



Woodridge Lake Sewer District

113 Brush Hill Road
PO Box 258
Goshen, CT 06756

April 20, 2020

Re: Notification of United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development (USDA-RD)
Funding Application Status

Dear Taxpayer,

We wanted to give you an update of the work we have accomplished since our contact with the Litchfield WPCA and the USDA-RD. Between July of last year and this month we have had intensive discussions with the Litchfield WPCA staff and Board. We have spent over \$130,000 with our engineering firm, DPC Engineering, to complete a Preliminary Engineering Review and an Environmental Review & Environmental Assessment which have been reviewed and approved by the USDA-RD our funder. These reports laid out the combined project of the pipeline to the Litchfield collection system and an upgrade of the Litchfield sewer facility. These reports are posted on our website for your review. About two months ago the WLS D and the Litchfield WPCA began completing the USDA/RD funding documents for submission to their credit committees in the Northeast Region and then Washington.

On April 17th the USDA/RD notified WLS D that “the application for funding of Town of Litchfield and WLS D combined Project of \$38M to design and construct a pipeline to connect the WLS D collection system to the Litchfield sewer facility has been placed on hold in hopes that an agreement can be reached yet this FY20. Litchfield has requested additional time in order to determine and become more comfortable with the project and the cost breakdowns. Specifically, what upgrades would be required to their facility and system in order to meet their own needs and what additions, if any, would be required to support a connection with the WLS D system. We note that by virtue of WLS D, Litchfield upgrades may be eligible for a large portion of grant that they would otherwise be ineligible for under a stand-alone application. Preliminary feedback from USDA/RD suggested that if successful the project funding could yield as much as \$12M in grant based funding for a Litchfield investment of approximately \$7M. WLS D is eligible for up to 75% grant funding for this project, some of which would pass through to Litchfield.”

The WLS D's Board will remain in close communication with Litchfield as they progress through their upgrade design work and determine their level of support for a pipeline project proposal to the USDA/RD in near the future. The Board will also update and continue discussions with Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) on the path forward.

Your Board