

Appendix H:

Draft On-Lot Sewage Management Program Inspection Form

B. GENERAL SITE AND SYSTEM INFORMATION (CONT.)

10. Separate Graywater Discharge to surface? Yes No

11. Garbage Disposal? Yes No

12. Date of last Pumping _____ Hauler _____
CCHD No. _____

13. Comments:

C. TREATMENT TANK(S)

1. Type: Septic Tank Cesspool Aerobic Tank Holding Tank
 Other _____

2. Material: Concrete Steel Block Stone
 Other _____

3. Capacity: <900 gallons 900-1,249 gallons
 1,250-1,500 gallons >1,500 gallons

4. Number of Treatment Tanks: 1 2 >2

5. Treatment Tank pumped during inspection? Yes No

6. Depth to primary tank access: At grade 1' or less > 1'

7. Baffles intact? Inlet: Yes No
Outlet: Yes No
 Not Applicable

8. Depth of scum and sludge greater than 1/3 liquid depth of tank? Yes No

9. Surface water (drainage swale, roof drain, sump pump, etc.) directed over tank(s)?
 Yes No

10. Comments:

D. AXULLIARY TREATMENT UNITS

- 1. Filtration unit? Yes No
- 2. If yes: Peat Buried Sand Free Access Other _____
- 3. Disinfection? Yes No
- 4. Comments

E. DISTRIBUTION AND/OR DOSING

- 1. Type: Distribution Box Dosing Tank Siphon Not Applicable
 Other _____
- 2. Distribution box outlets level? Yes No Not Applicable
- 3. Depth to dosing tank access: At grade 1' or less >1' Not Applicable
- 4. Pump Functioning? Yes No Not Applicable
- 5. Alarm Functioning? Yes No Not Applicable
- 6. Electrical Connections satisfactory? Yes No Not Applicable
- 7. Surface water (drainage swale, roof drain, sump pump, etc.) directed over dosing tank or d-box? Yes No
- 8. Comments:

F. DISPOSAL AREA

1. Type:
- Inground Seepage Bed
 - Inground Seepage Trenches
 - Elevated Sand Mound
 - Individual Residential Spray Irrigation System (IRSIS)
 - Small Flow Treatment Facility (SFTF)
 - Alternate System – type: _____
 - Experimental System – type: _____
 - Cesspool
 - Seepage Pit
 - Holding Tank

2. Approx. square footage of Disposal Area:
- <476
 - 476-599
 - 600-799
 - 800-999
 - 1,000-1,199
 - 1,200-1,500
 - >1,500
 - Not applicable (No soil absorption area)

3. Results of Soil Absorption System Probing:
- Some dry aggregate
 - Effluent to top of aggregate
 - Effluent to ground surface
 - Not applicable (No aggregate based absorption area)

4. Surface water (drainage swale, roof drain, sump pump, etc.) directed over absorption area? Yes No

5. Observations / General Condition of Absorption System / Disposal Area:
- Satisfactory Green Lush Grass Water Ponding or Surfacing
 - Sluggish Drains Odors Wetness or Spongy Areas
 - System Overflow Wastewater Backing into Building
 - Open Pipe Discharge

6. Comments:

H. SITE DRAWING

(May attach CCHD Permit Plot Plan or As-Built Plan in lieu of drawing)

DRAFT

Appendix I:

Westtown Township Planning Commission Correspondence



August 6, 2012

FILE COPY

Mr. James S. Lees Jr., Chairman
Westtown Township Planning Commission
1039 Wilmington Pike
West Chester, PA 19382

Re: Westtown Township Act 537 Plan Special Study

Dear Mr. Lees:

Enclosed please find one copy of the draft Act 537 Official Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study for Westtown Township, for review and comment by the Westtown Township Planning Commission.

This document addresses the sewage needs of existing residences served by on-lot sewage systems. Specific analysis is presented for the eastern portion of the Township. Map I-1 identifies this Study Area, which is generally equivalent to the area proposed for public sewer connection in the Westtown Township Act 537 planning approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in 2006.

A summary of the Act 537 Plan can be found in Chapter I, and salient features are as follows:

- An analysis of Chester County Health Department records, soils, age of sewage systems, and lot sizes resulted in a Township determination that no sewer extensions are warranted at this time. Chapter II provides detailed discussion of these sewage needs analyses.
- The selected alternatives identified in the Draft Plan are continued use of on-lot sewage systems with Township implementation of an on-lot sewage management program. These alternatives are also proposed for all parcels served by on-lot sewage systems in the Township which are not within the Study Area, in recognition of outstanding Township-wide Act 537 planning obligations. Alternatives are identified and discussed in Chapter IV, with selected alternatives specified in Chapter VII.
- The proposed on-lot sewage management program would include Township oversight of regular sewage system pumping and inspections of all on-lot sewage systems by a qualified contractor hired by each property owner. Please refer to pages IV-10 through IV-12 for detailed discussion of the proposed program.
- Additional Act 537 planning will be completed in 5-10 years to revisit on-lot sewage system conditions. It is anticipated that information gathered by the on-lot sewage management program, particularly sewage system inspection findings, will serve to inform any such future planning. An implementation schedule can be found in Chapters I and VII which memorializes the Township's commitment to this future planning.

On behalf of the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors, we respectfully request that the Planning Commission review the enclosed Draft Plan and provide written comments within 30 days. Although DEP regulations provide for a maximum 60 day review period, Westtown Township is subject to a Consent Order and Agreement with DEP (see Appendix B of the Draft Plan) which requires completion of the Final Plan (incorporating comments received), adoption by the Board of Supervisors, and submission to DEP no later than September 30, 2012. The requested 30 day review period is needed to meet these timing constraints.

URS Corporation
Iron Hill Corporate Center
4051 Ogletown Road, Suite 300
Newark, DE 19713
Tel: 302.781.5900
Fax: 302.781.5901
www.urscorp.com

V:\Projects\1551\PA_Westtown\20811091\Corresp\Westtown_PC
Cover Ltr.Doc

I am available to attend a Planning Commission meeting upon request to assist with review and answer any questions.

Thank you for your assistance and please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

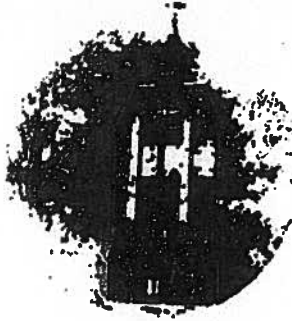
URS Corporation

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stan Corbett", written in a cursive style.

Stan Corbett
Senior Planner

cc: Bob Layman, Westtown Township Manager

20811091.00010



WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP

1089 Wilmington Pike
West Chester, PA 19382
610-692-1980
email: supervisors@westtown.org

Post Office Box 79
Westtown, PA 19895
FAX 610-692-9651
www.westtownpa.org

August 15, 2012

Board of Supervisors
Westtown Township
Westtown, Pennsylvania

Re: August 2012 Draft Act 537

Dear Supervisors:

The Planning Commission members were supplied copies of the Draft Act 537 for review. The Commission as a whole reviewed the Draft at its meeting on August 8, 2012.

The Planning Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors proceed with the Act 537 draft under consideration, including evaluating all resident comments, and the future adoption of the proposed On-site Management Ordinance.

The Commission will include the Act 537 on the Agenda for the August 22nd meeting, and will forward any additional comments to the Board.

Sincerely yours,

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION


Elaine L. Adler, Secretary

Appendix J:

Chester County Planning Commission Correspondence



August 7, 2012

Mr. Ronald Bailey, AICP
Chester County Planning Commission
601 Westtown Road, Suite 270
West Chester, PA 19380

Re: Westtown Township Act 537 Plan Special Study

Dear Mr. Bailey:

Enclosed please find one copy of the draft Act 537 Official Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study for Westtown Township, for review and comment by the Chester County Planning Commission.

This document addresses the sewage needs of existing residences served by on-lot sewage systems. Specific analysis is presented for the eastern portion of the Township. Map I-1 identifies this Study Area, which is generally equivalent to the area proposed for public sewer connection in the Westtown Township Act 537 planning approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in 2006.

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On behalf of the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors, we respectfully request that the Chester County Planning Commission review the enclosed Draft Plan and provide written comments within 30 days. Although DEP regulations provide for a maximum 60 day review period, Westtown Township is subject to a Consent Order and Agreement with DEP (see Appendix B of the Draft Plan) which requires completion of the final Plan (incorporating comments received), adoption by the Board of Supervisors, and submission to DEP no later than September 30, 2012. The requested 30 day review period is needed to meet these timing constraints.

Thank you for your assistance and please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

URS Corporation

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stan Corbett".

Stan Corbett
Senior Planner

cc: Bob Layman, Westtown Township Manager

20811091.00010

Appendix K:

Chester County Health Department Correspondence



August 7, 2012

FILE COPY

Mr. Ralph DeFazio
Chester County Health Department
601 Westtown Road, Suite 288
West Chester, PA 19380

Re: Westtown Township Act 537 Plan Special Study

Dear Mr. DeFazio:

Enclosed please find one copy of the draft Act 537 Official Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study for Westtown Township, for review and comment by the Chester County Health Department.

This document addresses the sewage needs of existing residences served by on-lot sewage systems. Specific analysis is presented for the eastern portion of the Township. Map I-1 identifies this Study Area, which is generally equivalent to the area proposed for public sewer connection in the Westtown Township Act 537 planning approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in 2006.

A summary of the Act 537 Plan can be found in Chapter I, and salient features are as follows:

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On behalf of the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors, we respectfully request that the Chester County Health Department review the enclosed Draft Plan and provide written comments within 30 days. Although DEP regulations provide for a maximum 60 day review period, Westtown Township is subject to a Consent Order and Agreement with DEP (see Appendix B of the Draft Plan) which requires completion of the final Plan (incorporating comments received), adoption by the Board of Supervisors, and submission to DEP no later than September 30, 2012. The requested 30 day review period is needed to meet these timing constraints.

Thank you for your assistance and please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

URS Corporation

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stan Corbett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stan Corbett
Senior Planner

cc: Bob Layman, Westtown Township Manager

20811091.00010



THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



COMMISSIONERS

Terence Farrell
Kathi Cozzone
Ryan A. Costello

MARGARET C. RIVELLO, M.B.A.
County Health Director

CHESTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Chester County Government Services Center
Water and Sewage Division
601 Westtown Road, Suite 288
West Chester, PA 19380-0990
610-344-6526 FAX: 610-344-5934
www.chesco.org/health

August 21, 2012

AUG 27 2012

Board of Supervisors
Westtown Township
1039 Wilmington Pike
West Chester, PA 19382

RE: Act 537 Official Sewage Facilities Plan
Special Study: Sewage Needs of Existing Residences

Dear Supervisors:

The Chester County Health Department (CCHD) has received a copy of the draft Act 537 Plan referenced above. This draft was prepared by URS Corporation, dated August 2012, and received by CCHD on August 9, 2012. This draft plan has been reviewed in accordance with Title 25. Environmental Protection, Chapter 71. Administration of Sewage Facilities Planning Program, § 71. 31 (c). We offer the following comments:

- A combination of soils information, lot size and lot age has been used to support the basic premise that there are no immediate needs that must be addressed at this time.
- Records from the CCHD indicate that it does appear possible to make absorption area replacements on most lots with sufficient size and suitable soils.
- CCHD is in agreement with the facts presented and the conclusions drawn.
- The plan makes reference to the Chester County Septage Management Data System. CCHD has chosen to suspend the operation and maintenance of this data collection system as of August 20, 2012. We informed Westtown Township of this decision by letter dated August 16, 2012. It was stated in that letter that CCHD reserves the right to reinstitute the program at some point in the future. For this reason Westtown Township should make changes to the implementation schedule and Septage Management content included in this plan and any relevant ordinances.

Westtown Township
Act 537 Plan
August 21, 2012

It is the recommendation of the CCHD that this draft Act 537 Plan be adopted by the Board of Supervisors and forwarded to PA DEP for their review. Once a final plan is approved by PA DEP, a final version should be provided to CCHD for our files. This copy can be submitted on disk.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the content of this draft Act 537 Plan. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at: 610-344-6239.

Respectfully,



Ralph E. DeFazio
Environmental Health Supervisor
Chester County Health Department

cc: Robert Layman, Westtown Township Manager
Stan Corbett, URS Corporation ✓
Elizabeth Mahoney, PA DEP
CCPC
file



September 11, 2012

FILE COPY

Mr. Ralph DeFazio
Chester County Health Department
Chester County Government Services Center
Water and Sewage Division
601 Westtown Road, Suite 288
West Chester, PA 19380-0990

Re: Westtown Township Official Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study

Dear Mr. DeFazio:

We are in receipt of your letter dated August 21, 2012 which provided comments on the draft Westtown Township Act 537 Official Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study.

Your comments are re-iterated below, with responses in bold italic text on behalf of Westtown Township:

- A combination of soils information, lot size, and lot age has been used to support the basic premise that there are no immediate needs that must be addressed at this time.

No response needed.

- Records from the CCHD indicate that it does appear possible to make absorption area replacements on most lots with sufficient size and suitable soils.

No response needed.

- CCHD is in agreement with the facts presented and the conclusions drawn.

No response needed.

- The plan makes reference to the Chester County Septage Management Data System. CCHD has chosen to suspend the operation and maintenance of this data collection system as of August 20, 2012. We informed Westtown Township of this decision by letter dated August 16, 2012. It was stated in that letter that CCHD reserves the right to reinstitute the program at some point in the future. For this reason Westtown Township should make changes to the implementation schedule and Septage Management content included in this plan and any relevant ordinances.

Applicable Plan content and draft ordinance references have been revised to eliminate reference to or reliance upon the Chester County Septage Management Data System.

Thank you for your timely comments, and we trust the responses above will satisfactorily address Chester County Health Department concerns.

Sincerely,

URS Corporation

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stan Corbett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stan Corbett
Senior Planner

cc: Mr. Bob Layman, Westtown Township Manager
Mr. Jeff Miller, Evans Mills Environmental

20811091.00010

Appendix L:

Public Notice, Comments, and Responses

Proof of Publication of Notice in the Daily Local News

Under Newspaper Advertising Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929

State of Pennsylvania
County of Chester

{ss:

{No.

Term, 2012

Patricia Sigda, Legal Representative of the Daily Local News Company, a corporation, of the County and State aforesaid, being duly affirmed, deposes and says that the Daily Local News, a newspaper of general circulation, published at 250 N. Bradford, Ave., West Chester, PA, County and State aforesaid, was established November 19, 1872, and incorporated December 11, 1911, since which date the Daily Local News has been regularly issued in said county, and that the printed notice or publication attached hereto is exactly the same as printed and published in the regular editions and issues of the said Daily Local News on the following dates viz:

August 10 A.D. 2012

Affiant further deposes that he/she is the proper person duly authorized by the Daily Local News Company, a corporation, publishers of said Daily Local News, a newspaper of general circulation, to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and that affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place and character of publication are true

PUBLIC NOTICE WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP

PUBLICATION

In accordance with the requirements of Title 25, Chapter 71 of the Pennsylvania Code, Westtown Township is accepting written comments over the next 30 days on the Draft Westtown Township Act 537 Official Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study. This Draft Plan provides an analysis of the sewage needs of existing residences served by on-lot sewage systems and identifies the following selected alternatives: 1) Existing parcels served by on-lot sewage systems will continue to be so served, with repair or replacement by property owners as needed to correct any incidence of malfunction; and 2) All on-lot sewage systems will be subject to an on-lot sewage management program which requires system pumping at regular intervals and system inspections to identify system type, functional

status, and maintenance needs. The entire Draft Plan can either be reviewed at the Township Office, 1039 Wilmington Pike, Westtown, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or on the Westtown Township web site at <http://www.westtownpa.org/public-sewer-information.php>. All written comments must be submitted within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice to:
Mr. Robert Layman,
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

affirmed to and subscribed before me this 10

day of August 2012

Notary Public

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
Notarial Seal
Beverly A. Wolfe, Notary Public
East Bradford Twp., Chester County
My Commission Expires June 4th, 2013

Robert Layman, Township Manager

Westtown Township

P.O. Box 79

Westtown, PA 19395

To DAILY LOCAL NEWS COMPANY, Dr.
For publishing the notice or publication attached
hereto on the above stated dates\$
Probating same\$
Total\$

Publisher's Receipt for Advertising Costs

The Daily Local News Company, a corporation, publishers of the Daily Local News, a newspaper of general circulation, hereby acknowledges receipt of the aforesaid notice and publication costs and certifies that the same has been duly paid.

DAILY LOCAL NEWS, a Corporation, Publishers of the DAILY LOCAL NEWS, a newspaper of General Circulation.

Mr. and Mrs. Sean Kilroy
1533 Marlboro Rd.
West Chester, Pa 19382
August 26, 2012

To The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection:

We are writing this letter as concerned citizens to document our family's support for an On-site Management Plan as an acceptable form of waste management in Westtown Township. We believe that the On-site Management Plan is a suitable form of waste management as opposed to the proposed public sewer systems such as grinder or gravity systems. We do not need, do not want, and cannot afford public sewers.

My wife and I purchased our first home in May 2011. In connection with our purchase of the home we subjected the property to numerous inspections. The previous septic system was an original cesspool and failed the inspection. Before our purchase could be finalized, a new septic system had to be installed on the property. The proper soil tests were performed on the site to determine the acceptable types of septic systems that could be installed. Ultimately, the soil passed all perc tests and a concrete dual chamber tank was installed with a finger-system drain field. This new system has worked flawlessly ever since it was installed and so we have no need for any type of public sewer.

My wife and I have very little cash savings since the vast majority of our savings was used to cover downpayment and closing costs on our home. In addition, we are currently expecting our first child. With an infant on the way, we will have many additional expenses for the next two to three years such as daycare, diapers and baby food. Charges for the installation and on-going maintenance of public sewers and public treatment plants are not additional expense that we want to incur at this time in our lives. Also, a large portion of our current income (more than 5%) is used to pay back large educational loans which are a fixed expense and cannot be eliminated or restructured.

