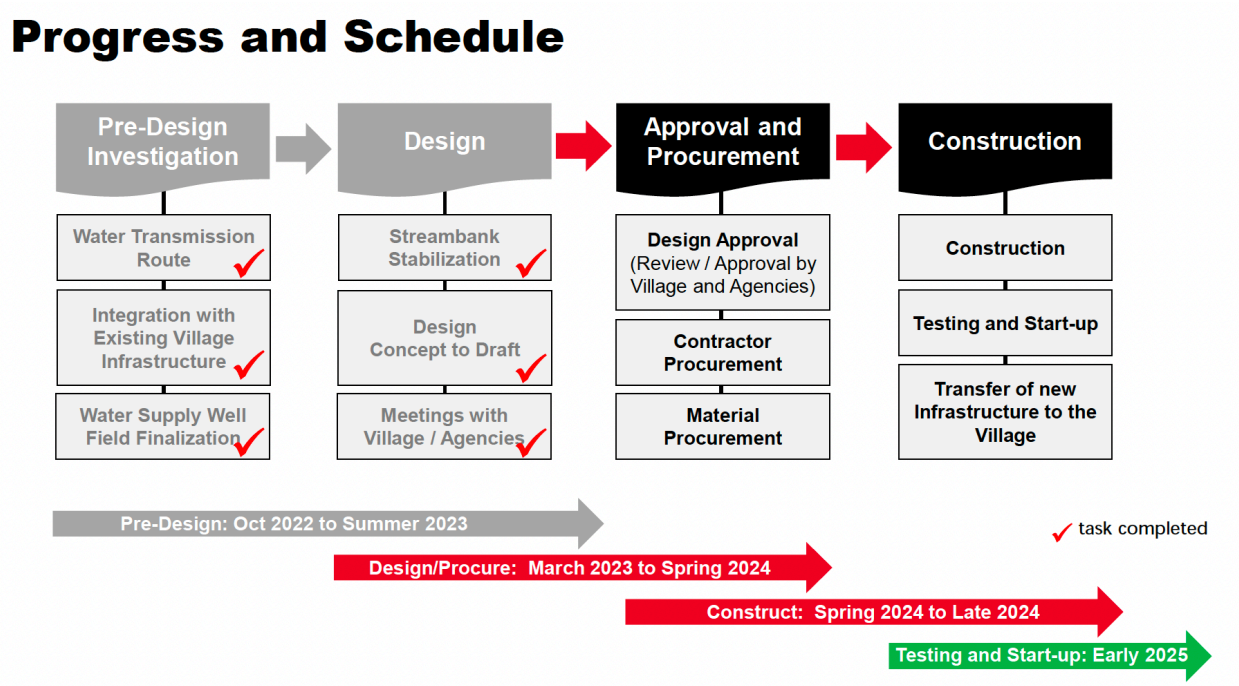
Design



g. Streambank Stabilization
   i. Historical aerial photos of Hoosic River indicate potential for river to meander from east to west
   ii. ROD includes mitigation measures to prevent erosion of riverbank in order to protect new supply wells and infrastructure
   iii. Meetings held with NYSDEC regarding design
   iv. Final design considered geometry of river cross section, characteristics of riverbank, water flow, and use of combination of hard and soft armoring
   v. Accelerated work completed under NYSDEC and USACE-approved permit. In-water work completed prior to start of trout spawning season (September 30)

h. Design Concept
   i. Well Field – includes two wells with wellhead protection, controls building with emergency generator, and access road
   ii. Raw Water Transmission Line – public right-of-way, easements across private properties, horizontal drilling beneath Hoosic River, connection at WTP
   iii. Supported by Various Field Studies – geotechnical borings, archaeological surveying, and wetlands delineation

i. Progress and Schedule



j. Next Steps
   i. Design Approval / Contractor and Material Procurement – 2023 into early 2024
   ii. Construction – Spring 2024 through late Fall 2024
      1. Most construction efforts will occur at new well field
      2. Construction on Rt. 22 includes installation of 3,700 feet (0.7 miles) of water transmission line in public right-of-way of northbound lane; approximate construction time of 3 to 4 months
   iii. Testing and Start-up – Early 2025
      1. Honeywell and Saint-Gobain will be responsible for testing new system and start-up. Once systems are fully tested and start-up complete, operation and maintenance will be transferred to Village
   iv. Monitoring
      1. Groundwater monitoring will be performed to identify and track potential movement and migration of PFAS toward new well field
      2. Monitoring locations discussed with Village and draft groundwater monitoring plan is being reviewed by NYSDEC

k. Questions/Comments
   i. Q: Do the current water source and new water source interact with one another?

