

RESOLUTION
2006-56

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST HANOVER, DAUPHIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, TO ADOPT AN OFFICIAL SEWAGE FACILITIES PLAN FOR WEST HANOVER TOWNSHIP.

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the Township of West Hanover (hereinafter, the "Board of Supervisors") authorized the preparation of an official Sewage Facilities Plan (hereinafter, the "Plan") for the Township; and

WHEREAS, Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. was selected as the consultant to assist the Board of Supervisors in the preparation of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (hereinafter, the "Department"), the Board of Supervisors advertised the preparation of the proposed Plan and provided a 30-day public comment period for such Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Township provided a copy of the proposed Plan to the Dauphin County Planning Commission and the West Hanover Township Planning Commission for review in accordance with the regulations of the Department; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to adopt the proposed Sewage Facilities Plan as the Township's official Sewage Facilities Plan in accordance with the provisions and requirements of the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act and the Regulations of the Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of West Hanover Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

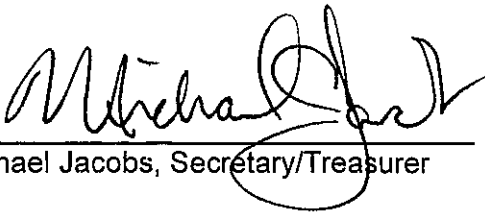
Section 1. The Board of Supervisors adopts the sewage facilities plan entitled "ACT 537 Sewage Facilities Plan for West Hanover Township", prepared by Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. in the form and content presented at this public meeting, as the official sewage facilities plan for the Township in accordance with the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act and the Regulations of the Department.

Section 2. This Resolution shall become effective and be in force immediately.

ADOPTED by the West Hanover Township Board of Supervisors this 21st day of the month of August, 2006.

ATTEST:

WEST HANOVER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
DAUPHIN COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA

By: 
Michael Jacobs, Secretary/Treasurer

By: 
Robert C. Ziltz, Jr., Chairman

[TOWNSHIP SEAL]

**ACT 537
SEWAGE FACILITIES PLAN**

FOR

WEST HANOVER TOWNSHIP

DAUPHIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

JUNE 2006

ENGINEER'S PROJECT NO. 0943.141

PREPARED BY

HRG

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this Act 537 Plan Update is to address the wastewater disposal needs of West Hanover Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. The planning area for this Act 537 Plan is West Hanover Township in its entirety. Following the completion of a Township-wide sanitary survey and analyses of well water samples from Township residences, smaller Study Areas were identified to narrow in on potential problem areas. Maps 1 and 2 in Appendix J depict these study areas.

An evaluation of existing on-lot disposal systems throughout the identified Study Areas and remaining portions of the Township indicated that there is no immediate need for improved sewage facilities in West Hanover Township. The results of the sanitary survey are summarized in Chapter 3 and most Maps prepared for this Plan. Complete results of the sanitary survey are presented in Appendix B. While there is no immediate need for improved sewage facilities in West Hanover Township, structural alternatives for providing public sewer service to the Study Areas were identified and evaluated in this Plan for cost feasibility.

The following summarizes the wastewater planning needs and recommendations of the Plan:

1. Public sewer service should be provided in the Houck Manor and Short Street Study Areas.

From the sanitary survey and well water sampling conducted in the preparation of this Act 537 Plan, it has been determined that there is no immediate need for improved sewage facilities in West Hanover Township. The provision of public sewer service to the Study Areas is recommended if economically feasible. As shown in the cost analyses of the prepared alternatives (see Chapter 5), the provision of public sewer service to the Houck Manor and Short Street Study Areas is economically feasible due to the proximity of these areas to existing West Hanover Township Water and Sewer Authority (WHTWSA) wastewater collection systems. Providing public sewer service to the Houck Manor and Short Street areas is further recommended due to the location of these areas within the Township's Designated Growth Area identified in the Township Comprehensive Plan.

The alternatives formulated in this Act 537 Plan to provide public sewer service to the Houck Manor and Short Street Study Areas represent technically feasible and cost-effective solutions for wastewater management in these areas. Of the identified alternatives, it is recommended that the Township pursue Alternative 2D to serve the Houck Manor Study Area and Alternative 4 to serve the Short Street Study Area. These alternatives are environmentally sound, resulting in the abandonment of malfunctioning on-lot systems in the areas, and secondary treatment of the wastewater at the WHTWSA wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).

Alternatives formulated to provide public sewer service to the Ritzie Village Study Area are the most costly structural alternatives identified in this study due to the remote location of the area and lack of existing collection facilities nearby. Alternatives 1A and 1B require the construction of a package treatment facility to treat wastewater generated in the area. These alternatives would provide environmentally sound solutions for wastewater management in the Ritzie Village Study Area as malfunctioning on-lot systems are removed and secondary treatment of the wastewater is achieved at the package facility. It is recommended that public sewer service not be provided to the Ritzie Village Area at this time due to cost and location outside of the Designated Growth Area. However, the Township may consider providing public sewer service in this area in the future should funding become available.

2. The occurrence of malfunctioning on-lot systems and greywater discharges in the Holiday Park area should be eliminated.

Following the construction of a collection system serving the Houck Manor Study Area, it is recommended that the Township implement Alternative 3 to provide public sewer service to the Holiday Park Study Area. This alternative will become more economically feasible following the construction of the Houck Manor collection system and will eliminate the occurrence of on-lot system malfunctions and greywater discharges in this area identified by the sanitary survey. Secondary treatment of the wastewater at the WHTWSA wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) will be provided in this alternative.