Due to our current financial situation, if we were forced to use public sewers we would have to borrow to cover the costs. Because we purchase our home only slightly over one year ago, and could only afford to put 7% down towards our mortgage, we have very little equity to borrow against. It's possible that we actually have negative equity since I suspect that our property value has declined since our purchase, in which case we would have no access to funds to cover the enormous cost of public sewers.

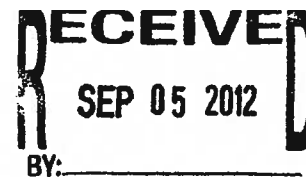
Because of our new and properly functioning septic system, our large fixed expenses for education, our expected increase in expenses for child care, and our lack of access to home equity, we do not need, do not want and cannot afford public sewers.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Sean & Heather Kilroy

67-3-78.1



September 4, 2012

Our septic system is four years old. It was inspected by Eldredge Septic in April 2010 upon the purchase of our house and has been inspected and cleaned every year since. Our most recent evaluation and maintenance was on June 18th, 2012. The report states that our system is "operating properly."

Since the purchase of our house, my wife has suffered a 10% pay cut, her company has stopped contributing to her retirement fund, I was laid off and am currently working at less than half my previous salary. We have a child that has special educational needs, that requires us to, not only save for college but, enroll in a private school now. The cost of a public sewer system would force us to make a choice between where we live or pursue our son's needs. It would be economically impossible for us to do both. We are a one car family, (not by choice), with varying work schedules and hours. We often must pay for after school care which can cost as much as or more than my hourly wage. We live modestly, we try to save, although some months are more challenging than others. The expense of a public system imposed upon our household would be a financial strain we would not be able to endure and force us to sell our property at a loss. We do not have the tens of thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket costs that would be required of us nor, having bought our home rather recently, afford the depreciation of our house's value.

This financial burden affects a wide range of demographics in our neighborhood. We are a young family with one child, and we stretched our budget to buy a home in this part of Westtown because we knew for a long time that this is where we wanted to settle and raise our family.

Andrew & Christine Hart
1547 Marlboro Road
West Chester, PA

Bob Layman

67 - 3 - 120

From: JO SNYDER [joboyer3@verizon.net]
Sent: Tuesday, September 04, 2012 10:05 AM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: Sewer Proposal

Robert Layman.
Westtown Township

Dear MR Layman, I am writing this letter as a recent resident of Westtown Town ship who is concerned about the proposed sewer project. I lived at 1550 Overhill Rd for 36 years before selling my house two weeks ago. Before I sold I attended township meetings and was appalled at some of the statements made and some of the conditions stated in the proposal.

One of the statements made was that an acre lot was needed to have a satisfactory on-site system. This is totally false. When I decided to sell my home , my on site septic system whichy had served me without fail for 36 years was found to be inadequate for a 3 bedroom home. Therefore I had to replace the system as a condition of sale. This was done with the complete approval of the township and the Board of Health. My lot is three quarter of an acre.

Also the proposed sewer system id in my opinion horrible. The true cost is entirely understated when you in clude the annual sewer bill and the upkeep on the pumps and the cost of a generator to keep the pumps working during a power failure.

Also inflicting the older residents of Grandview Acres with this deficient system is truly unfair. An onlot maintenance plan is the fairest, most economical, and probably the most efficient way to handle the needs of the township. Especially since the supervisors cited monetary problems unrelated to this program. Why is it needed?

Sincerely,

JoAnne Snyder
115 Roumfort Rd Unit 25
Philadelphia, PA 19119

Bob Layman

107-2-74

From: Bill McElhill [bill_mcelhill@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 04, 2012 10:42 AM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: Act 537 - On Site Management Plan

Hello Mr Layman,

This email is to be included as Public Comment to the DEP.

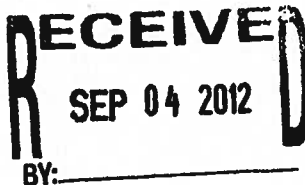
As a homeowner in Westtown township, I am writing in support of the On-Site Management Plan for compliance with Act 537. Any other alternative would exceed my ability to afford continuing home ownership within the township. Further, as we continue to encounter difficult economic times, many township residents are unemployed or underemployed, we also have many retired people on fixed incomes. Gravity based sewers are too costly and unduly burdensome. Grinder Pumps are not truly a viable option either, being both costly and less effective/efficient than the on site systems now in place.

On Site Management of waste is the only viable option, not only for individual residents, but also for the township as a whole. Our township faces several major capital expenditures in the near future, and we are already carrying a heavy debt load. This places the affordability of "sewering" the township and upgrading the current waste water plant, outside the realm of possibility during a period of economic contraction.

It is unacceptable to bankrupt our citizenry and our township.

I fully support the affordable and environmentally sound option of On Site Waste Water Management for compliance with Act 537.

Bill McElhill
1543 Carmac Rd.
West Chester, PA 19382



67-3-144.15

Larry H. Will, P.E.

Broadcast Engineering

1055 Powderhorn Drive
Glen Mills, PA 19342-9504

PH (610) 399-1826
E-Mail lhwill@verizon.net

TO: Board of Supervisors
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395-0079

SUBJECT: Comments Regarding August 2012 Revised Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan

I have had an opportunity to carefully review the amended plan provided by URS of Newark, DE regarding the near term proposed actions regarding the entire Township in this matter. I have previously submitted written comments on this matter on 9 December 2000 and received a written response from the township manager at that time.

I am pleased with the direction the Board is taking at this time, in that, and based on the URS Study analysis and recommendations, my system in the Edgewood Chase section was constructed according to currently approved PA codes, has not had a history of outright failures, but only occasional required clearing of blockages in the main lateral, and has had a camera inspection as recently as approximately 16 months ago. The property is also an acre and would have sufficient area for a complete replacement system if ever needed and assuming still adequate perk tests.

From previous studies, I had concluded the previous Board(s) had made decisions based on far too few samples of failure and am now satisfied that the present Board and the Report by URS acknowledged that fact and decided on continued management of on-lot systems. I also understand the tremendous costs of an all gravity system within the widely varying terrain elevations of the township. In fact any municipal sewer extensions cost per parcel owner will only continue to increase, but delaying any such massive capital programs is justified in this case if water supply sources are not being impacted by continued use of on-lot sewage systems.

67-2R-18



1426 Bobolink Ln.
West Chester 19382
August 30, 2012

Robert Layman
Woottown Twpshp

Dear Mr. Layman:

This letter is regarding the issue of a public sewage system. We would be better off with the on-site system we presently have, because:

1. It works well. We had the soil fractured in the drain field, a few years ago; the system works fine. There are only my wife and I living here.

2. Given my understanding of the cost to hook up to a public system, we cannot afford it.

We are retired, on a fixed income. We do not have the cash to hook up to a system, and we would not be able to borrow the money.

The township would have only one option, and that would be to put a lien against our home. The township would not receive any monies, anytime soon, as we have no plans to sell.

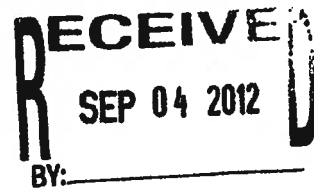
In conclusion, we support an on lot management approach, and do not need (nor would be able to afford) public sewers.

Sincerely,
John Gustave

67-3-125.18

August 29, 2012

Mr. Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395



Dear Mr. Layman,

I have resided at 1520 Woodland Rd. in Westtown Township since 1998. Since then we have had our septic system pumped once a year for our family of four. After my husband passed away in 2009 and my two children moved into their own apartments, I have been struggling to maintain my home on a single salary. My septic system works very well even though it is an older system. My son is in college and it is very hard to keep up the financial requirements of having a large home by myself. There is no way that I could afford to add the cost of a grinder or gravity pump to my current debt. I am actually looking to put my home on the market in the next year – not because of the septic system – that works just fine - but because the upkeep for the landscaping and pool have become too much for me. I love my home here and I really don't want to leave – but I would truly appreciate it if the Township would stand behind its residents and maintain the On Lot Management approach.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Schoener".

Jennifer Schoener
1520 Woodland Rd.
West Chester, PA 19382



Mr. Kenneth J. DiUlio
1557 Marlboro Road
West Chester, PA 19382

Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395
Fax: 610-692-9651
rlayman@westtown.org

September 2, 2012
RE: ACT 537 ON- SITE Plan

Mr. Layman,

Please consider this request for ACT 537 to stay with the ON LOT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM. We simply can NOT afford to hook up to the sewage treatment plant. We have 2 children that we are saving for higher education. I am on a declining pay scale as my line of work is directly tied to the U.S. Housing Market. My wife has been out of work on long term disability for 2 years from complications from a surgery.

We have a perfectly running on lot septic system that was installed just 12 years ago with a brand new holding tank. We have it regularly pumped every 2-3 years. We have "public water" which was installed at the same time. I believe you will find that over 90 % of homes are on city water; which of course, significantly decreases the distance to just 10' that an on-lot septic system can be placed to the water source.

I am confident when you review accurate (updated) data and hear the concerns of the citizens of Westtown you will conclude that the ON- LOT Management system is the best solution to ACT 537. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kenneth J. DiUlio

07-3-54

Bob Layman

From: carmac1557@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 5:16 PM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: Suport On Lot Management System

If we were to be forced to hook up to a public sewer, we could not afford it because my husband is semi-retired and I am planning to retire in the very near future. We are saving for our retirement when we will go on a fixed income and being forced to pay for an grinder pump would put us in financial jeopardy. By the time the grinder pumps would be installed; we will be retired. Furthermore, our present septic system operates well and we do have it emptied on a regular basis.

We support the On Lot Management approach because it is affordable and is what we do on a regular basis since we moved here almost 24 years ago.

Thank you

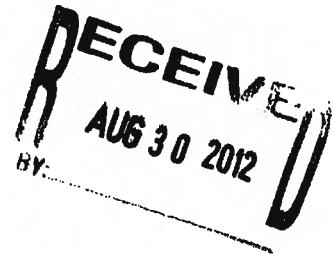
*John and Donna McCabe
1557 Carmac Road
West Chester, PA 19382*

RECEIVED
AUG 30 2012
BY: _____

07-2-83

August 27, 2012

Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395



RE: 1514 Overhill Road, West Chester

Dear Mr. Layman,

I am writing to you in response to the township decision to bring a new grinder sewer to the neighborhood at Grandview Acres.

I am a homeowner who has lived at 1514 Overhill Road, West Chester for the last 17 years. My home is one of the younger properties in the area since it was built in 1987. The current system is maintained on a routine of pumping and inspection every three year since my family consists of only 3 adults, (myself, my husband and my 20 year old daughter). We have never had an issue with the current system and intend to continue this on-site program at a cost of \$300 every third year. Our lot size is quite abundant and will easily allow for any repair that could be necessary in the future.

We cannot afford to have a new system since our current financial obligations will not allow for such a project. I am saving for the education of my daughter who is pre-med with honors and well on her way to medical school in the near future. I was laid off over the past few years which put a burden our financial abilities and therefore depleating savings. We do not need and cannot afford a new system.

Please consider the on-site program for the residents of Grandview Acres as I am sure that a large percentage of the residents in this are cannot afford the proposed grinder system.

Thank you,

Theresa R. Boyle

67-2-95

Bob Layman

From: Rafo Petrosian [rafopetrosian@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 4:57 PM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: Westtown Sewers

Hello,

My name is Rafael Petrosian and I live at 1519 Marlboro rd. I am currently retired, my wife was just layed off from her job and we are currently helping our daughter finish out her last year of college. My present septic system works and I have had no problems to date. We are losing money daily and have dipped into our retirement to make ends meet. I am strongly opposed to this measure; I cannot afford this added expense. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Rafael Petrosian
484-885-5818

RECEIVED
AUG 30 2012

67-3-144.12

Bob Layman

From: Amy Diroff [diroff39@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2012 7:13 PM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: sewers, of course

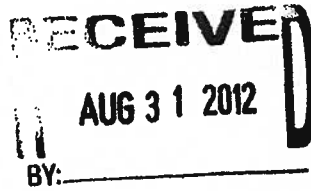
RECEIVED
AUG 31 2012
BY: _____

In May of this year, we purchased a house in Westtown Twp. The reason for the move was due to my husband's job transfer from New Jersey to Pennsylvania. Upon purchasing the house, we paid for a septic inspection, and paid to have minor repairs made to make sure the system was in great working order.

Changing the system to now force us to hook up to public sewers would indeed be a hardship for us. We have a son going off to college very soon, and my husbands job transfer caused me to leave my job, therefore going down to a one income household. I am hoping that the current system of On Lot Management will be maintained, as any conversion would cause a financial hardship at this time. I'm urging the town to reconsider, especially during this time of economic turmoil.

Thank You
Amy Diroff
1085 Powderhorn Drive
Glen Mills, PA 19342

67-3-76



August 15, 2012

Dear Mr. Layman,

I am writing this letter about the S37 Plan in Westtown Township. My property has a working septic tank, cesspool and a field drain. My wife and I are elderly and live on social security. We would not be able to afford nor do we need to be hooked up to public sewers.

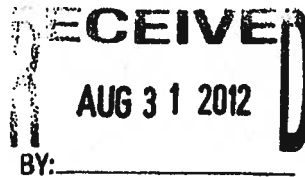
Sincerely,
Valeria K. Porter
1555 Marlboro Rd
West Chester, PA
19382

67-2R-21
1001 Robin Drive



**LEGACY
PLANNING
PARTNERS**

Our People & Our Process Make a Difference



Robert Wermuth, CLU, ChFC

610.719.8600

Fax: 610.719.0266

rwermuth@legacy-online.com

August 29, 2012

Mr. Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Dear Mr. Layman,

I am writing to you regarding the Westtown Sewer Project. I recently attended a meeting and have been kept up-to-date by several of my neighbors regarding the potential for the township to improve our accessibility to sewers for many homes which have on-site septic.

I am not sure how the township rules or laws are written. However, if my family was forced to hook up to a new sewer system, it would cause a financial challenge.

I am a partner in a financial advisory firm in West Chester. I employ several people who I have kept employed during the downturn in the market. We have rebuilt our business over the last four years and hopefully we will return to growth in the near future.

At the same time, I have one daughter in Catholic school and one who started college, and my tuition load is at its peak.

I would be unable to hook up to this sewer at this time, and I am not sure as to what my options would be should the sewer project proceed. Would it be possible to hook up to the sewers at some point in the future, say in 2020?

Would it be a concern to the township if in fact they made decisions to add public sewer lines but homeowners did not have the monies in order to pay for the hook up?

I appreciate all of the efforts made by you and the other township supervisors on the resident's behalf and looking forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your help with this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Wermuth/com

Robert P. Wermuth, CLU, ChFC
Senior Partner

RPW:ccm

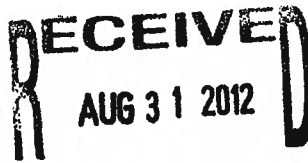
228 W. Gay Street • West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380

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67-3-125:31



Tuesday August 28th, 2012

Attention: Mr. Robert Layman, Township Manager

BY: _____

Letter to be included in the Westtown Township 537 proposal to the DEP

Hello,

My Name is Craig Casner, and I live at 1528 Woodland Road. I am writing this letter in the hopes that the D.E.P. will seriously consider implementing an on-lot management system for Westtown Township.

My current on-lot system works well. The system was extensively evaluated when I purchased the house in 2006, and we have maintained the system by having it pumped out regularly. According to sources that have presented at township meetings, the continued use of the on-lot systems in this township is the **BEST** environmental option for the township. There seems to be no environmental, ethical, financial, or logical reason to switch from on-lot systems that are currently working for this township.

Furthermore, the cost of installing sewers or grinder-pump systems would be devastating to me and many, many of my neighbors. According to two different sources, my house is currently worth 21 to 22 percent less than its highest value during my ownership. I owe more on my mortgage than my house is worth and would be unable to get a home equity loan. Anyone who has purchased a home in the township in the last 8 to 10 years is very likely to be in a similar circumstance. Many homes may end up with liens on the property. Adding liens to a significant number of houses in the township could be detrimental to future real estate sales, future property values, and future taxes and revenues available to the township.

Both my wife and I have not received raises in a long time, and we are not likely to receive an increase in pay in the coming years. Our salaries barely cover our bills, which include a large mortgage and expensive childcare costs. We are saving little, if anything, for our children's future educational needs, and we are saving little for retirement. We have a budget and a plan to overcome some of these difficulties in the future, but the cost of installing sewers or grinder pumps, especially when there seems to be no compelling reason for them, would be catastrophic for our family.

I spoke to Representative Thomas Killion on the phone, and he seems to understand the concerns my neighbors and I have about 537 and its consequences. I am asking respectfully that the D.E.P. also consider these concerns when evaluating the proposed 537 On-Lot Management Plan presented by Westtown Township.

Thank you for your consideration,



C. Casner

67-2-27.14

**Martin and Patricia Barry
1411 Carroll Brown Way
West Chester, PA 19382**

RECEIVED
AUG 27 2012
BY: _____

August 24, 2012

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Dear Mr. Layman,

We have lived in our home since May, 1992. We support the Westtown Township Act 537 Official Sewage Facilities Plan. We have always maintained our septic system and have the system pumped at regular intervals. Our system is environmentally safe and fully functional. It would be a financial hardship for us to be forced to convert to public sewer.