A: The flow of groundwater in the areas of the old and new well fields has been extensively studied. Based on the following, pumping water from the new water source will not draw water from the existing water source:

- The new well field (new water source) is located hydraulically upgradient of the existing Village well field (i.e., the natural flow of groundwater in the aquifer is from the new well field toward the existing well field). The groundwater flows generally from south to north in this area, meaning that the new water source, located to the south is "upstream" from the old water source.
- Groundwater level monitoring shows when the existing Village well field (current water source) is pumping, groundwater levels in monitoring wells located immediately south of the Village well field respond to pumping, but there is no response in monitoring wells located to the west of the Hoosic River or further to the south of the Village well field.
- Groundwater level monitoring performed while conducting pumping tests at the new well field showed no response to pumping in monitoring wells located to the north of the new well field on either side of the river near the existing Village well field, but a response was observed in wells located to the south of the new well field, which suggests groundwater flow to the new well field may primarily be from the south. This indicates that the new well field will most likely not pull in water from the current water source area.

ii. Q: Where does the water of the new water source originate from and what is the recharge rate?
A: The aquifer is a glacial valley aquifer bounded on two sides by the valley walls which generally consist of a lower-permeability glacial till on top of bedrock. Recharge is likely from precipitation and runoff from adjacent uplands that infiltrates the aquifer and groundwater inflow from the valley walls and underlying bedrock. Like the current water source, recharge could also come from infiltration of river water.

iii. Q: What measures have been taken to ensure the continuous monitoring related to PFOA?
A: The requirement to monitor groundwater to assess the potential for contaminant migration during operation of the new well field was identified during the Municipal Water Supply Study (as documented in Municipal Water Supply Study for the Village of Hoosick Falls, November 2020). The Record of Decision includes the need for groundwater monitoring to detect PFAS that may travel to the two new groundwater supply wells. This requirement to monitor is standard practice for all remedial programs, but not for typical municipal water supply. For Hoosick Falls, a groundwater monitoring plan has been developed to focus on identifying and tracking the potential movement and migration of PFAS toward the new well field. The plan includes groundwater monitoring in the four directions (north, south, east, and west) around the new well field. This plan is currently in review with NYSDEC.

iv. Q: What are the water quality results on new aquifer compared to NYSDOH guidelines and what is the treatment plan?
A: Groundwater samples collected from the new water supply wells were analyzed in accordance with NYSDOH regulations for public drinking water sources. Manganese, not related to the McCaffrey site, was detected slightly above the NYS drinking water standard and are lower than manganese levels found in the existing water supply wells. Manganese will be removed from drinking water by the existing micro filtration process at the water treatment plant. PFAS levels were below the current NYSDOH maximum contaminant levels (MCLs; 10 ng/L for PFOA) and the proposed EPA MCLs (4 ng/L for PFOA). Results from groundwater testing at the new well field are included in reports currently under review by NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

v. Q: What determined the location of the new wells?
A: The new water supply wells are located in a glacial valley aquifer, which are typically deeper in the center. The location of the new water supply wells is based on the geology of the aquifer and located to minimize impact on property owners. The new supply wells are screened at a depth between 80 and 105 feet below the ground surface. This location is also near the river. To protect the new supply wells and the required above ground infrastructure at the new well field, the riverbank was stabilized. This included placement of heavy rock at the bottom of the slope transitioning into natural armoring above the water line. The heavy rock weigh several hundred pounds each and can be seen at the base of the slope extending down beneath the river bottom elevation into a 4 foot by 4 foot "keyway" that provides a foundation for the new stream bank.

vi. Q: What kind of water transmission line is being stalled along Rt. 22 and can property owners along the route hook up to it?
A: The proposed transmission line along Route 22 will convey untreated groundwater (raw water) directly to the village's existing water treatment plant. State regulations require water to be treated prior to distribution to consumer so property owner along Route 22 cannot hook up to the new transmission line because it is not treated water.

