

RULS-AD-1984-140

4/6/84

- letter to Raymond re: Belminter sewer
capacity

Pgs. 5

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DT-29 und
11/9/84
EAS

April 6, 1984

George M. Raymond, AICP, AIA
Raymond Parish, Pine & Weiner, Inc.
555 White Plains Road
Tarrytown, New York 10591

Dear Mr. Raymond:

This letter will supplement our oral responses to your questions in which I reported to you the position of Bedminster Township with respect to the issues involving sewer capacity availability in the Township.

EDC Expansion

Bedminster Township will support the application of Environmental Disposal Corporation to increase its capacity at its plant in Bedminster Township.

The assumption of this offer is, of course, that the capacity so generated and made available will be adequate

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to support the lower income set-aside units provided in the revised development regulations of Bedminster Township, to be put into effect as the result of the proceedings before Judge Serpentelli. The Township believes this is a far better alternative for making lower income units realistically possible than rezoning the property on which Mr. Dobbs has an option, which the municipality wants to acquire for park and other municipal purposes.

When the EDC plant was initially proposed and designed, the Township reviewed the plans to make sure that the plant could be expanded, if necessary. Additionally, the Township insisted that the franchise area include all of Pluckemin. The Township has from the beginning taken a consistent position that the Hills/EDC is the appropriate mechanism to provide sewerage capacity.

Bedminster Plant

The application for the permit listed the following:

AT&T	98,750 gal
Far Hills	35,000
Bedminster	<u>70,000</u>
	<u>203,750 gal</u>

This is the "rated capacity" of the plant.

We understand the "allocated capacity" to be the following:

AT&T	98,750
Far Hills	38,500
Bed. Village	<u>59,500</u>
	<u>196,750</u>

Accordingly, the unallocated capacity is:

Design:	203,750
Allocated:	<u>196,750</u>
	<u>7,000</u>

The Malcolm Pirnie \$201 report, which has been accepted by Somerset County, lists the Bedminster Plant as "not to exceed 255,000 gal/day," for purposes of applying for federal funds. As you know, the exact status and force of \$201 planning is uncertain: in any event, we do not believe it is being used to limit any construction or discharges.

- The Far Hills infiltration problem is two-fold:
- (1) Some storm sewers were found to be flowing directly into the sewer collector system.
 - (2) Infiltration of ground water is occurring directly into the collection system.

Far Hills has contracted to have the storm sewer problem corrected. This should be complete by the end of the summer. The contract between the Township and Far Hills provides for only 35,000 gal/day. This can and will be enforced.

The Township has already begun the formal studies necessary to apply for and expand the capacity of its treatment plant, if necessary for Mt. Laurel compliance: Kupper Associates in late 1983 found the river can absorb significant additional discharges with no adverse consequences, and concluded that an expansion at the Bedminster plant of +200,000 gal/day is very feasible.

The Township intends to pursue this proposal, once the uncertainties of the litigation are resolved.

The Township has already taken some steps to implement an upgrading/expansion program. The Township has approved funds for the expansion of the equalization tanks. This, plus some additional steps, could generate an additional 50,000 gal/day at relatively small cost. The Town will shortly consider other elements of a three year capital expenditure plan for the plant. The great uncertainty now is of course the litigation and the conflicting claims of the parties.

Dobbs' Site as a Spray Disposal Field

The Township wants to purchase (and will use condemnation, if necessary) some or all of the Dobbs site. Because of the very dense development that will occur in the Corridor, park land and open space is needed.

Many studies have shown that the Dobbs' site contains

good soil for spray application. Accordingly, the Township will undertake to make available whatever portion of the Dobbs' tract is necessary for a spray field to accept any excess effluent from the EDC plant or the Township plant which cannot be discharged to the North Branch of the Raritan River because of environmental or administrative limitations.

* * *

For your information, we enclose copies of:

(1) Contract, AT&T/Bedminster, May 19, 1975, regarding Bedminster Plant.

(2) Contract, Far Hills/Bedminster, January 26, 1979, regarding allocation of 35,000 gal/day to Far Hills.

(3) Report, CFM, Inc., regarding Infiltration, Far Hills, June 8, 1983.

(4) Letter (1/5/84) and Reoprt (12/28/83)

Vannoccone, Murphy & Hollows, Inc., regarding Far Hills Infiltration.

(5) Letter (11/10/83) and Report (October 1983) of Kupper Associates regarding Biological Survey of North Branch.

Sincerely yours,


Alfred L. Ferguson

ALF/nw Encs.

cc: Honorable Eugene D. Serpentelli
All Counsel of Record
Richard T. Coppola

bcc: Daniel F. O'Connell, Esq.; Roger Thomas, Esq.; John Schoenberg