Thank You,

Patricia A Barry

67-2Q-6

RECEIVED
AUG 27 2012

Bob Layman

BY: _____

From: Rebecca Denny [rdenny@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, August 25, 2012 7:22 AM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: westtown sewers

Dear Mr. Layman,
I live at 1407 Wren lane in Westtown township and I would like to share with you my thoughts regarding the on lot sewer plans. I am in support of the current plan to move ahead with on lot sewers in our neighborhood for several reasons. First, I have a working system that was replaced by the previous owner of my property 4 years ago. Second, I have already had a lot of expense surrounding the on lot system that I will attempt to explain. It started on the day that I made settlement (which was one of the most stressful days that I can remember.) My husband and I moved from West Goshen from a large newer home to Wren lane because of the property. We had lived in several other homes in various counties in PA. and Georgia before settling here. I love to garden and this was a prime spot with mature trees, privacy, and countless perennials. When the day of settlement came, we were completely in shock over the condition of the property at the time of walk through. What had once been an absolutely tranquil and beautiful space, had been transformed into an eye sore. There were several large bare spots on the back lawn where the perc tests had been done. There were so many man whole covers and electrical panels that to this day I have never seen such an elaborate and yes ugly system. I talked to my husband and wanted desperately to just get out of the entire deal. We had already sold our other house and had children and pets to consider. Whats more, I had sent out countless invitations for a graduation party. We went ahead with the purchase as agreed upon(we paid the sellers asking price because the landscaping was so pretty), and tried to make the best of things. On a very rainy day before 60 guests were to arrive, the entire area around the septic system sank. In horror, we put a tarp around it so that no one would get hurt. During a very snowy winter, water had flooded the system and eventually made it into our basement after a power outage. We had to replace the washer and dryer in the basement. That next spring, we spent over 2500 dollars and had a french drain dug around the area to allow water to escape and go into a holding tank away from the system. In addition, we spent hundreds of dollars and countless hours landscaping around it and making an island bed. Things seemed to be settling down and we were finally feeling at home in our house . We noticed that the large honey locust tree next to our house and patio was shedding leaves and dropping debris almost constantly. We had a tree specialist examine the tree and he said that it was dying as a result of all of the trauma around its roots from the septic system installation. The cost of removing the tree, grinding the stump, and landscaping around the area was over 3000 dollars. We have been paying for college tuition now for over 8 years and it is not something we could easily afford, but the result of our hard work and money was clearly visible and the back yard was again a peaceful retreat. Just as we finished paying for all of this and were taking pride in our home, we were informed of a proposal from the township that would require us to have public sewers. My initial thought was, maybe that is for the best since we have had so many problems and we wouldn't ever have to think about it again. However, when we learned that it was not only going to cost a great deal of money, it would be a grinder system that would have to be maintained and there would be once again, another assault on our landscaping! It just seemed too unfair to ask our family to deal with this all over again. So please, consider how individual home owners will be affected both financially and emotionally and continue to support the effort to keep on lot systems.
Thank you,
Rebecca Denny
1407 Wren lane



67-3-125.16

Michael H. Kaliner
1516 Woodland Road
West Chester, PA 19382
August 25, 2012

RECEIVED
AUG 27 2012
BY: _____

Robert Layman
Westtown Township Manager
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Re: Sewer Plan

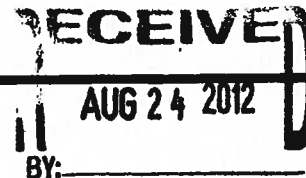
Dear Mr. Layman:

As a resident of Westtown Township, I am writing in support of the on-site management plan and opposed to public sewers. Please be advised that our on-site system was installed when we moved in and we have had regularly cleanings and encountered no problems. The cost of any sewer plan would be a financial burden on us. We have raised four children, each of whom went to college with one still in college. The student loan obligations are substantial and we are unable to afford the cost of any of the sewer plans which had been discussed.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Kaliner

67-3-138.20



Bob Layman

From: Susan Sam [wcsam@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2012 2:18 PM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: Westtown Sewers

Dear Mr. Layman,

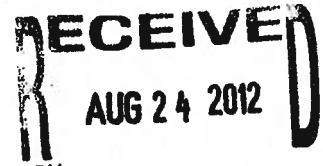
I am Susan Sam, a 75 year old widow, and have lived at 1601 West Lynn Drive, Westtown Township since November 30, 1961. My late husband, Phillip Sam, died on November 22, 2009 after fighting prostate cancer for 17 1/2 years.

If I were to be forced to hook up to a public sewer, I could not afford it because I am on Social Security and TRYING to keep my property and house up. It is getting harder & harder in this economy. Everything seems to be going up every time I go to the store and household expenses also. I am trying to stay in my house as long as I can. My present savings is being depleted just to pay for day to day expenses. My late husband's small pension stopped as soon as he died.

My present septic system is working great! I do not need or want a public sewer system that I cannot afford. This is why I am supporting the On Lot Management Plan.

Sincerely,
Susan Sam

67-2R-31



1010 Robin Drive

West Chester, PA 19382

August 24, 2012

Robert Layman, Township Manager

Westtown Township

P.O. Box 79

Westtown, PA 19395

Dear Mr. Layman:

I am writing to you as a concerned township resident who is in support of an on lot sewage maintenance system. Our home was built in 2005 with a state of the art septic system that has been serviced every year. We have had no trouble with the system and it works well. It would be a terrible waste to discontinue using this system, having it replaced with a low pressure grinder pump system.

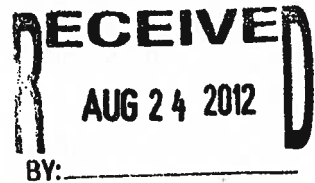
As the parent of one son who started college yesterday and another who will be entering college in the next few years, the estimated cost of replacing our septic system would present a tremendous financial challenge.

We support the continuation of an on lot sewage maintenance program for Westtown Township.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Valverde

07-3-125.6



Friday, August 10, 2012

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395
Fax: 610-692-9651

Mr. Layman,

I am writing you this letter in support of Westtown Township's updated Act 537 plan that is about to be submitted to the DEP. I am in full SUPPORT that the existing properties served by on-lot sewage systems should continue to be served by on-lot sewage systems. That those systems when needed will be repaired or replaced by the property owners as needed to correct any incidence of malfunction; and all on-lot sewage systems will be subject to an on-lot sewage management program which requires system pumping at regular intervals and system inspections to identify system type functional status, and maintenance needs. I do this now and I have my system pumped and checked once a year.

I DO NOT SUPPORT a gravity sewer system or a grinder pump sewer system for these simple reasons: 1: We don't need it, 2: We don't want it and 3: Neither I, nor the township can afford it.

If the Township forces me to pay for a gravity or grinder pump sewer system ALL of the money I have saved for my children's college education, my emergency savings, and money earmarked for home improvements will be depleted. This is a situation I cannot bear to afford. I implore you that you support the new plan to continue with on lot management. The township needs to support what is in the BEST interest of the tax payers and the township itself. It is my opinion that the continuing of the on lot management is in the best interests of all involved.

I hope that you, the Board of Supervisors, The Planning Commission and the DEP all feel the same way.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "G. DiNunzio, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gerald R. DiNunzio, Jr
1517 Woodland Rd
Westtown Pa

67-29-11

Michael J. & Kimberly S. DeLeo
1410 Johnny's Way
West Chester, PA 19382
610-455-1844
MJDeLeo@aol.com
KSDeLeo@aol.com

RECEIVED
AUG 24 2012
By: _____

August 23, 2012

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

RE: Public Comment – Act 537 Plan – Westtown Township

Dear Mr. Layman,

This letter is written to explain why we are in favor of the "On-Lot Sewage Management Plan" and the financial hardship that any other plan would have on our family.

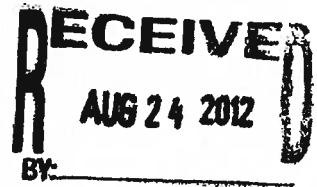
First, we could not afford being forced to hook up to public sewer mainly because we have three children ages 19, 17 and 14 years old, who are attending, or will be attending, college in the short term. Our oldest son currently attends the University of Vermont and our second child will be attending college next year, fall 2013. With the cost of college expenses, there is no way we'd be able to afford to hook up to a public sewage system.

Second, our present on-lot sewage system works perfectly well. We have had it maintained routinely over the last 38 years with records to support such maintenance.

Date	Procedure
06/29/2011	Pump out septic tank
07/17/2009	Pump out septic tank and cesspool
04/01/2008	Pump out septic tank
04/02/2007	Pump out septic tank
04/27/2000	Pump out septic tank
07/16/1998	Pump out septic tank
11/04/1996	Pump out septic tank
09/29/1994	Pump out septic tank
11/13/1991	Pump out septic tank
11/03/1989	Pump out septic tank
04/18/1988	Pump out septic tank
01/11/1988	Pump out septic tank
09/16/1983	Pump out septic tank
10/11/1982	Pump out septic tank
10/06/1981	Pump out septic tank

67-3-138.2C

Joseph F. Joyce
1605 West Lynn Drive
West Chester, PA 19382



August 23, 2012

Mr. Robert Layman, Manager
Westtown Township
P. O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Re: Act 537

Dear Mr. Layman:

I am in favor of Westtown Township adopting the on-site-management policy vs. installing sewers.

Thank you for considering my preference.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph F. Joyce".

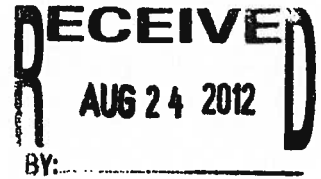
Joseph F. Joyce

/ijm

67-3-125.2

Jeff Hazzard
1509 Woodland Road
West Chester, Pa. 19382

August 20, 2012



Subject: Act 537 On Lot Management Plan

To whom it may concern,

I write this letter to voice my Approval for the On Lot Management Plan as opposed to installing a low pressure sewer system. I recently moved to this area and invested all of my available funds to purchase my home. Additionally, I also have two sons attending college. To try and add in the additional costs involved in a sewer system hook up would be impossible for me to afford and would most likely result in me incurring fines, penalties and possible loss of my home because of the lack of ability to pay these exuberant costs.

Having just purchased my home, I made sure to have the septic system inspected and emptied prior to purchase. The inspection came back more than satisfactory, but I took the additional step of installing a new baffle, just to insure it is operating at peak performance.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me at the address above.

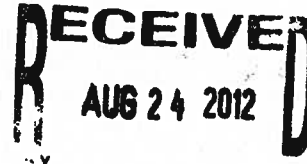
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Hazzard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Jeff Hazzard

67-3-71

August 21, 2012



Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

RE: WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP ACT 537 OFFICIAL SEWAGE FACILITIES PLAN

Dear Mr. Layman,

The wisest way to go is on-site management. Any other way would be a financial burden on the township as well as to the homeowners.

Westtown is already burdened with debt and cannot afford any other debt. For example half of their budget alone is spent on their police.

Both my wife and I are on Social Security and we live on a fixed income. My on-site septic is in perfect condition as your records show.

I DO NOT WANT NOR NEED AND CANNOT AFFORD ANY FORM OF SEWERS.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William J. Robinson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

William J. Robinson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dorothy A. Robinson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Dorothy A. Robinson

1554 Carmac Road
West Chester, PA 19382
610-430-0919

07-3-144,48

RECEIVED
AUG 24 2012

BY: _____

1062 Edgewood Chase
Glen Mills, PA 19342
August 22, 2012

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395
Fax: 610-692-9651

RE Westtown Sewer Issue and On-Site Management Plan

Dear Mr. Layman,

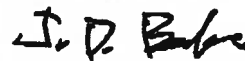
As a Westtown resident for the last 20 years, I write today regarding the ongoing issue of possible public sewer and the proposed continuation of septic systems with on site management and oversight. Our family has used our current system without an issue, raising two children in our home. We have maintained the system and followed the recommendations for care. In fact, we had the system pumped and checked this summer as a matter of routine. Again the system continues to be fine.

I am in support of the onsite management proposal. The system works well and with future onsite management of all the area's septic systems will assure the proper function as well as the health of the community.

The alternative of public sewer with gravity or grinder pumps appears to be an expensive and disruptive option to the township and residents. The various estimated amounts are excessive and cannot be afforded by many. Currently our family has two children attending institutions of higher learning at significant expenses. In addition, my wife is currently in school getting an advanced degree so advance her career and job possibilities. We are doing this while continuing to plan for my own retirement in the next decade. The proposed fees represent a significant burden to me personally and as I expect to the majority of Westtown resident. An expenses that is not warranted.

Thank you for your attention and I hope the township continues to promote the onsite management program is the strongest way possible.

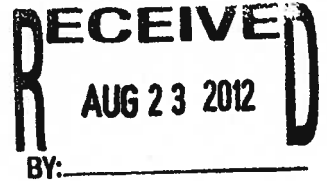
Sincerely,



Joseph Becker

67-3-125.21

Lauran Hosier Sabol
Joseph Sabol
1526 Woodland Road
West Chester, PA 19382
Lauran.sabol@gmail.com



August 20, 2012

Sent: Via electronic mail: rlayman@westtown.org
Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

RE: Act 537 On-Site Management Plan

Dear Mr. Layman:

Please accept this letter as our request and support for continued on-site management plan at the above address. I have resided at this address for 29 years, have had the system cleaned annually and replaced once. We have never experienced any problems with the system and are quite satisfied with its current operating status. We do not wish to support public sewers, are not in a financial position to move forward with such and we do not need it. We hope you will take these facts into consideration and support the on-site management plan currently being requested from the residents. Thank you for your consideration to this request.

Regards,

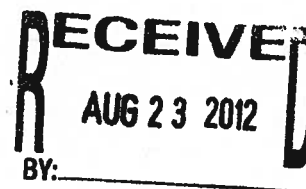
/s/ Lauran & Joseph Sabol

Lauran & Joseph Sabol

Bob Layman

67-3-125.12

From: estellej1937@verizon.net
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 11:16 PM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Cc: westtownsewers@gmail.com
Subject: Westtown Twp. 537 Sewer Plan



Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
Westtown, PA 19395

Mr. Layman:

We are sending you this letter in regards to the 537 Sewer Plan, that is to be submitted to the DEP in September 2012.

Our property is on the list of homes that is going to be subject to the final plan.

Please take the following information into consideration when submitting the information to the DEP.

My husband is a retired Telephone installer, & I'm a housewife. We are 75 and 77 years old and on SS, plus a small monthly pension. We also have some savings.

Due to age related infirmities, we now have excessive medical expenses, plus we have to pay help to clean and maintain our home & property.

Our Septic system is pumped every 3 yrs. as determined by Hickman Septic service, that checks & maintains it.

It was just pumped early this Spring as per their schedule.

We have approximately 1-1/4 acres, and most of it is downhill woods, where our Leaching field is located.

We are on Aqua water, as are our neighbors, so no Wells are affected.

The cost for installing and maintaining public sewers will definitely affect our life. It will take a large portion of the money we saved for our old age, that was suppose to help pay for our medical and daily living expenses.

We do-not want public sewers, that we don't need.

We wish to continue with our on-site septic system.

Thank you for your attention to our request.

Marylyn and Cornelius McCullough
1508 Woodland Road
Westtown Pa.
West Chester, 19382-7836

(parcel number: 67-3-125.12)

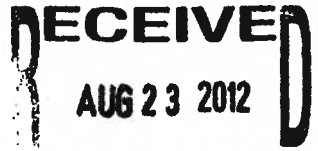
Tel: 610 399 0634

Mr. Robert Layman, Township Manager

Westtown Township

P.O. Box 79

Westtown, Pa. 19395



67-2R-46

Dear Robert:

My name is Peter Morris and I live at 1102 Cardinal Drive, Westtown.

I am writing to you in support of Act 537 On Site Management Plan.

Several years ago, I incurred significant expense (approximately \$15,000) to install a new on-site septic system. Currently, my septic system works just fine. It would be an economic hardship if I were to be forced to now pay for the installation of a public sewer system of any kind. I have recently completed paying to send my three children to college and will be retiring in the near future. I would be forced to pay for any public sewer system out of retirement funds, which I cannot afford to do.

Thank you for taking my concerns into consideration on this important township issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter M. Morris". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

Peter M. Morris

1614 West Lynn Drive
West Chester, PA 19382

August 17, 2012

RECEIVED
AUG 23 2012

67-3-138.37

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

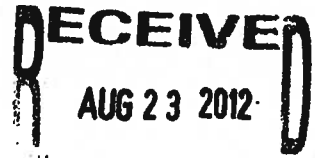
To Whom It May Concern,

My husband and I are in favor of the 537 on site management plan. We have lived in our house on West Lynn Drive for 20 years, have faithfully kept our septic system cleaned and have had no problems with it.

I am currently in college finishing up my degree and at this time we own one car that is 14 years old. My husband has not had a raise in several years and if the on-site management plan does not go through we will be forced to sell our home.

Thank-you,

Robert and Lois Stanert



67-3-110

August 21, 2012

Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
PO Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Re: Draft Westtown Township Act 537 Official Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study

To Westtown Township Supervisors:

We support the Act 537 On-Site Sewage Management Plan. Our present on-site septic system is working well. As retired and semi-retired residents on social security, paying for public sewers would mean using funds we have saved for retirement expenses and medical care.

Eugene Scott
Joan Scott
1533 Overhill Road
West Chester, PA 19382

Savarese

701 S. Chester Road

610 972 2396

West Chester, Pa. 19382

RECEIVED
AUG 23 2012

August 13, 2012

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395
Fax: 610-692-9651

67-3-138.9

Re: 537 Proposals

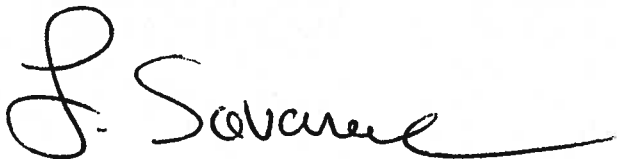
Dear Mr. Layman,

I was on Disability for 5 years from injuries caused by my trade. I am now in need of two knee replacements and one hip replacement. During the time that I was on Social Security Disability I accumulated alot of debt while trying to hold the household together on a fixed income of less then \$20,000.00 a year. I was lucky enough to secure a job out of my field by a local company and I now working on getting back on track.

While on disability I used most of the IRA's that I have saved to keep afloat and to settle some of my credit card debt, so the original proposal of the grinder system would been a an enormous hardship for my wife and I.

If I had an extra \$30,000.00 or so I would be getting my knees and hip repaired instead of going to work everyday in pain.

Thank You,



RECEIVED
AUG 23 2012

1075 Edgewood Chase Drive
Glen Mills, PA 19342
(Westtown Township, Chester County)

67-3-144.3

August 21, 2012

Mr. Robert Layman
Westtown Township Manager
PO Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Re: Propowed Sewer Extension

Dear Mr. Layman,

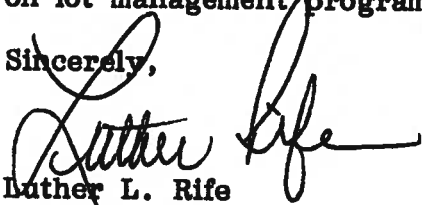
My wife and I would like to "weigh in" with our personal opinion with regard to the proposals being discussed.