III. Town POETs – Ian Beilby, NYSDEC
   a. Hoosick POET O&M Plan (6/21)
      i. Details DEC operational and testing procedures for locations with POETs
      ii. Document is publicly available
   b. MOU (NYSDEC/Hoosick) Provides for
      i. Town's review of McCaffrey Street RI/FS Documents prior to ROD
      ii. Input regarding POET site management plan(s) in future RODS
      iii. Briefing of officials related to POET decommissioning
   c. Consent Order(s) with RPs (including 2023 Amendment)
      i. Operation and Maintenance of POETs in the AOC
   d. Questions or Well Sampling Requests
      i. 1-888-459-8667 (24/7)
   e. Max Contaminant Levels for PFAS

i. 10 ppt for PFOA
ii. 10 ppt for PFOS

f. Public water systems are required to test for PFOA and PFOS
   i. MCLs are set well below levels known or estimated to cause health effects
   ii. Exceedances indicate a need to reduce the levels to meet the MCLs
g. MCLs are used to guide policy, operation and maintenance for private wells
h. Questions/Comments
   i. Q: Do you see these MCL levels decreasing in the future?
   A: If the EPA were to pass the proposed lower levels, states are required to follow those new levels.
   ii. Q: What is the difference between the scope of remediation and monitoring protections in Village and the scope of remediation and monitoring in the town?
   A: The new water supply pertains only to the Village of Hoosick. Exposure to potential contaminants in the Town of Hoosick is being addressed by POETs and will be formally addressed in the OU-03 Record of Decision (ROD). Currently, NYSDEC/NYSDOH are obligated to operate POETs in the Hoosick area under the Hoosick POET Operation & Maintenance Plan (6/21), the MOU between NYSDEC and Hoosick, and the Consent Order(s) with responsible parties, including 2023 Amendment.
   iii. Q: Will testing continue and what will happen if a property owner decides they want a POET in the future?
   A: Testing will continue for those property owners that have POETS, and POETS will continue to be available to those who might want one. If a property owner no longer wants their POET, the property owner can request it be removed.

IV. Site Remediation Update – Barbara Firebaugh, NYSDEC
   a. Goals of Superfund Investigations
      i. Determine nature and extent
      ii. Identify the pathways of exposure
      iii. Identify the most appropriate cleanup option
      iv. Oversee remedy implementation
      v. Close the site; reclassify
   b. Superfund Process
      i. P-site (potential site)
      ii. Site characterization
         1. Initial investigation of potentially contaminated site (“P” site); generally between 1-2 years
         2. Determine if hazardous waste was disposed in a consequential amount and does it pose a significant threat?
         3. List site on Registry and how to classify it

c. Site Classification
    i. Class 1: Causing, or presenting an imminent danger of causing, irreversible or irreparable damage to the public health or the environment; immediate action is required.
    ii. Class 2: Significant threat to the public health or environment – action required.
    iii. Class 3: Does not present a significant threat to the environment or public health; action may be deferred.
    iv. Class 4: Site properly closed; requires continued management.
    v. Class 5: Site properly closed; does not require continued management.
d. Remedial Investigation
    i. Conceptual site model
    ii. Nature and extent
e. Feasibility Study
    i. Remedial alternative evaluation based on 9 evaluation criteria (see NYSDEC Site Update 10.24.23 presentation)
    ii. Proposed remedial action plan
f. Record of Decision
    i. Construction
    ii. Reclassification
g. Regulatory References
    i. https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ENV/A27
    ii. https://www.dec.ny.gov/regs/2491.html
    iii. https://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/67386.html

h. Site Updates

	P-Site	Site Characterization	Site Classification	Remedial investigation	Interim Remedial Measure	Feasibility Study	Record of Decision
McCaffery Street			Class 2				
OU-01				✓	✓		
OU-03				✓	✓		
Liberty Street			Class 2	✓	✓		
John Street			Class 2		✓	✓	
Hoosick Falls Landfill			Class 2	✓	✓		
River Road			Class 2	✓	✓		
Mechanic Street			N				

	P-Site	Site Characterization	Site Classification	Remedial investigation	Interim Remedial Measure	Feasibility Study	Record of Decision
First Street	✓	✓	P		✓		
Former Dodge Machine	✓		P				
Interface Solutions	✓	✓	P				
Schmigel Site			Class 4		✓		
Columbia			Class 2	✓			
Dolan Ave	✓						
Junction Road	✓						
Sunrise Quarry	✓						
Kokley Ave	✓						

i. Questions/Comments
   i. Q: Why do some sites have fences and how long will they be there? (John Street, for example)
   A: The fence at the John Street site was installed to limit access during the remediation process and was recently replaced with a more secure gated fence in response to an additional request from the community. The future need for a fence will be reevaluated after remedy selection and implementation are completed.
   ii. Q: What sites are currently privately owned and what sites are publicly owned?
   A: All are privately owned with the exception of the landfill.

V. Other Hoosick Area CPWG Business
   a. Meeting Summaries posted on www.hoosickareacpwg.org
   b. 2023 Public Meeting Schedule will be posted in the near future
      - Tuesday, December 12, 2023