

III. Existing Sewage Facilities in the Planning Area – Identifying the Existing Needs

A. Identify, map and describe municipal and non-municipal, individual and community sewerage systems in the planning area including:

1. Location, size and ownership of treatment facilities, main inter-cepting lines, pumping stations and force mains including their size, capacity, point of discharge. Also include the name of the receiving stream, drainage basin, and the facility's effluent dis-charge requirements. (Reference-Title 25, §71.21a.2.i.A).

Refer to Map Four (4), the Existing Facilities Map.

2. A narrative and schematic diagram of the facility's basic treatment processes including the facility's NPDES permitted capacity, and the Clean Streams Law permit number. (Reference-Title 25, §71.21.a.2.i.A).

The Treatment Facilities at DELCORA operate under several NPDES Water Quality Management Permits, principally: Authorization ID: 45485, Permit Number: 2399404.

3. A description of problems with existing facilities (collection, conveyance and/or treatment), including existing or projected overload under Title 25, Chapter 94 (relating to municipal wasteload management) or violations of the NPDES permit, Clean Streams Law permit, or other permit, rule or regulation of DEP. (Reference-Title 25, §71.21.a.2.i.B).

The existing collection and conveyance facilities in Newtown have no reportable problems listed in their annual Chapter 94 Report.

4. Details of scheduled or in-progress upgrading or expansion of treatment facilities and the anticipated completion date of the improvements. Discuss any remaining reserve capacity and the policy concerning the allocation of reserve capacity. Also discuss the compatibility of the rate of growth to existing and proposed wastewater treatment facilities. (Reference-Title 25, §71.21.a.4.i & ii).

As established in the 5-21-2007 Act 537 Plan, the existing DECLORA facilities have adequate capacity to treat the generated waste.

5. A detailed description of the municipality’s operation and maintenance requirements for small flow treatment facility systems, including the status of past and present compliance with these requirements and any other requirements relating to sewage management programs. (Reference-Title 25, §71.21.a.2.i.C).

Newtown Township requires all small flow treatment facilities to enter into an Operation & Maintenance agreement. Currently all facilities are in compliance with the O & M Agreements.

6. Disposal areas, if other than stream discharge, and any applicable groundwater limitations. (Reference-Title 25, §71.21.a.4.i & ii).

Newtown Township does not have these systems. This section is non-applicable to the Act 537 Plan.

- B. Using DEP’s publication titled Sewage Disposal Needs Identification, identify, map and describe areas that utilize individual and community onlot sewage disposal and, unpermitted collection and disposal systems (“wildcat” sewers, borehole disposal, etc.) and retaining tank systems in the planning area including:

Refer to Map Four (4), the Existing Facilities Map.

1. The types of onlot systems in use. (Reference-Title 25, §71.21.a.2.ii.A).

Refer to Map Four (4), the Existing Facilities Map.

Presently, the majority of the on-lot systems consist of septic tanks, which discharge to a subsurface disposal system for final treatment. The sub-surface disposal systems generally consist of standard trenches, seepage beds, sub-surface sand filters, elevated sand mounds and some drip irrigation systems. A small portion of the older homes within the Township rely on cesspools and/or seepage pits for treatment and disposal of the sewage.

The Township is proposing an amendment to the Act 537 Plan in order to protect the health, welfare and safety of the public property, namely, environmentally sensitive areas of watercourses, streams, creeks and wetland areas. The proposed plan will provide public sewer to replace aging systems that were installed prior to PADEP rules and regulations. A large number of these systems are no longer permissible according to the regulations found in Title 25, Chapter 73, standards for on-site sewage disposal systems.

2. A sanitary survey complete with description, map and tabulation of documented and potential public health, pollution, and operational problems (including malfunctioning systems) with the systems, including violations of local ordinances, the Sewage Facilities Act, the Clean Stream Law or regulations promulgated thereunder. (Reference-Title 25, §71.21.a.2.ii.B).

Refer to Attachment Twenty (20), for a detailed sanitary sewer survey of the Echo Valley Service Area, prepared by Pennoni Associates, dated October 2009.

Refer to Attachment Seventeen (17), for a Township and Watershed wide justification of the extension of public sewers to the Upper Crum Creek Watershed.

Refer to Attachment Eighteen (18), for a Township and Watershed wide justification of the extension of public sewers to the Upper Crum Creek Watershed.

3. A comparison of the types of onlot sewage systems installed in an area with the types of systems which are appropriate for the area according to soil, geologic conditions, topographic limitations sewage flows, and Title 25 Chapter 73 (relating to standards for sewage disposal facilities). (Reference-Title 25, §71.21.a.2.ii.C).

The majority of the existing on-lot disposal system permits were issued by the Newtown Township Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO). Prior to the issuance of the permits, the SEO was responsible that the proposed system was appropriate for the lot in accordance with the soils, geologic conditions and topographic limitations. All systems were also inspected during construction.

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4. An individual water supply survey to identify possible contamination by malfunctioning onlot sewage disposal systems consistent with DEP's Sewage Disposal Needs Identification publication. (Reference-Title 25 §71.21.a.2.ii.B).

The vast majority of the Township is serviced by public water provider Aqua Pennsylvania. Therefore, a water supply survey was not applicable to this study.

5. Detailed description of operation and maintenance requirements of the municipality for individual and small volume community on-lot systems, including the status of past and present compliance with these requirements and any other requirements relating to sewage management programs. (Reference-Title 25, §71.21.a.2.i.C).

The township does not have an ordinance or specific regulations to address individual or small volume community on-lot systems, however, as described in Attachments 12 and 13, there have been agreements execute to ensure the long term functioning of site specific systems such as the Clover Development and Individual Residential Stream Discharge systems.

The Township does retain a Sewage Enforcement Officer to respond to complaints regarding any potential individual or small volume on lot systems.

C. Identify wastewater sludge and septage generation, transport and disposal methods. Include this information in the sewage facilities alternative analysis including:

1. Location of sources of wastewater sludge or septage (Septic tanks, holding tanks, wastewater treatment facilities). (Reference-Title 25 §71.71).

This section is non-applicable per the 12-17-2009 Task Activity Report preparation meeting with PADEP.

2. Quantities of the types of sludges or septage generated. (Reference-Title 25 §71.71).

This section is non-applicable per the 12-17-2009 Task Activity Report preparation meeting with PADEP.

3. Present disposal methods, locations, capacities and transportation methods. (Reference-Title 25 §71.71).

This section is non-applicable per the 12-17-2009 Task Activity Report preparation meeting with PADEP.