We live in Edgewood Chase and have been there continuously since the development was built. We have had two children and two adults in the house for most of those years. Our on lot sewage system has performed satisfactorily as we do have it regularly pumped and checked for proper functioning.

From what we can ascertain an alternative plan would be extremely expensive to the homeowner. This becomes burdensome for retired people in particular (like us) who are living on a fixed income.

All things considered, we encourage the Township to endorse an on lot management program as a solution.

Sincerely,



Luther L. Rife

67-2H-26

Bob Layman

From: Doug Corrigan [dougcorrigan@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 11:56 AM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Cc: westtownsewers@gmail.com
Subject: Act 537 Plan-Revision

Mr. Layman,
as a concerned Westtown resident my family and I deeply appreciate your efforts in providing a cost-effective solution, an On-Site Management Plan, as an alternative to the original submission. Do to current economies and our household "fixed" income being reduced fifty percent we have but no choice and have to date provided a sustainable On-Site Management Plan annually, fully support Westtown Township's revised submission to the PA Department of Environmental Protection Agency.
Yours Respectively,

*Doug J Corrigan
412 Leslie Lane
West Chester, PA 19382*

DougJCorrigan@gmail.com

RECEIVED
AUG 22 2012
RR:

67-2M-6

Bob Layman

From: denisemc6864@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2012 2:52 PM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: Proposed public sewer system

RECEIVED
AUG 22 2012

Dear Mr. Layman,

I am writing on behalf of my husband and myself regarding the township and the proposed public sewer system that is under consideration. We are absolutely **AGAINST** it. Several years ago we needed to replace our septic system at a tremendous cost and were forced to take a 2nd mortgage which we will continue to pay well into the future.

These are difficult economic times for all of us and as such I hope that the board of supervisors will reconsider this incredible and ridiculously expensive proposal for the public sewer system.

Thank you for your consideration,
Best,

Chris and Denise McCarthy
903 Chickadee Lane
West Chester, Pa, 19382
610-399-3898

67-3-92

August 20, 2012

Dear Mr. Layman,

I am writing to you in support of the on-site sewage management plan. I am a 74 year old widow with a very limited income. It would be impossible for me to afford either the gravity or grinder pump system. There are many people in my neighborhood in the same situation. I hope you will consider the expense to Westtown citizens as well as to the township itself and try to get the on-site proposal approved.

Thank you.



Sincerely,

Eugene A. Mitchell
1544 Marlboro Road
West Chester, PA 19382

67-2M-5

August 21, 2012



Mr. Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Re: Westtown Township Sewers

Dear Mr. Layman,

We are writing this letter to provide a historical account of our septic system and our opinion of being required to hook up to public sewers at this time.

We purchased our home in 1990, and shortly thereafter we realized our septic system was failing. We had numerous conversations with township supervisors to determine when public sewers would become available or to see if it would be possible to connect to the public sewer system which runs directly behind our home to the Pennwood Elementary School. We were told that we could not connect to the existing system and that there were no immediate plans to bring public sewers to our neighborhood.

So in 1997, we began to solicit proposals to replace our failing septic system and to secure the necessary permits for the work. The project was completed in the spring/summer of 1998. The total cost of this project was approximately \$24,000.

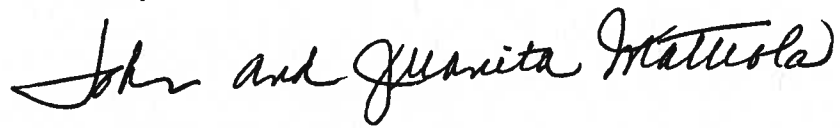
Since then, we have maintained this system on a regular basis and it is currently in excellent working condition.

Regarding our current family situation, our oldest child is a sophomore in college. Our two other children are a senior and sophomore in private high school. We currently incur approximately \$60,000 per year in educational costs, and that figure will increase dramatically when our middle child enters college a year from now.

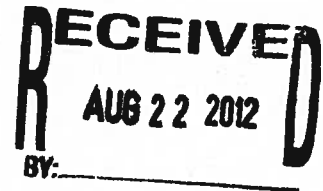
We are unable to take on any additional financial commitments at this time, and being required to assume the cost of connecting to public sewers would be a tremendous and impossible burden for us.

Furthermore, should the DEP require us to implement a public sewer system, we strongly believe a township-wide solution should be evaluated, approved and implemented in which all residents equally participate. Thank you very much for your consideration to our situation. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John and Juanita Mattioli". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'M'.

John and Juanita Mattioli
905 Chickadee Lane
West Chester, PA 19382
610-399-9107
610-613-3030



August 20, 2012

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395
Fax: 610-692-9651

Dear Robert,

This letter is in response to the Public Sewer Act 537 On-Site Sewer Management that is presently in negotiations. It has come to my attention that all concerns must be in written form in order to have consideration above and beyond our attendance at numerous town meetings and internet surveys.

Approximately 2 years ago we were forced to replace our failing septic system for the safety of our family, pets, neighbors and the environment at our own expense. The process involved the removal of many trees, significant excavation, creative problem solving for a very difficult resolution for a new system, and the remediation of the old system. When all was said and done the cost was \$33,000 for our family!

This project has left our family financially in trouble. With our children's rising tuitions, increased monthly bills caused by a volatile economy, caring for aging parents, rising taxes school/property, coupled with recovering from unemployment, we are at serious risk for making ends meet monthly. By replacing our system we did the right thing, although we could have left it alone to create havoc for other residents. We visited the township on many occasions with little assistance and were told it was up to us to do what was needed.

If Act 537 is put into effect our family will be not only be at a \$33,000 deficit, but there is no way that we will be able to cover the costs for what is proposed, our savings are depleted! We did what was right and took responsibility for our property; however, being forced into this plan will leave us financially ruined. Our new system is functioning at 100 percent, our family, neighbors, and the environment are safe from toxins because we choice to act.

We appreciate the townships prompt review of all the homeowners like ourselves with serious conflicts and financial hardships. Act 537 will destroy our family and the home we have enjoyed for almost 20 years.

Sincerely yours,

Shelley B. Steel

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Shelley B. Steel". The signature is written in a cursive style.

67-3-125.15

Marie Braccia

1514 Woodland Road

West Chester, PA 19382

Mr Bob Layman, Westtown Township Manager

1039 Wilmington Pike

West Chester, PA 19382



August 20, 2012

Dear Mr Layman,

Please allow this letter to serve as my public comment to the current proposed ACT 537 Sewer plan for Westtown Township.

I am a senior citizen resident of Westtown Township. I am retired. Due to my age and health, I reside with my daughter in her home. My daughter provides physical and financial care for me for which I am thankful as I wouldn't be able to live on my own due to Social Security as my only source of income.

Under no circumstances is my daughter able to bear the costs for any type of sewer project that the township may propose to the DEP other than the **On-Lot Management Plan**. If any other plan is chosen for implementation, my daughter will be unable to continue living in her home and consequently both of us will need to find other living arrangements. My health isn't good at 87 years of age and I don't think I would fare well having to move from this home.

I am adamantly opposed to any sewer plan other than the **On- Lot Management Plan**. The current septic system is in good working order at my daughter's home and has been regularly pumped and inspected with no deficiencies found in the last 18 months since she purchased the home.

Please share this letter with the DEP officials that will evaluate the proposed 537 Plan for Westtown Township. Feel free to contact me for any additional information you (or the DEP) may require.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this issue.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie Braccia".

Marie Braccia

215-969-3179

67-3-125.15

Steven Rodia
1514 Woodland Road
West Chester, PA 19382



Mr Bob Layman, Westtown Township Manager
1039 Wilmington Pike
West Chester, PA 19382

August 20, 2012

Dear Mr Layman,

Please allow this letter to serve as my public comment to the current proposed ACT 537 Sewer plan for Westtown Township.

I am a resident and homeowner in Westtown Township.

Under no circumstances, would I be willing or able to bear the costs for any type of sewer project that the township may propose to the DEP other than the **On-Lot Management Plan**.

I was laid off from work in late 2010 and with few job prospects for a male age 50, I took a leap of faith and started my own business. I have yet to see any income from that venture as it is still in its infancy and I am nurturing it to grow, which takes time and capital. The capital was and still is provided by my personal funds. With the state of the economy, no "real salary", and the escalating cost of purchasing goods, it would cause me severe financial hardship; one that I am unable and unwilling to assume.

I am adamantly opposed to any sewer plan other than the **On-Lot Management Plan**. My current septic system is in good working order and has been regularly pumped and inspected with no deficiencies found in the last 18 months since I purchased my home. I will not trade my primary sewage disposal system that is in good working condition for a secondary system that is cost prohibitive and clearly inefficient when compared to what I currently have.

Please share this letter with the DEP officials that will evaluate the proposed 537 Plan for Westtown Township. Feel free to contact me for any additional information you (or the DEP) may require.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this issue.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S Rodia". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Steven Rodia

stevenrodia@yahoo.com

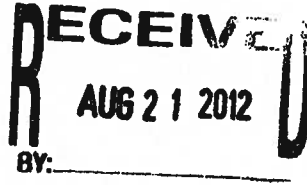
610-952-8888

67-3-125.15

Donna Testa

1514 Woodland Road

West Chester, PA 19382



Mr Bob Layman, Westtown Township Manager

1039 Wilmington Pike

West Chester, PA 19382

August 20, 2012

Dear Mr Layman,

Please allow this letter to serve as my public comment to the current proposed ACT 537 Sewer plan for Westtown Township.

I am a resident and homeowner in Westtown Township. I am providing physical and financial care for my elderly Mother who lives with me.

Under no circumstances, would I be willing or able to bear the costs for any type of sewer project that the township may propose to the DEP other than the **On-Lot Management Plan**. With the state of the economy, a salary that hasn't kept pace with escalating cost of purchasing goods, financial care I provide for my elderly Mother, and with a recent reduction in my household income, it would cause me severe financial hardship; one that I am unable and unwilling to assume as I am approaching retirement age myself.

I am adamantly opposed to any sewer plan other than the **On-Lot Management Plan**. My current septic system is in good working order and has been regularly pumped and inspected with no deficiencies found in the last 18 months since I purchased my home. I will not trade my primary sewage disposal system that is in good working condition for a secondary system that is cost prohibitive and clearly inefficient when compared to what I currently have.

Please share this letter with the DEP officials that will evaluate the proposed 537 Plan for Westtown Township. Feel free to contact me for any additional information you (or the DEP) may require.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this issue.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna M. Testa".

Donna M. Testa

donnamtesta@verizon.net

215-514-3399

67-2R-61

Bob Layman

From: Jerry lakoff [jerrylakoff@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2012 8:18 PM
To: supervisors@westtown.org
Subject: 537 Plan for East Westtown

RECEIVED
AUG 21 2012

Dear Mr Layman and Members of the Board,

Our contention is that the 537 Sewer Plan process has been an unwarranted and unacceptable assault on us and our fellow neighbors. The pretext for the sewer plan submitted to the DEP five years ago was based on faulty data using questionable methodology. Without so much as a shovelful of dirt being extracted from our yards, the conclusions displayed a failure of due diligence on the part of the engineering contractor overseeing the project.

The in-ground plan has proven not to be a systemic problem. Nearly all problems that have arisen were remediated. We view the entire affair as having been driven by a hidden agenda in order to cover up someone's indiscretion or malfeasance. If one goal was to get the ire of the community up, it succeeded.

If this sort of "due process" is what we have come to in this country, then all bets are off. Rod Serling was right in showing that fear could arise out of thin air. And it could change good people's quality of life and sense of community, leaving them helpless to the "powers that be."

Sincerely yours,

Catherine and Jerrold Lakoff
1505 Woodland Road
West Chester, PA

67-2-70

August 20, 2012

Mr. Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395



Dear Mr. Layman

Lorraine and I would like to thank the Westtown Township Supervisors; Ms. De Wolf, Mr. Barber, Mr. Haws, the Westtown Township Planning Commission and yourself for your unanimous support with crafting and recommending the On-Lot-Management Sewage Plan for submission to the Pennsylvania DEP to meet the requirements and comply with DEP Act #537. We are hopeful that all of your efforts will be approved and implemented by the Pennsylvania DEP.

We totally support the On-Lot Management Plan rather than the Gravity and Grinder Pump plans previously submitted for the following reasons:

1. Our current On-Lot system is working and meets with current Chester County guidelines for maintaining On-Lot systems.
2. We are retired and living on a fixed income. We would experience a catastrophic economic hardship meeting initial installation costs, deactivation charges for our current On-Lot system, initial system connecting charges, monthly usage charges and our maintenance and replacement costs for the pump (for the Grinder Pump system) and other ancillary costs associated with either the gravity or grinder systems be incorporated.
3. Our property size is 1 5/8 acres with access to public water. We have been informed that our property can support a modern On-Lot system installation should future events require one.
4. Having previous exposure and knowledge to both public and On-Lot systems, our preference is for On-Lot as the better environmental solution to sewerage management. Public sewage systems are susceptible to untreated system discharges. These discharges have a dramatic effect on aquatic and animal life in the area of discharge. And since the discharge is usually large it affects a greater and larger population in the affected area. With an On-Lot failure within an On-Lot managed program area, any discharge would be an isolated event and would be very minor with less impact on environmental issues.

We thank you for your support. Please feel free to contact us with any questions, comments or if we can be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard D. Kley
Lorraine A. Kley

Richard D. and Lorraine A. Kley
1534 Johnny's Way,
West Chester, PA 19382
Phone 610-696-3056 e-mail lvrr414@aol.com

c/user/doug/westtown/onlotletter82012

07-3-138.13A

cathy madison

From: "cathy madison" <catmad@verizon.net>
To: "Cathy Madison" <catmad@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2012 8:40 PM
Subject: sewer reply

Sirs, We are not able to afford sewers put in our home. We are on a fixed income. We have on site sewage and find that it does the job. Please consider on site sewage for the township. Thank you

*Catherine & James Madison
903 S. Chester Rd*

Cathy Madison
Phone: 610-696-8444

RECEIVED
AUG 21 2012
BY: _____

67-3-138,43

8-10 -12

Dear Sir :

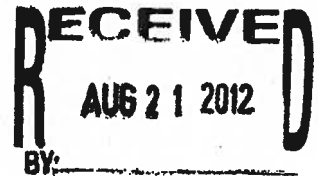
My name is Walter Bennett. My wife and I live at 1602 Westlynn Drive in Westtown. We are both seniors [80 & 79] respectively. A good many of my neighbors are likewise. We are all in full support of the 539 Plan for on site septic management. I had a new septic system installed in 1996 and we have had it cleaned out several years ago and it has been operating very well.

I have been retired over 19 years and am now on a fixed monthly income and helping to support an older sister who is in an assisted-living facility.

The estimated cost of an installed sewer system would present a very difficult financial burden on us. Please adopt the 537 Plan.

Thank you for your consideration

Walter Bennett



67-2R-5

908 Chickadee Lane
West Chester, PA 19382
August 20, 2012



Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19382

Mr. Layman

I am writing to support the proposed Act 537 on-site management maintenance plan that requires regular system pumping and inspection. I have lived at 908 Chickadee Lane in Westtown since 1974 and had only one minor problem (in the mid 1990's) with my on-site system that required replacing a 10 foot section of connection pipe. I was dismayed to discover that the previous planning survey described my property as having a 'failed system.'

I have been retired for 8 years and never imagined that I would have to pay for a public sewer system. In my opinion a public sewer system would be unnecessary, a wast of money, a financial hardship and environmentally harmful (destroying many trees).

I would be happy to answer any questions you have.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Frank Tarzanin", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible.

Frank Tarzanin

610-399-6930

67-2R-3

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395



Glenn J Keller
904 Chickadee Lane
West Chester, PA 19382

20-August-2012

Dear Sir,

I am in favor of an on-site managed sewage management plan for Westtown Township, with appropriate rules and enforcement for regular pumping, inspection, maintenance, and replacement of systems as needed. I installed a new septic system after buying the house in 2002 for about \$13,000 and have been pumping at regular intervals ever since.

I believe that both the gravity system at \$51,000/household and the grinder pump system at \$31,000 per household are far more expensive than on-site management. Both of them place an unnecessary financial burden on the residents of the township.

Specific points on the Aug-2012-Act-537 plan:

1) I thought the detailed discussion of plans for the non-compliant properties was excellent, with good detailing of the type of systems (e.g. sand berms) needed to meet specifications on each of the problem properties.

2) The beginning of the report has a long section on the previous proposal and history of gravity or grinder pump sewage systems. I suggest most this section could be moved to the end with only a paragraph or 2 discussing the previous systems. This short earlier section could refer to the more detailed history section at the end of the report. The problem with the current structure is that any reader is likely already tired of the perhaps not so relevant detail of the previous plan before he/she gets to the presentation of the current plan.

3) pg IV-11. Yearly certification of on-site systems sounds too frequent, even though "or other time" is in the statement. I suggest putting in 2 or 3 years as the provisional time. More experienced people in these matters may be able to make this more specific and eliminate the "or other time" statement, shortening final discussion on this matter.

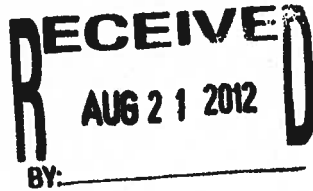
4) pg IV-11. The inspections can perhaps be synchronized with the pumping, so that they can occur at the same time (say every 2 years). This allows for less organizing needed on the part of the homeowner while still maintaining proper inspection and pumping.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glenn J. Keller".

Glenn J Keller

67-3-138.12



901 S. Chester Rd.
West Chester, PA 19382
August 18, 2012

Mr. Robert Layman
Town Manager
Westtown Township
PO Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Re: Sewers

Dear Mr. Layman:

This letter is written in sheer desperation. Al and I need to express our feelings re this sewer situation.

