



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

Municipal Finance and Construction Element

Bureau of Environmental, Engineering and Permitting

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April 7, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

Village of Ridgewood

Water Treatment Centralization for PFAS Removal Phase 2

Raw Water Main Construction

Wyckoff Township, Bergen County

Project No. 0251001-002-D

To All Interested Government Agencies and Public Groups:

On October 19, 2023, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) issued an Environmental Decision Document (EDD) for Ridgewood Water to install new raw water mains for Phase 2 of their PFAS removal project (Project No. 0251001-002). The original planning requested funding for the installation of raw water mains throughout the service area to interconnect four (4) PFAS treatment facilities: Prospect, Ames, Cedar Hill, and Wortendyke. However, at the time of EDD issuance, Ridgewood Village was only permitted to install raw water mains to connect to the Prospect Treatment Facility. The current Prospect Treatment Facility is located on Block 172, Lot 1 on Prospect Street, in the Borough of Glen Rock and currently treats water from the Prospect, Spring, Grove, and Ackerman Wells via an air stripping tower.

The original project was broken down into two (2) separate components. Both components were reviewed for their environmental and cultural resource impacts; however, only the raw water mains specifically for the Prospect PFAS treatment facility were approved for financing under the original drinking water Project No. 0251001-002. The scope for the other remaining sites was not included in the EDD and was to be reviewed as a separate project component. However, due to a future Township roadway repair project, paving constraints forced Ridgewood Water to separate the remaining project component into two (2) components.

On January 11, 2024, the Department issued a Public Notice for Ridgewood Water for Project No. 0251001-002-B to install the proposed raw water mains on streets that have been simultaneously scheduled for repaving by an unrelated Township roadway repair project. The rationale for this separated component was justified because targeted areas would only be disturbed and repaved once, allowing for a very cost-effective alternative.

However, due to permitting complications that delayed the issuance of the last remaining contract, Ridgewood Water separated the remaining project component into two (2) components. On September 4, 2024, the Department issued a Public Notice for Ridgewood Project No. 0251001-

002-C for the installation of raw water mains that are solely associated with the Ames and Wortendyke Treatment Facilities. The final remaining contract, Project No. 0251001-002-D, involves the installation of raw water mains associated with the Cedar Hill Treatment Facility alone.

This public notice serves to inform interested parties that Ridgewood Water proposes to proceed with the installation of approximately 18,400 linear feet (LF) of 12-inch, 10-inch, 8-inch, and 6-inch diameter ductile iron raw water mains to connect associated satellite wells to the Cedar Hill Treatment Facility.

The existing Cedar Hill Treatment Facility wellfield consists of four active wells (Cedar Hill Well Nos. 1, 4, 5, and 6) where well flows are combined in a 12-inch diameter water main and chemically treated for disinfection. The proposed project involves the installation of an approximate total of 18,400 LF of raw water mains to connect the Cedar Hill Treatment Facility to the Eder, Meer, Lakeview, Lafayette, and Weisch satellite wells. The proposed raw water main project includes the following approximate total lengths of raw water mains:

- 200 LF of 6-inch diameter ductile iron water main
- 11,250 LF of 8-inch diameter ductile iron water main
- 6,600 LF of 10-inch diameter ductile iron water main
- 350 LF of 12-inch diameter ductile iron water main

The proposed project will be implemented in the following eight segments:

- Segment 3A: Approximately 2,450 LF of 8-inch diameter raw water main to be installed from the Eder Well, along James Way, to the intersection of James Way and Meer Avenue.
- Segment 3B: Approximately 2,500 LF of 8-inch diameter raw water main to be installed along Meer Avenue. A small portion of raw water main was previously installed from the Lakeview Well to the intersection of Wyckoff Avenue and Meer Avenue under Project No. 0251001-002-B, which will be connected under this segment.
- Segment 3C: Approximately 200 LF of 6-inch diameter raw water main to be installed from the Meer Well to the previous segment along Meer Avenue.
- Segment 3D: Approximately 2,850 LF of 10-inch diameter raw water main to be installed from the intersection of James Way and Meer Avenue, connecting both Segment 3A and 3C, to the intersection of Paine Road, along Paine Road to the intersection of Calvin Court, and finally along Calvin Court to the intersection of Cedar Hill Avenue.
- Segment 3E: Approximately 4,300 LF of 8-inch diameter raw water main to be installed from the Lafayette Well, along Flaker Drive to the intersection of Grandview Avenue, along Grandview Avenue to the intersection of Nancy Lane, and finally along Nancy Lane to the intersection of Manchester Way.
- Segment 3F: Approximately 2,000 LF of 8-inch diameter raw water main to be installed from the Weisch Well, along Weisch Avenue to the intersection of Fox Hollow Road, along Fox Hollow Road to the intersection of Manchester Way, connecting to the previous 3E segment, and finally along Manchester Way to the intersection of Cottage Road.

