

From: [Shekter Smith, Liane \(DEQ\)](#)
To: [Prysby, Mike \(DEQ\)](#)
Subject: RE: Flint WTP
Date: Tuesday, January 08, 2013 4:37:00 PM

Perfect. Thanks.

Liane J. Shekter Smith, P.E., Chief
Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
517-373-9523

From: Prysby, Mike (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2013 4:36 PM
To: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)
Cc: Bloemker, Jon (DEQ); Busch, Stephen (DEQ)
Subject: Flint WTP

Liane,

Eric Kline from the Department of Treasury, Office of Fiscal Responsibility returned my call with several questions concerning the operating requirements of the Flint WTP. Eric is aware that Flint has been a DWSD customer since the 1960s and that the city is currently at the crossroads of either remaining a customer of DWSD (either blending or total DWSD purchase) or breaking away from DWSD and committing to the KWA project. The Department of Treasury is currently investigating these options to determine the best long term financial option for Flint.

Eric's first question:

Are there any scenarios where the DEQ would allow Flint to totally decommission their WTP?

My response first included a brief discussion of the history of the Flint WTP and the city's obligation to maintain and operate the facility on a test-run basis to provide an adequate back-up supply of water to the city and Genesee County in the event that the supply of water from Detroit (single transmission line) is interrupted. Eric appeared to already have a good understanding of this topic.

Next, Flint could only decommission their WTP if the city was to establish 2 independent sources of drinking water – either DWSD with KWA (back-up) or vice versa. This option would be difficult since KWA's intention is to sell untreated water to members of the authority including Flint. In this scenario, Flint may need to become a customer of Genesee County, not KWA. Otherwise, the city would need to establish 2 independent sources from Detroit.

Q2: Does Genesee County currently have a water treatment facility?

A2: Genesee County currently purchases water from Flint as a wholesale customer; thus the county does not have their own WTP at this time.

Q3: Does the DEQ take any stance on the possibility of Flint blending treated water from its own WTP?

A3: The city of Flint may elect to utilize their WTP for the blending of treated water from the Flint River with water purchased from DWSD or KWA provided that all applicable drinking water standards are maintained. The city would also be encouraged to produce water of the same aesthetic quality to the water currently purchased from DWSD. Thus, DEQ does not have an objection to the option of blending.

Eric indicated that he may contact me again if he has any further questions of which I will provide the necessary updates.

Michael Prysby, P.E.

District Engineer

Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance

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