First off, our septic system works just fine. We have it cleaned at least once a year and we have had absolutely no problems. If it ain't broke-don't fix it!

Adding the expense of this sewer would put a strain on us you could not imagine. To begin with we are both 81 years of age, retired, living on social security and a pension. We could not begin to imagine what this added expense would do to us.

We have lived in Westtown for 37 years and had hoped to live out our days in semi comfort in our home. If we are slapped with this "Good Grief" expense we would have to move. As it is, the way the economy is, we fear for our future without the township adding this extra burden.

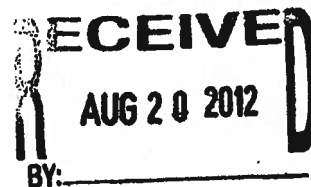
Please take into consideration the living status of many of the Westtown residents who have made this area our final home.

Hopefully yours,

Albert + Antoinette Medoro

Albert & Antoinette Medoro

Robert Layment
Twp. Manger
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, Pa.
19395



Aug 20, 2012

Dear Sir,

We both lost our jobs at the same time and was forced into early retirement when our unemployment ran out. There is no other income just S.S. we have spent any money we had on medical insurance and medical bills. If the "On Site" Sewer Management does not go through we will be forced to ~~sell~~ our home, our medical insurance come first!

We just can not take another Hit!

Yours Truly,
Mr & Mrs L. Willis
1550 Marlboro Road.
Westtown, Pa.
19382

67-2-91

15 August 2012

Westtown Township
PO Box 79,
Westtown, PA., 19395



Attention: Robert Layman, Township Manager

Subject: Westtown Township Draft ACT 537 OFFICIAL SEWAGE FACILITIES PLAN
SPECIAL STUDY: SEWAGE NEEDS OF EXISTING RESIDENCES, WESTTOWN
TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY, PA, DATED AUGUST 12, 2012

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Subject Plan.

While I found the Draft Plan to be somewhat confusing, I fully support its recommendation to implement an On Site Management Plan in lieu of any derivative Sewer Plan.

It is clear in the draft Plan that the Township's recent review of the Chester County Health Department data refutes the 2000 Sewage Study prepared by the West Chester Regional Planning Commission, wherein they incorrectly documented a "high incidence of on lot failures when compared to other Townships in the area".

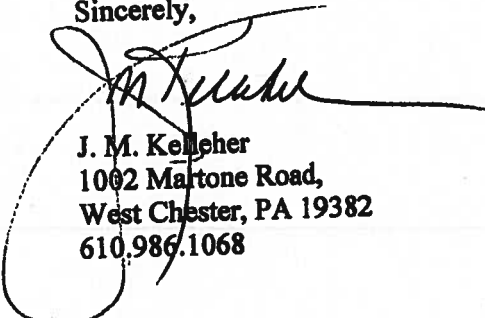
SUGGESTED ALTERATIONS TO THE PLAN:

(1) It is respectfully requested that the Plan be re-drafted to clearly state its' recommendation in an Executive Summary format within the first few pages of the Plan. It is of utmost importance that all readers and approvers of the Plan have a clear understanding of what is going to be presented in the follow-on pages of the Plan. I believe it is more important to clearly state the current recommendation and the data driven basis upon which the on-lot alternative is now being presented, than to try and recount the Township's efforts over the recent past to address this issue.

(2) Should a "Background and History" Section be required in accordance with the DEP guidelines, I suggest including it as an Appendix, so that the recommendations of the current Plan are crystal clear.

Thank you again for your efforts to develop the "right plan" for our Township and for affording me the opportunity to express my view.

Sincerely,



J. M. Kelleher
1002 Martone Road,
West Chester, PA 19382
610.986.1068

67-3-82

To: Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79, Westtown, PA 19395
Fax: 610-692-9651



From: David Lombardi
1539 Marlboro Road, West Chester, PA 19382

Date: August 16, 2012

SUBJECT: Comments Regarding Draft Westtown Township Act 537 Official
Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study

I am in favor of Westtown Township adopting an on-lot sewage management system plan for the following reasons:

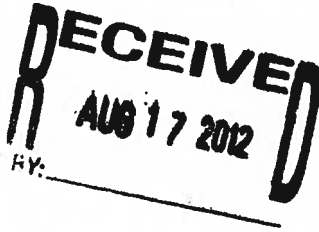
- My septic system is working fine and I maintain it by having it pumped every year
- I can not afford \$20,000+ and on-going fees for a public sewer system
- I have one child in college and another headed to college in three years

Please do not put the financial burden of an unneeded public sewer system on me and my neighbors. Families are losing their homes under the current economic/job conditions – any additional financial burden will only cause more hardship.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "David Lombardi", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

67-2-71

1536 Johnny's Way
West Chester, PA 19382
August 17, 2012



Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Dear Mr. Layman,

I have written to you before with my thoughts about hooking up to the public sewer. At this time, it is simply not a necessity for our home.

Our current septic system has been operating well. When we purchased our home in March 2000 from the Buchanan family, they had just completed the installation of a brand new system. We have been very careful to maintain this system by having it pumped out and inspected about every 2 years. In 2006 we needed to replace the pump. We have maintained all of our paperwork and can show that to anyone who asks to see it.

This year I am an unemployed high school science teacher. I have been looking for a teaching job since January. With us living as a family of three on one income, we have to be very careful as to how we spend our money. We needed to have our roof replaced this summer. That was our budget for home repairs at this time.

My husband and I have attended many meetings about this. I am very concerned if the DEP does not approve an on-lot management system. I really do not know how we would afford an unnecessary sewer system. It seems that a more cost effective solution would be to fix the several failed systems with one of the many on-site treatment options available, even if this was done partially with township funds.

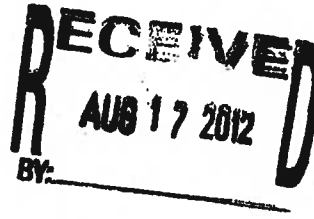
Sincerely,


Leslie Barr

67-3-88.1

8/17/12

MR ROBERT LAYMAN
TWP. MANAGER
WESTTOWN TWP.



MY NAME IS PAUL STOLL AND HAVE LIVED AT 1534 MARLBORO RD. FOR 50+ YEARS. I WORKED FOR VERIZON AND RETIRED IN 1991. THE SEPTIC SYSTEM OF MY HOUSE HAS ALWAYS WORKED AS IT HAS BEEN MAINTAINED BY ONCE A YEAR LOCAL WASTE MATERIAL CO.

THE PROPOSAL OF HAVING GRINDER PUMPING INSTALLED AT THE COST BEING DESCRIBED AND THE COST OF WHAT MY PART TO ATTACH TO AND MAINTAIN THIS SYSTEM IS RIDICULOUS. I ALREADY HAVE A SYSTEM THAT WORKS.

WITH TODAYS ECONOMY I DO NOT SEE HOW ANYONE WORKING OR RETIRED COULD AFFORD TO REPLACE A SYSTEM THAT WORKS.

Paul Stoll

67-2-80.1B

THOMAS MORIBONDO
1002 Robin Drive
West Chester, PA 19382
(610) 399-3900



August 17, 2012

Mr. Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Re: Proposed Act 537 On-Site Management Plan.

Dear Mr. Layman:

I am a resident of Westtown Township. My family and I have lived at 1002 Robin Drive Westtown, PA since 1993.

In all the time we have lived in Westtown, we have never had any problem with our on-site septic. We routinely have the tank pumped and have never had any issues whatsoever.

We fully support the proposed Act 537 On-Site Management Plan. We have a daughter just starting her freshman year in college and the expense of having to finance the public sewer proposal with the cost of a four year private college education would be a true hardship.

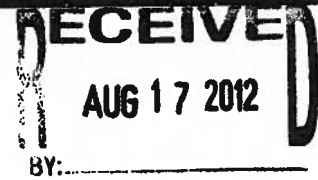
We adamantly oppose the public sewer option.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Moribondo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

THOMAS MORIBONDO

67-3-138.38



8/16/2012

Chris Hunter
1612 West Lynn Dr
West Chester Pa 19382

Support Act 537

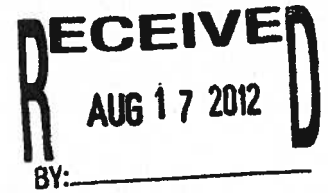
I support proposed act 537 for on site management plan. When I bought my house in Westtown I paid extra for my house because it had brand new septic system installed. I have maintained it over the years and it works perfect. I do not believe that public sewer system will increase my property value due to the fact that I already have paid for new septic system in the last ten years the added cost for public sewer is just too much money invested into the property. I also have to kids in college this year and my parents are at the age where I am know starting to help them with cost of living. Money is very tight these days , just can't see having more taxes and added expense of public sewer helpful in any way. Please help support on site management plan .

Thank You

Chris Hunter
Home Owner
1612 West Lynn Dr

67-3-125.8

Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
Re: Public Comment to Draft Act 537 Notice
PO Box 79
Westtown, PA. 19395



Mr. Layman, et al,

August 15, 2012

My wife Nancy and I own a one-acre lot on Woodland Road. The original seepage pit dating back to 1966 was updated to a drainage field system when we bought the house in 2001. It has operated flawlessly since; we pump it regularly every 1 ½ to 2 years.

The problem we have with the Township's grinder pump solution proposal is two-fold:

- (1) Although the cost of constructing a grinder pump sewer system is significantly less than the originally proposed gravity system, technological vulnerabilities present in the grinder pump system exist:
 - Power Outages—weak battery capacity for what's essentially an out-sized garbage disposal would leave entire swaths of the Township without sewer unless each individual homeowner is willing to buy an electricity generator.
 - Breakdowns—grinder pumps are relatively complex machines that have earned a reputation for being temperamental. The homeowners from neighboring townships I've spoken to that have grinder pumps cite difficulties with the grinder mechanism breaking down.
- (2) The proposed method of having the homeowner pay half the cost upfront and then have to pay the rest in monthly installments incorporated into the user fee would be financially burdensome to the affected residents:
 - No Pay-As-You-Go Option—asking for five figures upfront from affected residents instead of offering the option of financing the total cost for the project (incorporated entire into the monthly resident fee) would be burdensome enough under normal circumstances. But given the prolonged economic slowdown which has reduced the net worth of most households, the Township's plan would be a double whammy to residents already struggling financially.

If the Township and the PA DEP are willing to work with residents to find a way to make septic on-lot management workable for the eastern half of Westtown, then that is what we support, given the present options.

Edward Cavey/Nancy Harkins
1521 Woodland Road

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is "Edward Cavey" and the bottom signature is "Nancy Harkins".

67-2Q-1

Bob Layman

From: TIM MEGAW [megadoubleu@mac.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2012 9:29 AM
To: supervisors@westtown.org
Cc: tkillion@pahousegop.com; eerickson@pasen.gov; Westtown Sewers
Subject: Westtown Sewer project

Dear Supervisors

I was the Planning Meeting last week and heard a lot from people and their concerns of the costs to them personally for this sewer project. I wanted to offer this thought, because I haven't heard it expressed before.

I will probably have to lose my house if this plan goes forward. We as a family were so decimated by the crash of 2009 that once what looked as a modest retirement fund almost disappeared, (thanks to my broker having a penchant for investing in banking), and what was left has almost run out.

This project is more financially crippling than just the cost of the sewers. For instance, with no sewer plan in the air, my house is worth, say, \$500,000. If the plan is implemented I will have to find the additional \$30,000 to pay for it. But I won't be able to, so I will sell and move. To an incoming buyer, my house is no longer worth \$500,000 because the currently well-maintained septic system has no asset value. It's redundant. Hence, any incoming buyer will think to themselves (and you can bet the realtor will be stirring this up) "it would be a \$500,000 house, but I'm going to have to pay \$30,000 for those darned sewers - hence, I'll only pay \$470,000 for the house."

As the seller, and a forced seller at that, not only can I not afford to pay \$30,000 for sewers, I can't afford to lose an additional \$30,000 on the value of my house - just by having this project hanging over it - if I can sell it at all because buyers are sure to be reticent not knowing exactly what is going to happen.

Any talk of this system increasing a house's value is nonsense. What is true is that it will very likely create a further, very depressed housing market in the Westtown Township. Something none of us can afford.

I didn't vote the supervisors in to carry out these plans, but I will certainly vote them out before I pack up and sell.

With kind regards

Tim Megaw
911 Shady Grove Way
Westtown PA 19382

RECEIVED
AUG 16 2012
BY: _____

67-3-125.32

Di Domenico

1530 Woodland Road
West Chester, PA 19382-7836



August 14, 2012

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395
RE: Act 537 On-Site Sewer Management Plan

Dear Mr. Layman,

My family wishes to thank you for your honesty, integrity, and positive participation during our residents' collaboration to create a sewage plan that we can afford, especially in these depressed economic times. My wife and I are, both, retired and on a fixed income. We would never be able to afford the \$3,200.00 for the secondary system, grinder plan or the \$53,000.00 gravity feed plan. As I have stated at the numerous township meetings we have attended, "Our on-site managed system works just fine. We don't need it. We don't want it. We certainly cannot afford it."

Our quest to devise, compose, and submit an "On-site Sewage Management Plan", which includes the most current data, and is fair and equitable for all the residents/citizens of Westtown Township has been realized with the August 2012 Draft of the Act 537 Plan. This goal was accomplished with *your* help and the approval by the Westtown Township Supervisors and Planning Commission.

Please enter this letter into the Public Record in favor of the Act 537 On-Site Sewage Management Plan, to be included in the documentation to the Department of Environmental Protection, for its approval.

Additionally, we wish to thank Senator Ted Erickson, Representative Tom Killian, and the 392 residents of Westtown's Phase I of the 537 Plan for their continued support, attendance at the public meetings and encouragement. Without the support of all these concerned citizens, we would be financially compromised.

With Gratitude,

Michael Di Domenico
Kathleen Di Domenico

Michael & Kathleen Di Domenico
1530 Woodland Road
West Chester, PA 19382-7836

RECEIVED
AUG 15 2012

67-20-20

1001 Shady Grove Way
West Chester, Pa. 19382
August 13, 2012

Robert Layman
Township Manager
P. O. Box 79
Westtown, Pa 19395

Dear Mr. Layman:
We are trying to sell our home to downsize. We have had NO problems with our septic system and have had it emptied on a regular 2 year basis. We have no need for a hookup to a public system nor do we have the money to put into a public system. We are against any forced changes to our septic system. It works, don't fix it.

Sincerely,
Helen V. Smith
Edward W. Smith

RECEIVED
AUG 15 2012

67-3-67.1

1544 Carmac Road West Chester, PA 19382

Sunday 12th August 2012

Town Manager

Westtown Township

P.O. Box 79

Westtown, PA 19395

Dear Mr. Layman:

People have been keeping me abreast of the meetings and minutes of Westtown concerning the Act 537 On-Site Management Plan concerning on-site individual home sewer systems. I was urged to write to you to add my voice to support the plan for periodic township on-site inspections of individual properties for proper sewage accommodation and handling.

My home at 1544 Carmac Road was the last one to be built on that road completed the summer of 2006. The proper inspections deemed it to be a state of the art sewage system that would be appropriate for a family living there. It has three cement holding tanks and a pump with an alarm (that could wake the dead) indicating if there should be any problems transferring liquid to the leaching field in the backyard of my one-half acre property.

Since it is such a new system, it would seem to be the height of folly to tie into a township system that, for all intents and purposes, seems to be a less than satisfactory option. It would be exorbitant initially to tie into, and then to maintain the monthly fee and expensive replace parts on periodic basis. I am retired and living on a fixed income. Presently, I am here in Maine trying desperately to sell the family property to come up with the appropriate sum of money to put into a personal account just in case we are coerced into accepting this system. Needless to say this whole situation has me extremely upset, especially having to be so far away tending to this business while all these meetings and sessions have been occurring. If there are any options at all, I would plead for a regular and periodic inspection on-site of my current septic system and would follow prescribed guidelines for proper maintenance. It is not easy being retired and hit with these, for me at least, huge ticket items that would necessitate probable and sooner rather than later sale of my Carmac home to go into some sort of retirement home which is absolute anathema to me.

I hope this situation is resolved soon so that we all know what has been decided and can make plans for the future. Thank you, in advance for your attention.

Sincerely,

Susan R. Austin
Susan R. Austin

RECEIVED
AUG 15 2012

67-3-144.52

1051 Powderhorn Drive

Glen Mills, PA 19342

August 14, 2012

Robert Layman

Township Manager

Westtown Township

P.O. Box 79

Westtown, PA 19395

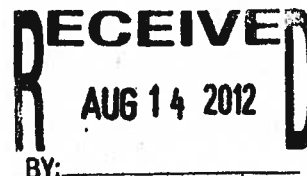
As a senior resident of Westtown Township we would have grave financial difficulty meeting the cost of installing sewers. We are on a fixed income and have had no problems with our onsite septic system. We have maintained it with an every other year clean out and have installed 2 drain fields to prevent problems. We would welcome and onsite inspection. Please consider the effect of mandatory installation of sewers on the senior population of this township.

Respectfully submitted,



Norton and Barbara Seaman

67-2R-39



Arnold & Mary Ruegg
1402 Thrush Lane
West Chester, PA 10382
610-455-0310

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19382

August 14, 2012

Dear Mr. Layman:

We are writing to let you know our concerns about being forced to hook up to a public sewer in Westtown and to go on record saying that we are in favor of the ON LOT Management approach.

When we bought our house in 2005 we had a new septic system installed. Our system is only 7 years old. We have 2 fields, the old and new one. We have switched back and forth from old to new periodically as we were told that the old field could still tolerate that. There have been 3 adults living in this house for these 7 years. We had Eldridge come out on Friday, August 10, 2012 and clean out both systems. Eldridge stated that our system is working at 100% efficiency. If we have a newer septic system, running without issue, why would we want to replace that with public sewers? We simply do not need to do that.

In addition, and most importantly, it would be a financial hardship for us to pay for the hook up to a public sewer system. I am currently unemployed (due to a layoff) and my husband is self-employed in a seasonal business. We are in our sixties and simply unable to afford to pay for this type of system. We anticipate being on a fixed income within a few years and then it would be even harder.