In the interim until the design of sanitary sewer facilities in the Holiday Park Study Area has commenced, it is recommended that the Township complete a detailed OLDS management program in this area in addition to the current Township-wide On-lot Management Ordinance. This program should include the following activities:

- Inspection of all on-lot systems within the Holiday Park Study Area by the Township's Sewage Enforcement Officer.
- Preparation of a report detailing the findings and repair recommendations. This report will be submitted to DEP within 12 months of DEP approval of this Act 537 Plan.
- Following DEP approval of the report, progress reports identifying the status of OLDS repairs will be submitted to DEP twice annually until design of sanitary sewer facilities in this area has commenced.

3. The existing WHTWSA wastewater treatment facility has ample hydraulic capacity to accommodate the 5- and 10-year growth projections based on development shown in Table 4-6 and existing flows. The Authority's 2004 Chapter 94 Report states that an apparent organic overload is anticipated to occur in 2009.

The 5 and 10-year flow projections developed for this Plan indicate the existing WHTWSA wastewater treatment facility has ample capacity to accommodate the projected development in the Designated Growth Area as well as the extension of public sewer service to the Houck Manor, Holiday Park, and Short Street areas. The Authority will manage the apparent organic overload through a rerating of the existing wastewater treatment facility or minor modifications to the facility when necessary. The Authority will continue to monitor available capacity at the pumping stations per Chapter 94 requirements and will upgrade stations nearing capacity as required.

4. Sewage needs for future developments not listed in Table 4-6 are unknown at this time. If development occurs in the Township, sewage planning should be undertaken in a manner that will provide adequate service to the developments. In order to properly evaluate consistency with Township Planning Documents and capacity within the WHTWSA system, planning module exemptions will not be granted for proposed developments located outside the Designated Growth Area identified in the Township Comprehensive Plan which propose connection to the WHTWSA sewer system. Instead, Act 537 Plan Revisions for such developments must be submitted to the Township for review. Developer construction and dedication to the Authority can greatly affect the feasibility of sewer extensions.

Developments occurring within the Township should connect to the WHTWSA sewer system when feasible as outlined in the Township's *Subdivision and Land Development Plan*. Developer constructed facilities should be dedicated to the Authority. In some instances, these developer extensions will allow the feasible connection of existing homes and businesses. When feasible, these existing buildings should be connected to the WHTWSA sewer system with appropriate planning.

Proposed developments which will be located outside of the Designated Growth Area will be required to submit Act 537 Plan Revisions to the Township for review and approval. Planning module exemptions for such developments will not be granted by the Township. This will allow the Township to ensure consistency with Planning Documents and the available capacity within the WHTWSA sewer system.

5. Wastewater flows from existing and proposed subdivisions in the Township should continue to be conveyed to the WHTWSA wastewater treatment facility with the exception of the existing Westford Crossing and Country Manor Farms areas.

The present worth analysis performed in this Act 537 Plan to evaluate the intermunicipal alternatives for wastewater treatment was based on correspondence between West Hanover Township and their neighboring municipalities. Currently, agreements between the municipalities relative to Swatara Township Authority's (STA) Joint Use Interceptor have not been resolved. The present worth analysis does make it clear, however, that costs associated with the utilization of the Township's reserved capacity in the STA WWTP (Alternative 6) are much greater than conveying all Township flows to the WHTWSA facility (Alternative 5) and the selected No Action alternative (Alternative 7) due to costs associated with upgrading Lower Paxton Township Authority (LPTA) and STA facilities. It is recommended that West Hanover Township take no action at this time to utilize their reserved capacity in the STA WWTP, however, as intermunicipal agreements are finalized, the Township should reevaluate alternatives presented in this Act 537 Plan.

6. The Township should continue to implement the On-lot Management Ordinance in areas of the Township served by OLDS.

As discussed in Chapter 3, a low percentage of confirmed on-lot malfunctions were observed during the sanitary survey completed in this Act 537 Plan. The implementation of the Township's On-lot Management Ordinance may be responsible for preventing the malfunction of on-lot systems as the Ordinance provides for the inspection, maintenance and mandatory pumping of on-lot systems. The Township should continue to implement the Ordinance in areas of the Township served by OLDS to prevent the malfunctioning of the on-lot systems and to preserve the water quality of private well supplies.

The estimated project costs for providing public sewer service to the Houck Manor, Holiday Park, and Short Street Study Areas are approximately \$1,585,000, \$1,573,000, and \$111,500, respectively. Cost estimates of the structural alternatives evaluated in this Plan are presented in Chapter 5. In order to finance the projects, the Township should apply for a low interest PENNVEST loan. Implementation of the Houck Manor, Holiday Park, and Short Street structural alternative will result in an estimated annual increase in user rates of approximately \$44, \$43, and \$3 per year, respectively, assuming PENNVEST financing of 3.172% for 20 years (see Chapters 5 and 6) and construction as stand alone projects. Construction of all three projects will result in an estimated annual increase in user rates of approximately \$87 per year.

The West Hanover Township Water and Sewer Authority has sufficient staffing and resources to implement the selected structural alternatives. **The implementation of the structural alternative for the Short Street Study Area shall be within 5 years from the date of DEP approval of this Act 537 Plan. Implementation of the structural alternatives for the Houck Manor and Holiday Park Study Areas shall be within 10 years from the date of DEP approval of this Act 537 Plan.**

The following activities shall be undertaken for each project to ensure successful implementation of the selected alternatives within the specified timeframes:

- Initiate preliminary design and pursue construction funding through application to PENNVEST.
- Final Design of wastewater facilities and acquisition of rights-of-way and all necessary permits.
- Bid project.
- Award project.
- Construction.
- Substantial Completion of Construction/Operational Start-up.

**ACT 537 SEWAGE FACILITIES PLAN UPDATE
WEST HANOVER TOWNSHIP
DAUPHIN COUNTY**

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