- Segment 3G: Approximately 3,750 LF of 10-inch diameter raw water main to be installed from the previous 3F segment at the intersection of Manchester Way and Cottage Road, along Cottage Road to the intersection of Caldwell Drive, along Caldwell Drive to the intersection of Cedar Hill Avenue, and finally connecting to segment 3D at the intersection of Cedar Hill Avenue and Calvin Court.
- Segment 3H: Approximately 350 LF of 12-inch diameter water main to be installed from the previous 3G segment at the intersection of Cedar Hill Avenue and Calvin Court to the Cedar Hill Treatment Facility.

Proposed methods for water main installation will involve open-cut excavation trench installation in existing road rights-of-way. Based on typical 3-foot by 6-foot trench excavation depth, an approximated area of 55,200 square feet will be disturbed within existing paved roadways, disturbing approximately 12,267 cubic yards of soil via excavation.

All proposed disturbance will be limited to roadways, previously disturbed sites, and maintained lawn areas. There will be no impacts to Important Farmlands, Agricultural Development Areas, steep slopes, endangered or threatened species and their designated habitats, vernal habitats, coastal areas, parks and preserves, designated wild and scenic rivers, or important aquifer recharge areas.

The State of New Jersey has undertaken an iterative process of developing and implementing strategies to reduce and respond to the impacts of climate change, including through measures that promote the resilience of water infrastructure. As the proposed water mains will be below grade as part of an isolated system, the Department's resilience requirements do not apply to the proposed project.

The proposed project will acquire all the necessary permits prior to construction including a Bergen County Soil Conservation District Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Certification, a Bureau of Water System Engineering Safe Drinking Water – Permit No. WCP24001, and several Bergen County Road Opening Permits.

The proposed project component has been reviewed for its potential to affect significant historic properties. The new water lines will be installed underneath existing roadways. The Cairns-Whitten-Blauvelt House, which is listed on the NJ and National Registers of Historic Places, is adjacent to the project area on Grandview Avenue. Additionally, the Cedar Hill Well Site itself is eligible for listing on the Registers. However, the project area is confined to roadways and these will be restored after construction. The new lines will connect to the Cedar Hill Well Site just within the property boundary, underneath a driveway that will be replaced under the PFAS Removal project No. 0251001-001D. As such, the project will not affect either property or any other historic buildings in the area. Construction from both the roads and existing utilities have disturbed the soils in the project area, and so the proposed project is unlikely to affect any buried cultural resources. On March 14, 2025, the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer was informed of this determination, and they did not provide additional comments.

Based on a review of the information submitted in support of this project, the Department concludes that there is no change in the project scope that was originally submitted to this office and approved under the Environmental Decision Document issued October 19, 2023. Further, the Department has made a preliminary decision to fund this work under the New Jersey Water Bank.

Proposed Project Cost: \$ 8,620,000

Proposed Project Loan: \$ 8,620,000

Questions concerning this decision, or request for a copy of the October 19, 2023 EDD, January 11, 2024, and October 1, 2024 Public Notices, may be directed to: Karen Cole, Chief, Bureau of Environmental, Engineering, and Permitting, Municipal Finance and Construction Element, P. O. Box 420, Mail Code 401-03D, 401 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey, 08625-0420.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles Jenkins", is positioned above the printed name.

Charles Jenkins, Assistant Director
Municipal Finance and Construction Element
Division of Water Quality