We appreciate all the efforts being made to support an ON LOT Management system. We believe it would be the best option for us – really the only option.

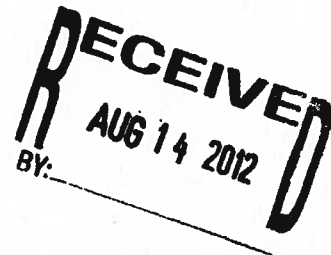
Best

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arnold & Mary Ruegg".

Arnold and Mary Ruegg

67-26-19

CHARLES AND LAURA ENGLISH
405 LESLIE LANE
WEST CHESTER, PA 19382
(610) 430-0185



August 14, 2012

Westtown Township
Attn: Robert Layman, Twp. Manager
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395
SENT BY FACSIMILE (610) 692-9651

Re: 405 Leslie Lane, West Chester, PA

Dear Mr. Layman:

My husband, Chuck and I live at 405 Leslie Lane in Westtown Township. We would like to have our comments heard in regards to the ACT 537 issue.

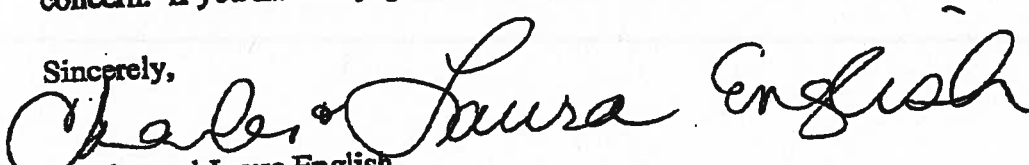
We bought our home in 2003 and had to have our septic system inspected prior to settlement. We found out the baffle box needed to be repaired, which was completed. We have had the system pumped every two years. We had the pump replaced three years ago, and have had no problems with the system since.

Chuck was laid off last September from Local 5, with no immediate job prospects on the horizon. I work as a paralegal four days a week and make \$16.00 per hour. We have a daughter who attends West Chester University. She had to move back home, as we could not afford to pay her tuition any longer.

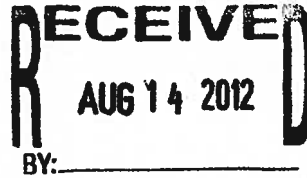
Our household income is lower than it has been in over ten years. Therefore, we certainly cannot afford the expense of hooking up to public sewers at this time. It would cause a serious financial hardship for our household.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter of our mutual concern. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,


Charles and Laura English

67-2-38



8/13/12

Mr. Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Re: Act 537 Westtown Township Official Sewer Facilities Plan

Dear Sir

My wife and I are both in our eighties and can't afford the projected cost of \$ 21,000.00 to \$ 31,000.00 for the grinder pump sewer system. We live on a very limited income from Social Security and some minor savings. There are many other families in our township that live in similar financial circumstances for whom the above expense would be a serious hardship if not outright ruinous.

The present on-lot system has worked well in the past for most residents. If township enforcement of regulatory rules is needed, so be it. The cost of this program would certainly be more affordable to everyone concerned. I hope we are not tilting at windmills and that the pertinent authorities keep the "little guy" in mind.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rene Kempf".

Rene Kempf
1449 Johnny's Way
West Chester, PA 19382

67-3-107

This letter is in regard to the sewer plan. My husband and I are on a fixed income and can't afford the cost of this plan. Two years ago we put in a new septic tank and it is working just fine. I am currently on disability due to back surgery trying to get back on my feet. My husband is on social security and working part time after loosing his job. I don't think the township can afford this plan either. It seems as though most of the houses that will be part of this are either elderly on fixed incomes or young families with mortgages on houses that are no longer worth what they paid for them. On site management would be the best way to go for the citizens and the township.

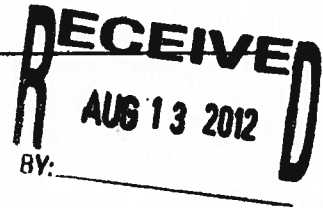
Marge and Tom Jones
1543 Overhill Rd.
West Chester, Pa. 19382

Marge Jones
Thomas Jones



67-RR-32

**Janice Kendrick Archbold
1012 Robin Drive
West Chester, PA 19382**



Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
POB 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Re: Act 537 On-Site Maintenance

Dear Sir,

My husband, Wm. C. Archbold, Jr. & I bought our present residence in September 2005 for \$540,000. Built in 1968, the property required significant systems work, electrical service throughout, new plumbing and piping throughout, insulation, chimney work on 4 fireplaces, lightening protection, gas lines, internet lines (CAT8) throughout, new roofing for the entire property, and complete finishing out of the ground floor. These corrections in addition to upgrades to the septic system required an additional \$276,000.

We changed our insurance company this year to USAA for combat veterans to save money. The insurance appraiser valued our replacement at \$56,000 more than settlement; an unsuccessful mortgage application valued the property at less than \$450,000.

We chose Westtown for our retirement as we believed the township to be fiscally responsible with its past record of property taxes and appreciation for rural properties w/o streetlights, sidewalks and other town necessities. We intended to gradually become sustainable, planning on going off all grids within 10 years, as our earned income has stopped, and unearned income is not expected to occur for at least 3 more years.

If the township goes off the deep end and incurs added expenses to its budget through upgrades to its revenue-negative problematic existing sewage treatment plant to process more properties, and by causing residents to foot the high cost of public sewers and their ongoing usage fees, we will have to leave the township, losing more money than we already have lost on paper.

We have responsibly maintained our on-site septic system annually and intend to do so in the future.

Sincerely,


Janice & William Archbold

Home: 610-692-7646 Office: 610-455-0968 Fax: 610-455-0977
email: JARCHBOLD@VERIZON.NET
cell: 610-304-1215

August 10, 2012

Bob Layman
Westtown Township Manager
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395-0079



RE: Proposed Public Sewer Extension Plan

Dear Mr. Layman,

After living in my home in Westtown Township since 1976, I feel that I am being forced to give up my home and move because of the proposed sewer extension. I am a widow in my 70's and there is no way that I will be able to afford the expenses of this sewer project. Social Security payments do not allow for the substantial amount of money that will be needed for this extension and I would not take out a large loan at my age.

I actually feel that I am being discriminated against since right now property values are down and I am being placed in the position that I will be forced to sell my home. The reason we moved out here so many years ago is because there were no street lights, no sidewalks, no public sewers, no public water. Westtown was chosen because it was how we wanted to live. Unfortunately that is no longer the case for me.

Since 1976 the septic system has been maintained and I have never had a problem with it in all these 36 years. I sit here shaking my head saying "why are they forcing me to fix something that is not broken?" I have paid West Chester Area School taxes all these years but never sent a child through the public school system. I feel I've more than paid my share to live in an area that once-upon-a-time was a great place to live. How much sewage can one person living alone in a home produce? Certainly not enough to justify the high costs that would be incurred.

Please know that I am opposed to the sewer extension for my home since I have never had a problem and do not need sewers and should this be forced on me, I will have to sell my home at a time when property values are down and homes are difficult to sell. I believe this is total financial irresponsibility by the township at this time.

*Sincerely,
Constance J. Webb
1408 Carter Place
West Chester, PA 19382*

67-2-27-27

August 11, 2012

Bob Layman
Westtown Township Manager
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395-0079



RE: On-lot Sewage Management Plan

Dear Mr. Layman,

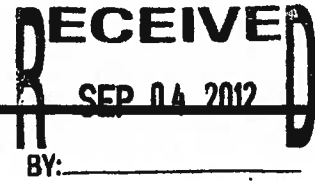
As a 36-year resident in the same home in Westtown Township, the only way for me to remain in my home is for the adoption of the On-lot Management Plan. Since 1976 my septic system has been properly maintained and I have never had a problem with it in all these years. My septic system has been pumped on a regular basis and I welcome a system inspection within the first three years of this plan's implementation.

I am a widow in my 70's and this solution will allow me to remain in my home as there was no way I was able to afford the initial proposals of a gravity pump system or a grinder pump system. Those plans would be a financial disaster for me and force me into selling my home at a time when property values are down and houses are not selling well because the financial situations of citizens and governments alike are in unstable positions.

I believe the On-lot Management Plan is a sound, equitable and financially responsible position for the Township and its' residents. I support this plan as it would allow me to live out my remaining years in a home and township I love. I never want to feel I am being forced out of my home because of gravity or grinder pump sewer systems.

*Sincerely,
Constance J. Webb
1408 Carter Place
West Chester, PA 19382*

07-3-106



Bob Layman

From: CHu1293155@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 04, 2012 5:54 PM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: Westtown Sewers

Dear Mr. Layman,

I have lived in this township practically my whole life. We have two kids in college at this time and can not afford to pay the astronomical price they are coming up with for public sewers, especially as we pump our septic every year and have no problem with it. I am also looking at a kidney transplant within the coming year, and this will tax us even more, as I have no idea how long I will be out of work. I am already on unemployment and this presents a hardship on our finances now. We have no savings, so wouldn't be able to pull any money out of those to pay for any financial responsibilities we already have, much less come up with more for a system we don't need. I am for the On Site Management plan as this is the least expensive for my family and for the township, which is enough financial trouble itself.

Sincerely,

The Hughes
1545 Overhill Road
West Chester, PA 19382

67-3-125.10

RECEIVED
AUG 29 2012

Bob Layman

From: michael mcfarland [michaelmac32@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2012 9:59 PM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: "On Lot Management Program"

Dear Mr. Layman,

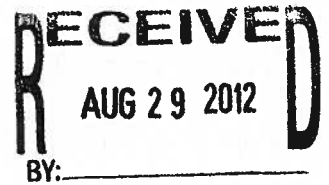
My name is Michael McFarland and I live at 1525 Woodland Road. I am writing this letter to you in support of the "On Lot Management Program." I really believe this is the best approach, maybe since my system works fine and I currently have no problems.

If we did have to go to a grinder system, I know that I could not afford it, I have three children under 5 and one on the way ,so a grinder pump system would probably get in the way of a few boxes of diapers. Really the bottom line is I currently have a very good working system, and I take care of it. And I can't afford the grinder pump system.

Sincerely,

Michael McFarland

67-3-57



August 29, 2012

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

ACT 537

On Site Management Plan submission

Dear Mr. Layman:

We are writing to express our support for the ACT 537 On-Site Management Plan submission. Our family has lived at 1551 Carmac Road for seven years. Our house is at least 55 years old. During the time that we have resided here, we have been monitoring our on-site septic system and emptying it when necessary. Our system was inspected when we moved in, and it met all applicable requirements. We have never been told of any threat our septic system poses to the environment.

While we are not opposed to the installation of a new public sewer system, we would be financially devastated if we were forced to pay the entire current projected cost to connect. Our family is already struggling to meet our obligations with:

- two young boys (3 & 5 years old) who will soon be starting school,
- a 55 year old house that is in need of maintenance and repairs that we cannot afford to make and have already been delaying,

- a housing market that has reduced the value of our home such that we cannot borrow any additional money due to reduced/negative equity,
- a loss of income – Kate lost full-time employment several years ago and has been un-/underemployed since 2007 – only recently able to resume working part-time, and
- depletion of our savings and retirement accounts just to 'stay afloat'.

Many of our neighbors' financial situations are similar to our own, and placing liens on our homes – an idea mentioned as a possible funding alternative to cover connection costs, would only make it more difficult for homeowners to maneuver financially until home prices begin to rise. We recently tried to refinance our mortgage to consolidate debit, etc., but were unable to do so because the assessed value of our home was too low to provide the needed equity. In addition, a new recurring utility expense on top of steep connection fees would be simply kicking us when we are already down. This could potentially force many in our community out of their homes and lead to financial ruin.

In the larger context, we struggle to understand why this financial obligation/burden would be placed on the current residents when it has been known for years that standards were changing, and many systems within the township and surrounding areas would not meet new requirements. By the same token, it seems heavy-handed on the part of the DEP to begin enforcing these more stringent standards without offering more assistance; financial or otherwise, to be compliant. The least they should be able to do is provide models for programs that have been successful in other townships or municipalities who have faced circumstances similar to our own. In short, we cannot be the first community to have gone through this. We are also curious if the township is researching or has applied for any grants at the state or federal levels that would provide monies for improvement projects of this type (eg, is the public sewer plan "shovel-ready")?

While we agree that a public sewer system would be an improvement in the long-term, the gain to our property values would be only marginal at this point and would not offset the proposed costs. The threat of financially devastating struggling families at the worst possible time should far outweigh the risks of maintaining on-site septic systems. This is especially true if those systems are to be compliant with more robust standards, subject to more frequent inspection, and maintained with an increased awareness of environmental impact. Please allow us to maintain on-site management.

Thank you for your consideration,

Matt and Kate McCaslin

67-2-41

RECEIVED
AUG 28 2012
BY: _____

8/27/12

Westtown Township

Robert Layman, Township Manager

Westtown Township

P.O. Box 79

Westtown, PA 19395

Fax: 610-692-9651

rlayman@westtown.org

Mr. Layman, I am writing to request you submit an on lot management system proposal to the DEP. My current septic system works well and any other changes would cause serious financial heartache.

If I was forced to hook up to public sewer I could not afford it. I am self-employed, and barely paying my bills due to the poor business environment.

I look to you and the supervisors to work for our township residents, and vote to submit a viable on lot management system proposal to the DEP.

Thank you for your consideration!

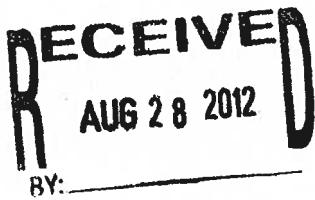


Bryan P. Gazzillo

1531 Johnny's Way

West Chester PA 19382

610-299-2401



67-2-80.1E

1008 Robin Drive
West Chester, PA 19382
August 24, 2012

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

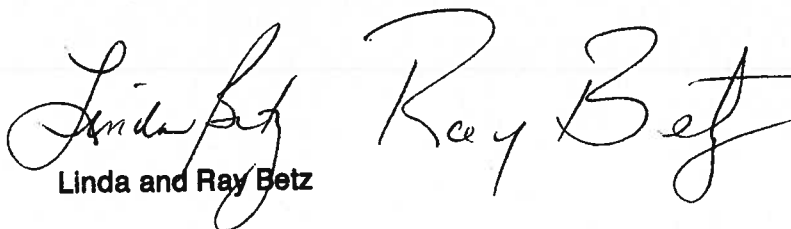
Dear Mr. Layman:

My husband and I strongly support the Westtown Township Act 537 Official Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study, the 537 draft plan approved by Westtown Supervisors and Planning Commissioners, and posted on the Westtown web site. The recently obtained and detailed new data show no current need for public sewers, in our opinion, as over 90 % of on-lot systems in the study area function according to DEP standards.

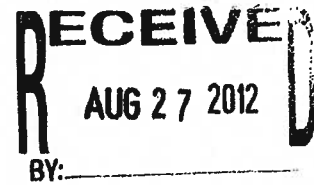
Placing responsibility for proper functioning, timely maintenance as well as repair and/or replacing of malfunctioning systems on the homeowner, using an effective township-enforced on-lot sewage education and management policy and program appears to be an appropriate, and logical solution to fulfilling our individual and collective responsibility to safeguard the environment.

On a personal note, we have a relatively new (for the neighborhood) home and septic system. Our house and system were built seventeen years ago, and our septic system has been carefully maintained and pumped every three years. No evidence of malfunction has occurred. In addition, our lot is greater than 2 acres and the chance of a non-repairable situation arising, should malfunction occur, is very unlikely. Financially, my husband and I are both retired, living on a fixed income, and are financing our daughter's college education. Financing \$30,000-\$60,000 for a public sewer system at this time would be a serious hardship for any reason, but to be required to do so when no need has been demonstrated would cause us to seriously evaluate our interest in continuing to live in Westtown township. We would most likely sell our property, which is unfortunate, since I believe we have been good neighbors, good citizens and good stewards of this land.

We thank you, the township supervisors and planning commissioners, Stan Corbet from URS and Jeff Miller from Evans, and the Concerned Citizens Committee for pulling together in a concerted effort to propose this plan, which addresses both environmental needs and economical constraints.


Linda and Ray Betz

67-3-125.1



1507 Woodland Road
West Chester, PA 19382
August 27, 2012

Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Dear Mr. Layman,

We are sending this letter to let you know that we are strongly opposed to the original proposal of a Grinder System for our section of Westtown Township. We are strongly in support of the On-lot Septic System proposal. Below are the reasons why we cannot afford the astronomical cost of going with the grinder system nor do we need to:

- My husband is retired and I will be retiring in the very near future. We are both in our 70th year. I am still working because I CANNOT AFFORD TO RETIRE yet! We will be on a fixed income, in the very near future, and cannot afford a \$21,000 project with ongoing yearly costs.
- We had our septic system pumped by Eldridge and inspected in May, 2012 and passed with no problems.
- We spent \$12,000 8 years ago to have a new tile field and septic tank installed as recommended by the Department of Health.
- We may have to sell our home in the future to downsize and with this potential and unnecessary cost hanging over our heads that will be impossible!

Please fight for us with the DEP so that we can enjoy our future without worry about going broke!

Sincerely,

Virginia L Gatt
Anthony J Gatt

67-2R-17

Bob Layman

RECEIVED
AUG 27 2012
BY: _____

From: tlownes01@verizon.net
Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 1:35 PM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: Fw: Westtown Sewers

From: tlownes01@verizon.net
Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 11:30 AM
To: tlownes01@verizon.net
Subject: Westtown Sewers

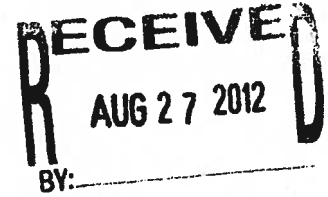
Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, Pa. 19395

Attn. Township Supervisors.

