
From: Busch, Stephen (DEQ)
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 12:57 PM
To: Benzie, Richard (DEQ); prysbym@michigan.gov
Cc: Kris Philip (philipk@michigan.gov); Fisher, Brant (DEQ)
Subject: Flint River - Genesee County Park & Rec Attorney Call

FYI.

I received a call this morning from Helen Mills, an attorney from Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes Law Firm representing the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission this morning.

She had some questions following the recent article in the Flint Journal and had mistakenly jumped to the conclusion that the construction permit applications to our office from the City of Flint included a withdrawal permit for the Flint River.

I explained to her that the City already has the ability to withdraw water from the River since the WTP was originally constructed in the 1960's, and that a baseline capacity of 90 MGD was established for the City of Flint (along with all existing community water supply withdrawals) when water withdrawal legislation went into effect a few years ago. I referred her to Brant Fisher for more specific questions regarding the water withdrawal legislation and establishment of baseline capacities.

I explained that the City has kept the WTP as an emergency backup system but now has indicated they plan to use the Flint River and WTP on a continuous basis until the KWA pipeline is available to provide an alternate source water for the WTP. The construction permit applications in question are for modifications to the WTP to address differences in short term emergency operation vs. long term continuous operation.

She also asked about the permit process which I explained is covered under Section 4 of Act 399 and Part 13 of the Administrative Rules, that the application contains basic information and is enclosed with engineering plans and specifications sealed by a PE licensed in the state. I informed her that review of preliminary plans is common for more complex projects such as this to help save time, effort, and money by addressing design issues upfront. She asked about the status and I indicated that we received permit applications on Monday and that staff are currently reviewing the plans and specifications.

She may call back with more questions.

The Genesee Co. Park & Rec has facilities along the Flint River and is concerned about impacts from the City utilizing the River. The Holloway Dam/Reservoir is controlled by the City, but its operation also carries some requirements to maintain certain levels within the waterway.

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