My wife and I are residents of the Township at 1428 Bobolink Lane. We want to thank you for all your attention and patience in working out a solution for the Sewer System issue. You have been handed a cause celebre from your predecessors and we appreciate your effort and sincerity in finding a solution. However as retired and senior citizens we are opposed to the "Grinder System." Our opposition is both financial and practical. We cannot afford the financial burden of the installation, hook-up, grinder and yearly fee (tax). We are in favor of the "on site system" being considered. Why should we be forced into this "Grinder System" when our "on site system" that exists now works perfectly?

Sincerely,
Tom and Ann Lownes

67-2-27.12



August 25, 2012

1403 Fox Place
West Chester, PA 19382

Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Subject: Implementing Act 537 in Westtown Township.

I want to support and encourage the "on-site management" approach to complying with Act 537. I feel this way for personal finance reasons as well as for water conservation reasons.

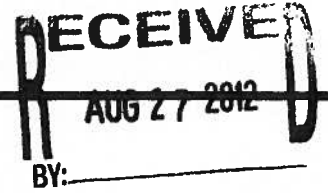
- 1) I have been retired and unemployed for over a decade. I cannot afford to fund a share of a public septic system.
- 2) My job was moved out of the USA before I was age 62. I started getting Social Security over a decade ago at age 62. Now I must live on this lower than low monthly income forever.
- 3) I still have a home mortgage on my primary residence and no second or summer home to go to.
- 4) I consider my on-site septic system as a long term part of my house. I have always had my system pumped out every 3 years as a way to ensure long term service from the system. The system has never given any problems.
- 5) Now, I want to comment on water conservation. Most of the Westtown homes using on-site septic systems also have on-site water wells. Taking water out of the ground and returning it to the earth nearby is a balance. Taking water out of a hundreds of wells in a community and piping it out to the ocean would create an unbalance in the underground water table. If you think this is insignificant, consider that our government has many flea size controls to conserve water. For example, when rainfall during a period of time is low, directives are issued to prohibit watering a lawn or washing a car. How trivial! Just one more example is the water retention ponds required with new constructions. If retention ponds are really necessary, **then keeping on-site septic systems should be a very high priority.**

Sincerely,

James Teague

67-3-125.20

Bob Layman



From: Karen [kpdemuro@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2012 10:39 PM
To: rlayman@westtown.org
Subject: Act 537 On-Site Management Plan

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O.Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

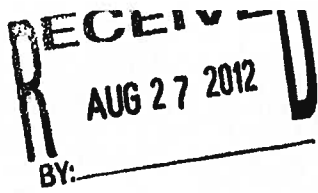
Dear Mr. Layman

My sister and I have lived in our home for just about 25 years . Before we took over the house our parents took care of our septic system, we never had any problems, our system was pumped out every year. We do not want public sewers, we don't need it, nor can we afford it. My sister is retired and I work in retail. Having to come up 20 to30 thousand plus for a system we don't need would most definitely put a heart ship on us. Keeping up with our day to day expenses is already difficult.

We do hope you consider all of us in Westtown Township and support us with on-site management, to put us into further debt would be irresponsible and wholly unjust. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen and Anna Marie DeMuro
1524 Woodland Road
West Chester, PA 19382



67-3-144.1

**Earl J. and Marjorie J. Dittbrenner
1050 Powderhorn Drive
Edgewood Chase
Glen Mills, PA 19342-9505
610-399-3475**

August 23, 2012

Mr. Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township, Chester County
P.O.Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395-0079

Re 2007 Act 537 Plan
Residential Sewage Disposal

Dear Mr. Layman,

My wife and I will each be 82 years old this coming November. We have been residents and tax payers in beautiful Westtown Township since 1972. We have been residents of Chester County since 1959, and residents of the Commonwealth since birth in 1930. We live on our Social Security, although we have been told for years that that is impossible! Nevertheless we do. We have been hit hard this year by unanticipated medical expenses incurred over and above our health insurance coverage. It is reasonable to assume that our medical expenses will increase in the course of our remaining years.

Forgive me for not getting to the point, but I wanted you to know who we are.

When we are told that we may have to come up with \$25,000 to replace a septic system, which has functioned soundly for almost forty years we are, to say the least, dismayed! When we are told that the new system will rely on a grinder, which we will have to maintain at our cost should it fail, we are further distraught! In addition we are told, that we will have to pay a monthly fee to the Township for the rights to the system, which could amount to \$900.00 per year!

WE CANNOT POSSIBLY AFFORD SUCH A SYSTEM!!

Having thought the whole thing through carefully we have come to the following conclusions:

1. A grinder is, by its very nature, a self-destructing device. We suspect that its repair will be required very shortly after its installation.
2. Given our financial situation we will be compelled to obtain a home equity loan to pay for this costly system. We don't know what the monthly second mortgage payments will be, or where the money will come from!


August 23, 2012

3. We get the feeling that the Department of Environmental 'Protection' in Harrisburg Is unaware of the adage, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". **Our septic system has functioned soundly for almost 40 years!**
4. At \$25,000 per resident Edgewood Chase alone would be paying \$1,250,000 to. . . .whom? To unidentified manufacturers and contractors? Would the citizenry ever know?

When last we had our septic tank pumped out we had the contractor bring the system up to current residential code, in the hope that on-site inspection by Westtown Township would be the final solution—not the DEP's grinder.

Thank you for all your effort in looking after the needs of the citizens of Westtown Township. Please make our plea known to the DEP, and pray that they listen.

Sincerely,


Earl J. Dittbrenner


Marjorie J. Dittbrenner

WE CANNOT POSSIBLY AFFORD SUCH A SYSTEM!!

67-3-125.17

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, Pa 19395

August 20, 2012

Dear Robert Layman,

We have lived in our home, 1518 Woodland Rd, West Chester, PA 19382, since August 2000. The former owners installed a brand new Septic System on our property in November 1999. Concord Wastewater Management (now Aqua Wastewater Management) originally advised us in 2000 that we should have our system pumped out every 2 years. Being proactive and diligent homeowners we have our septic system pumped out every year. We have a perfectly functioning system and have never had a problem. We are open to any inspection of our septic system or offer any certification needed to verify the good condition of our septic system.

We have public water, the former owners tied in when it was installed on our street.

We are in FULL support of the proposed Act 537 On-Site Management Plan!

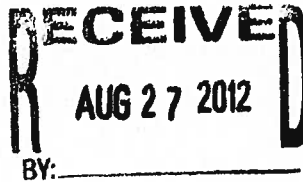
We have a child starting college next week and two more children that will attend college in a few years. We have enough on our plates financially and incurring more debt is not something we can do.

Sincerely,


Jeffrey and Deborah Atella

1518 Woodland Rd
West Chester, Pa 19382

67-2-101



23 August, 2012

Mr. Layman
Westtown Township Manager
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA. 19395

I am writing to you today to voice my overwhelming support for the revised ACT 537 plan. The revised plan will provide for on lot management of sewage systems and provide relief from the previously proposed and financially unsupportable public sewer installation. I would like to point out first that with the adoption of the on lot management system the township will be better postured to move into the future and make intelligent decisions about waste management.

It is well established that the original Act 537 plan was founded on faulty and incomplete data that lead to the appearance of a major need for an advanced waste management system. In short the entire project was little more than a tragic loss of much needed community capital and time. With the new Act 537 plan the township will require documented and on going system assessments and correction of any system found to be unserviceable or defective. The collection of inspection and repair records in turn will allow the township to develop an accurate data base of the septic health of the township. This information, when properly assessed, will allow decisions to be made based on the true needs of the township and in the best interest of the environment. It has not been mentioned that the undertaking of any major township wide excavation is in and of itself a major impact on the environment and should not be undertaken for any but the most compelling of reasons. An accurate and on going assessment of the entire community should have been the first step in this process and should have been the foundation of a competent original ACT 537 plan submission. Adopting the revised plan will allow the township to do what it should have done ten years ago.

It was my pleasure to have been involved with the neighbor's survey and I learned quite a lot about the minds and positions of the neighbors on this issue. I would like to bring forward something that I learned from these conversations. Those that I talked to were almost to the family interested in protecting the environment and were quite informed as to the state of their septic systems. Several families that I talked to were postured to make upgrades to their current systems and were only waiting for a resolution of this matter to proceed. In short they are already managing their systems properly and are being impeded from doing so by this ever ongoing Act 537 process. These people are environmentally conscious and fiscally intelligent. What they wanted most from this Act is to arrive at an intelligent and implementable solution and to be free of what they know is a plan that is neither intelligent nor implementable.

In regard to my own situation I support the new Act 537 plan. The previous plan is by no means affordable to me. The current plan, to the best of my knowledge, has never been accurately estimated. With estimated costs ranging from thirty to fifty thousand dollars and having been generated by a team that has shown it's self to be less

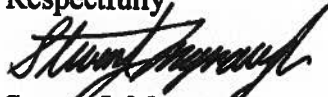
than optimum in an inflating cost environment it is highly likely that the estimate is inaccurate, under valued and dated. Certainly there is no reason to proceed based on any number that has been presented. Considering the numerous deficiencies found in the first act it seems to me unlikely that the contractor could even deliver the product on cost or on time. If it should be undertaken as originally proposed the cost to me could then almost reasonably approach one third of my home's purchase price! This is unsupportable.

With respect to my personal situation I have two children with educations that we are paying for. My eldest is in college and my youngest is in a private school. In 2013 I will have two children in college. We do not and will not be receiving any aide for their educations. In 2014 we will be bringing a special needs person into our home as a permanent member of our household. The appropriate expansions and living expenses will also be an on going burden. My wife and I are in our mid fifty's and have been working constantly since college. In many ways the thought of retiring one day seems increasingly to be little more than a dream to us, imposing another fifty thousand dollar debt on us would severely impact our ability to retire anywhere near on time. You can not retire with significant debt. This is obvious.

The septic system in my home was replaced in the early nineties and is perfectly functional and properly maintained.

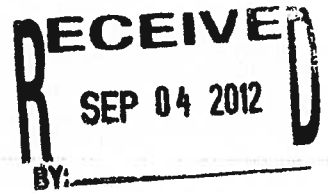
Having said all of this there is actually only one reason to allow the new ACT 537 Plan to be instituted. The new plan should be allowed in substitute of the original because it is the RIGHT THING TO DO. The original plan is not implementable as written. It is not required and it is not affordable. It should never have been presented to the DEP. It is an embarrassment and it requires replacement. Inflicting this plan on the citizens of Westtown would be purely injurious to us. Attempting to inflict any plan on just a portion of the township in order to somehow justify a poor original proposal is also not excusable. Please continue to do the right thing and champion the new plan until it is accepted by the DEP.

Respectfully



Steven J. Mynaugh
1518 Marlboro Road
West Chester, PA 19382

67-3-80



Robert Layman
Westtown Sup. Manager
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Dear Sir:

My husband and I are both
retired and wish to keep our
septic system on site.

We are totally unable to pay
the extreme cost to have
public sewers installed. It
would be an extreme hardship.

Thank you -

Jim + Evelyn Pearson (Reardon)
1543 Marlboro Rd.
West Chester, PA

RECEIVED

AUG 31 2012

BY: _____

67-3-138.39

1610 W LYNDEN

West Chester, Pa

19382

Dear Mr. Lynn

I am writing you to
tell you that we are
residents of Westtown Twp.
for 50 years.

We are senior citizens,
retired and living on a
small fixed income. Years
ago we attended meetings
where no one agreed to junked
our properties now we
now have a septic system on sight ok.

Please help senior citizens and
everyone. Sincerely
Mr. Mrs. Peck

RECEIVED
AUG 28 2012
BY: _____

67-3-144.25

HELEN FLAIG
8/26/12

To: Township Manager
Westtown Township

I am strongly opposed to
the idea of sewers in my portion
of the Township

I am 84 years old, a widow,
and subject on Social Security,
who will pay for a sewer in my
area? How can a resident of
Westtown for almost forty years and
am very satisfied with my on site
system

Helen M. Flaig

1030 Edgewood Chase Dr

RECEIVED
AUG 27 2012

ROBERT LAYMAN
TOWNSHIP MGR

AUGUST 26, 2012

BY: 67-3-125.14

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP

P.O. BOX 179

WESTTOWN, PA. 19395

IN 1963, MY WIFE AND I BOUGHT AN ACRE OF GROUND ON WOODLAND RD. DURING THAT YEAR WE BUILT A SPLIT LEVEL HOME, MOVING IN ON NOV 1964. WE BUILT AND SUB CONTRACTED MOST OF THE WORK FOR OUR DREAM HOME (MY WIFE LIVED IN A ROW HOME AND I IN A TRAIL WITH OUR PARENTS). THE CESSPOOL AND SEPTIC SYSTEM WERE INSTALLED BY CLET EDREDGE. IN 1964. HE WAS THE FATHER AND GRANDFATHER OF THE EDREDGE SANITATION COMPANY LOCATED IN WEST CHESTER. WE WOULD HIGHLY RECOMMEND THIS ORGANIZATION. (SEE ATTACHED FOR ALL OF WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP. IN THE 48 YEARS WE HAVE LIVED HERE, WE HAVE NEVER HAD A PROBLEM. EVERY YEAR WE HAVE THE SYSTEM CHECKED. AT THAT TIME WE HAVE IT PUMPED CLEAN, THE CHARGE IS MINIMAL, FROM \$100 IN EARLY YEARS TO \$300 IN LATER YEARS. WE WOULD CALL THEM OR THEY WOULD SEND US A REMINDER. WE ARE VERY HAPPY WITH THIS ARRANGEMENT AND WOULD HIGHLY RECOMMEND THEM. WE SUPPORT THE ACT 537 MANAGEMENT PLAN OF ON LOT SEWAGE SYSTEM WITH REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT BY PROPERTY OWNER.

WE ARE RETIRED LIVING ON A FIXED INCOME - OUR FUTURE, GOD WILLING TO LIVE HERE UNTIL WE ARE DECEASED WIFE IS 80 IN 82. OUR DAUGHTER AND FAMILY WILL OWN THE HOUSE AT THAT TIME.

WHEN WE MOVED HERE IN 1964 THERE WERE ONLY EIGHT HOUSES. WE ARE THE LONGEST FAMILY LIVING ON WOODLAND RD. AT THAT TIME I COULD LEAVE MY HOUSE, GO INTO WEST CHESTER AND NEVER CATCH A RED/GREEN LIGHT. TODAY THERE ARE THIRTEEN LIGHTS. ^{AT} RFS 352 #3 THERE WAS A STOP SIGN.

Carl & Dorothy Long #

Respectfully,

CARL F. LORENZ II
1512 WOODLAND RD.
WEST CHESTER, PA 19382

P.S. WE LOVE THIS AREA !



November 2007

Dear Neighbor,

As you are probably aware, Westtown Township is reevaluating their plans of sewerage 900 homes in your township due to the rising cost of implementing the project. Instead they are working on an on-lot management program which will define how you are to maintain your septic system. Westtown Township is currently considering whether they will select the contractor who perform the work, or allow you to select the contractor of your choice.

The Eldredge family has been providing quality septic service to residents of Westtown Township since 1958. We hope that you will be able to continue to select your septic service provider.

Please let the township know how you feel about this subject:

Phone: 610-692-1930

E-mail: supervisors@westtown.org

The Eldredge family would like to be Westtown Township's most preferred septic service provider by our uncompromising commitment to quality, integrity and value.

Sincerely,

Curt Eldredge

CALLER

FAX 610-694-9651

322 Turner Lane
West Chester, PA 19380
610-918-8600 Fax 610-429-1312
www.EldredgeSeptic.com

67-2-110

RECEIVED
AUG 27 2012

8/25/12

BY: _____

I'm 81 years of age. I do
have a part time job that pays
less than \$9.00 per hour.
Other than that, I have a very
fixed income.

My system has worked since
living here from 1969.

I'm a party of one.

I have no savings.

If you force this sewage system
on me, I'm one of those people
who you would have to put a lien
on the property.

With the cost of living rising so
fast and my income stagnant,
all I'm doing is treading water

This whole situation is a
total waste of time & money.
It was never needed to begin
with.

Helen Harding
1511 Overhill Rd

RECEIVED 67-3-144.11
AUG 23 2012

1089 Sawflinton Dr.
Gar Mills Pa 19342
August 21, 2012.

Dear Mr. Raymer,

Due to my work schedule I have only been able to get to one meeting regarding the public sewer debate. I am very informed through the web-site + e-mails.

I have lived in this area all my life (67 yrs.) in my present home for 27. We know what we have with on-site septic systems. We do know that won't be the same with grinder pumps. I have been very responsible with maintenance as well as the majority of homeowners. There are septic systems in some wonderful "Main Line" Communities.

I still work so that I can stay here and hopefully to my final days. The extra cost will be burdensome. We have uncertainty across all spectrums of life let us not add any more.
My late husband did everything

^{was}
here followed ^{it} since his death.
Do it right or don't do it at all!

Don't change the old road (if the super-
visors think that is the way to go!) for the
new if the old road is good!

Thank you and in this whole
debate let the voice of the people
be heard.

Sincerely
May Colket

67-2-85

RECEIVED
AUG 22 2012
BY: _____

1014 Woodtone Road
West Chester, PA 19382
August 21, 2012
610-399-0963

Westtown Township Sewer Management
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395-0079

Dear Sir:

I strongly support the "On-site Management Plan". My on-site system has performed as designed since I moved here in 1971. I regularly have it pumped and inspected, and such inspection by the township would insure it continues to function.

I filled out the e-mail questionnaire on August 10, 2012. I'm writing this letter to be sure my views are recorded. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donald Homer

Donald Homer

01-5-108.15



VED
2012

August 20, 2012

Dear Mr. Layman,
Having been a resident in Westtown Township for 35 years, and having raised three children in the process, we would like to

state that during that time period we haven't experienced any overflow of our septic system. We live on just slightly less than an acre and are on public water. If a problem does occur we would be prepared to make the necessary repairs or correction at a significant savings over what it would cost to install the proposed sewer system. While paying for the installation of such an expensive sewer system wouldn't create a major hardship, it will limit my ability to help my grandchildren with ever expanding college expenses and to keep up with our retirement expenses.

In closing, we want to thank the administration for listening and for their work on behalf of the township.

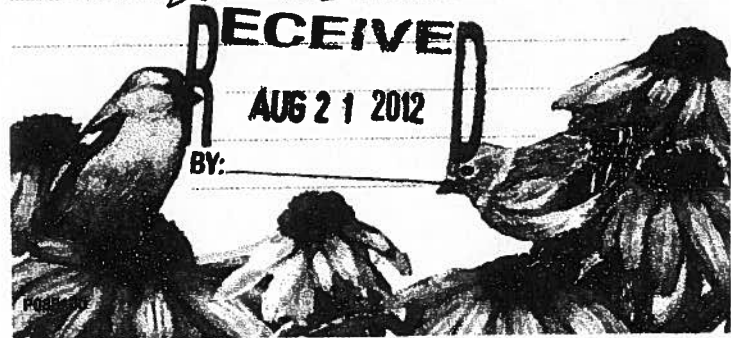
Sincerely,
John & Elaine Hullare
915 S. Chester Rd.
West Chester, PA 19382

MR. ROBERT LAYMAN

AS ROBERT FROMM OF
1521 OVERHILL RD A PROPER
OWNER FOR 51 YRS HAVE
MAINTAINED MY SEWER
SYSTEM AS REQUIRED
EVERY 3 YRS WITH ALL
PAPERS OF BILLS HAVE
HAD NO PROBELMS AS
RESULT AM IN MY 80S
ON FIXED INCOME AND
WIFE ON DISABILITY
AND HANDYCAP

YOURS

Robert E Fromm



RECEIVED
AUG 21 2012
BY: _____

67-3-138.6

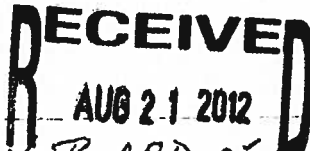
8/20/12

Dear Mr. Robert Layman,
My name is Mrs. Pearl W. Hedges and I live at 631 S. Chester Rd. in Westtown Township. I am the only owner of this property and have never had any problems with my septic system. I can not understand why there was ever any reason to change or make me change to a very costly septic system. My system gets yearly maintenance and has never need anything more. (The actions/wants of a few people have caused me much stress and I do not appreciate their desire to make me suffer financially as well as emotionally. I do not quite know who really lead the push for all this nonsense but I hope to find out soon.)

Thank you
Pearl W. Hedges

67-5-66

8-20-12



TO: WESTTOWN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN REGARDS TO
ACT 537 PLAN AND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION (DEP)

MY NAME IS WILLIAM HELMS AND LIVE AT 1542 CARMAC RD
IN WESTTOWN. I MOVED INTO THIS HOME AUG 29 1961.
MY FAMILY CONSISTED OF 2 ADULTS AND 4 CHILDREN.
UNTIL JUNE OF 1989 OUR SEPTIC SYSTEM WORKED
VERY WELL. HOWEVER WHILE HAVING MY SEPTIC TANK
CLEANED BY JOHN HIGGINS AEO HE INFORMED ME THAT
MY 500 GALLON TANK IS DETERIORATING AND NEEDS
REPLACING. ON 7-7-89 A PERMIT WAS ISSUED TO HAVE
THE OLD TANK REMOVED AND A 1000 GALLON CONCRETE
TANK INSTALLED. JOHN HIGGINS PERFORMED THIS
CHANGE OF TANKS. AS OF NOW I'VE HAD NO
PROBLEMS WITH MY SYSTEM. ATTACHED ARE PAPERS OF CHANGE
EVERY 2 YEARS I HAVE THE TANK PUMPED OUT,
ATTACHED ARE RECEIPTS FROM PAST YEARS CLEANING

THIS IS WHY I SEE NO REASONS OF GOING TO A PUBLIC
SEWER SYSTEM, SHOULD MY SYSTEM DEVELOPE PROBLEMS
I FEEL I HAVE PLENTY OF ROOM IN BACK YARD TO TAKE CARE
OF ANY PROBLEMS.

OF COURSE ONE BIG REASON OF NOT WANTING PUBLIC
SEWERS IS THE "COST." MY WIFE AND I ARE IN OUR 80'S
AND ON A FIXED INCOME. WE WOULD LIKE TO STAY IN OUR
HOME AS LONG AS WE CAN. THE COST OF SEWERS COULD
JEOPARDIZE THIS. ALSO THE YEARLY COST TO THE
TOWNSHIP WOULD HURT. I SINCERELY HOPE YOU WILL
RETHINK PUBLIC SEWERS VERSUS ON LOT

Sincerely
William S Helms

**Leary and Higgins Company
Septic Systems
P.O. Box 1475
West Chester, PA 19380**

May 15, 2006

Dear Valued Customer:

~~For the past 15 years, it has been my pleasure to provide you and other customers with~~
the professional and quality services you have come to expect and deserve. Throughout this time, I have worked diligently to build my business, **Leary and Higgins Company**, into a premier company capable of providing reliable and honest service to my customers.

The purpose of my letter is to inform you that I have made the decision to sell my business to **Aqua Wastewater Management, Inc., (Aqua)**, a sister company of our local water utility, Aqua Pennsylvania, which has been in business in southeastern Pennsylvania since 1886. Aqua will assume ownership on May 16, 2006.

My wife, Kathy, and I are excited about this transaction and would like to inform you that I will be joining the Aqua team as an employee, consistent with my wishes.

Aqua is a professional, well managed, and highly dedicated company, which is why I am so comfortable with my decision to become part of their organization. They have demonstrated a commitment to delivering quality wastewater service. As I mentioned in the open of this letter, I have dedicated the last 15 years of my 27 years experience in wastewater management to this businesses and would not sell it to just any company. I have made this decision with confidence that my customers will continue to be served in the future as they have been in the past.

Sincerely,


John A. Higgins, Jr.

Samuel W. Rice & Son, Inc.



June 12, 1989

William Helms
1542 Carmac Road
West Chester, Pa 19382

Dear Mr. Helms:

Enclosed please find two copies of the Sewage Application Rider for your property. Kindly have both copies signed where indicated on the front and back and have them notarized.

Please return the completed rider in the enclosed, self-addressed, stamped envelope together with your check in the amount of \$15.00, made payable to the Treasurer of Chester County which is for the permit fee. As soon as we receive them, we will start processing same.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

Sincerely,
BFI/SAMUEL W. RICE & SON, INC.

Gary R. Rice
District Manager

GRR:hh
Encl.

SAMUEL W. RICE & SON, INC.
P. O. Box 411
WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19380

JOB ESTIMATE

Phone 696-3454

PHONE

692-4049

DATE

6/21/89

JOB NAME/LOCATION

1542 Carmac Road

West Chester, PA 19380

TO William Helms
1542 Carmac Road
West Chester, PA 19380

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Estimate for the installation of a new 1,000 gallon concrete septic tank, inlet and outlet lines with center manhole to be extended to grade. To include all labor, materials and excavation. We guarantee that the materials and workmanship will meet or exceed all Federal, State and Local Regulatory Agencies' requirements. All work will be inspected by Chester County Health Department upon completion.

NOTE: Upon acceptance of Job Estimate, a down payment of \$900.00 is due in advance. Balance due in full upon completion of work.

AR This price ~~does not~~ include any pumping (if necessary) of the existing sewage system.

The Permittee is informed of the well and the structure for lot six issuing a permit in accordance with the Act of January 1968 to preclude the enforcement of the Act of January 1968 in the event of malfunctioning of the well and the structure.

TO

AS DESCRIBED
DOES NOT INCLUDE
INITIAL LABOR AND
UNFORESEEN
ARISE AFTER

ESTIMATED
JOB COST

\$1,800.00

ESTIMATED
BY

Gary R. Rice

***SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

PERMIT

for

INSTALLATION OF SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM

Pursuant to Application for Sewage Disposal System Number: J21064
a permit is hereby issued to:

William Helms 672-4049
NAME OF APPLICANT

1542 Carnac Rd. W. Chester, PA 19382
ADDRESS OF APPLICANT

Same - Repair - Whittown Twp
PROPERTY ADDRESS OF SITE FOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM

Tank Replacement

This permit issued under the provision of the "Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act" the Act of January 24, 1966 (P.L.1535), as amended, is subject to the following conditions:

1. Except as otherwise provided by the Act or Regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, no part of the installation shall be covered until inspected by the approving body and approval to cover is granted in writing below as per Section 7(b)(3) of the Act.
2. This Permit may be revoked for the reasons set forth in Section 7(b)(6) of the Act.
3. This Permit expires two (2) years from the date of issuance, unless construction of the building and system has commenced in accordance with Section 7(b)(7) of the Act.
4. Notify this Department (3446578) upon starting construction of house and sewage system.
5. Obtain prior approval from this Department for any changes, revisions, deviations, etc.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS: This Permit does not remove the necessity for obtaining Municipal building and/or zoning Permits. **THIS PERMIT IS NOT TRANSFERRABLE UNLESS APPROVED BY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.**

Approval to Cover
Carol Hoegger
Signature of Enforcement Officer
8/9/89
Date

Date of Issuance of Permit 7/7/89
CHESTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Approving Body
Carol Hoegger
Signature of Enforcement Officer

The basis for the issuance of this Permit is the information supplied in the Application for Sewage Disposal System and other pertinent data concerning soil absorption tests, topography, lot size, and subsoil groundwater table elevations. The Permit only indicates that the issuing authority is satisfied that the installation of the Sewage Disposal System is in accordance with the Rules, Regulations and Standards adopted by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, the Act of January 24, 1966 (P.L.1535), as amended. The issuance of a Permit shall not preclude the enforcement of other health laws, ordinances or Regulations in the case of malfunctioning of the system.

Permittee is informed of the requirement to obtain a well permit prior to beginning construction of the well and the structures.

TO BE POSTED AT THE BUILDING SITE

INVOICE

AQUA.

AQUA Wastewater Management, Inc.

10-13-10

PO Box 822552
Philadelphia, PA 19182
Phone: 800.338.9271
Fax: 215.799.2205

PA State Homeowner Protection Act
Registration # PA022859

BILL TO: *William Helms*

Date	Technician	Technician 2	Arrival Time	Departure Time
10-13-10	<i>Ann</i>		1:00	1:15
Service Description				Amount
<i>Septic tank pump out</i>				<i>230.00</i>
<i>10-13-10</i>				
<i>Ann OK #</i>				
<i>4135</i>				
<i>230.00</i>				
Total				<i>230.00</i>
Amount Paid				<i>120.00</i>
Balance				<i>110.00</i>

Signature of Approval of Work & Payment Terms (Late charge fee of \$15 will be applied to overdue accounts.) Date

INVOICE

AQUA.

Wastewater Management, Inc.

PO Box 822552
Philadelphia, PA 19182-2552

Phone: 800.338.9271
Fax: 215.799.2205

6-19-08

BILL TO: *HELMS*
1542 CARMAC RD
WEST CHESTER

Date	Technician	Technician 2	Arrival Time	Departure Time
6-19-08	<i>Bob</i>	<i>Joanne</i>	<i>9:50</i>	<i>10:35</i>
Service Description				Amount
<i>pump septic tank 1000 g.</i>				<i>225.00</i>
<i>coupon</i>				<i>-15.00</i>
<i>PD ✓ # 3804</i>				<i>210.00</i>
<i>Fuel Surcharge</i>				<i>+10.00</i>
Total				<i>220.00</i>
Amount Paid				
Balance				

Signature of Approval of Work & Payment Terms (\$25 late fee per month over 30 days past due.)

Date

Leary & Higgins Company

Septic Systems

P. O. Box 1475
West Chester, PA 19380

Phone # Fax #

610-692-0231 610-692-9032

Bill To

William Helms
1542 Carmac Road
West Chester, PA 19382

Q 10 692-4049

11-10-05

Invoice No.

4396

Date

11/10/2005

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Septic Tank | <input type="checkbox"/> Grease Trap | <input type="checkbox"/> Open Inlet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cesspool | <input type="checkbox"/> Pump Tank | <input type="checkbox"/> Open Outlet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holding Tank | <input type="checkbox"/> Impoundment | <input type="checkbox"/> Snake |
- E H

Cleaning & Disposal 195.00	Labor/Digging	Labor/Heavy	Other	Total Charge 195.00	
Disposal Site	Gallons Pumped 1000	Number of Hoses 4 1/4	Truck Number 103	Time In	Time Out

Terms

Net 15

Date	Description	Amount
11/10/05	Pd 195.00 CK # 3306	

Leary & Higgins Company

Septic Systems

P. O. Box 1475
West Chester, PA 19380

Phone # Fax #

610-692-0231 610-692-9032

Invoice

Invoice #

1350

Date

11/20/03

11-20-03

Pd 170.00
CK # 2863

Bill To

William Helms
1542 Carmac Road
West Chester, PA 19382
610-692-4049

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Septic Tank | <input type="checkbox"/> Grease Trap | <input type="checkbox"/> Open Inlet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cesspool | <input type="checkbox"/> Pump Tank | <input type="checkbox"/> Open Outlet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holding Tank | <input type="checkbox"/> Impoundment | <input type="checkbox"/> Snake |
- E H

Cleaning & Disposal 170.00	Labor/Digging	Labor/Heavy	Other	Total Charge 170.00
Disposal Site V.F.	Gallons Pumped 1000	Number of Hoses 4 1/4	Time In	Time Out

Terms

Net 15

Date	Description	Amount
11/20/03	S.T. R side Rear	

NAME:

Helms William & Katherine

ADDRESS:

1542 Curran Rd

PHONE:

610-404-1938

JOB LOCATION:

72-4049

12-18-01

LEARY & HIGGINS CO
Septic Systems

P.O. BOX 1475
WEST CHESTER, PA 19380
(610) 692-0231

- SEPTIC TANK
- GREASE TRAP
- OPEN INLET
- CESSPOOL
- PUMP TANK
- OPEN OUTLET
- HOLDING TANK
- IMPOUNDMENT
- SNAKE
- E
- H

SERVICE DATE 12-18-01

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES				NET 10 DAYS	
CLEANING & DISPOSAL	LABOR/DIGGING	LABOR/HEAVY	OTHER	TOTAL CHARGE	
\$105.00				\$165.00	
DISPOSAL SITE	GALLONS PUMPED	NUMBER OF HOSES	TRUCK NUMBER	TIME IN	TIME OUT
Valley Forge	1000	4 1/2	103		

LOCATION DESCRIPTION:

CONDITION OF SYSTEM:

pd \$165.00
C# 2475

paid 12-18-01
2475

NAME:

Helms William

ADDRESS:

1542 Curran Road

PHONE:

West Chester Pa 19382
610-404-1938

JOB LOCATION:

12-97

LEARY & HIGGINS CO
Septic Systems

P.O. BOX 1475
WEST CHESTER, PA 19380
(610) 692-0231

- SEPTIC TANK
- GREASE TRAP
- OPEN INLET
- CESSPOOL
- PUMP TANK
- OPEN OUTLET
- HOLDING TANK
- IMPOUNDMENT
- SNAKE
- E
- H

SERVICE DATE 12-18-01

5120

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES				NET 10 DAYS	
CLEANING & DISPOSAL	LABOR/DIGGING	LABOR/HEAVY	OTHER	TOTAL CHARGE	
\$130.00				\$130.00	
DISPOSAL SITE	GALLONS PUMPED	NUMBER OF HOSES	TRUCK NUMBER	TIME IN	TIME OUT
VF	1000	5	102		

LOCATION DESCRIPTION:

CONDITION OF SYSTEM:

SIDE YARD
LID AT GRADE

GOOD

#1501

NAME: [Handwritten]
 ADDRESS: 7542 Carmac Road
 PHONE: [Handwritten] (692-4049)
 JOB LOCATION:

5-94



- SEPTIC TANK
- GREASE TRAP
- OPEN INLET
- CESSPOOL
- PUMP TANK
- OPEN OUTLET
- HOLDING TANK
- IMPOUNDMENT
- SNAKE
- E
- H

SERVICE DATE: 05-23-96

INT 4108

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES				NET 10 DAYS	
CLEANING & DISPOSAL	LABOR/DIGGING	LABOR/HEAVY	OTHER	TOTAL CHARGE	
<u>\$30.00</u>				<u>\$30.00</u>	
DISPOSAL SITE	GALLONS PUMPED	NUMBER OF HOSES	TRUCK NUMBER	TIME IN	TIME OUT
<u>HSTCN</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>101</u>		<u>AM</u>

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: SIDE YARD
LID AT GRADE

CONDITION OF SYSTEM: OK

PAID # 1192

NAME: Helms, William
 ADDRESS: 1542 Carmac Road
 West Chester, PA 19382
 PHONE: 692-4049
 JOB LOCATION: Ches 33 C-11 / Westtown / Off #352

11-94



- SEPTIC TANK
- GREASE TRAP
- OPEN INLET
- CESSPOOL
- PUMP TANK
- OPEN OUTLET
- HOLDING TANK
- IMPOUNDMENT
- SNAKE
- E
- H

SERVICE DATE: 11-10-94

002108

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES				TOTAL CHARGE	
CLEANING & DISPOSAL	LABOR/DIGGING	LABOR/HEAVY	OTHER	TOTAL CHARGE	
<u>25.00</u>				<u>105.00</u>	
DISPOSAL SITE	GALLONS PUMPED	NUMBER OF HOSES	TRUCK NUMBER	TIME IN	TIME OUT
	<u>1000</u>	<u>5</u>			

LOCATION DESCRIPTION: Right Side of House

CONDITION OF SYSTEM: GOOD

CUSTOMER SIGNATURE: _____ REQUESTED BY: _____ DRIVER: _____

RECEIVED
AUG 17 2012

8/16/12

Dear Sir:

As a resident of Westtown at 409 Leslie Lane in West Wyo I for 45 years I have a well maintained septic system.

Therefore, as a widow on a fixed income I am opposed to the proposal of a sewer system that I can not afford to pay for, with the high price of fuel oil, food prices and no increase in income I repeat I can not afford to pay for this sewer system.

Yours truly,
Mrs. Georgia Horwath

RECEIVED
AUG 16 2012
BY: _____

Henry A. Price
1019 Robin Drive
West Chester, PA 19382

August 15, 2012

Mr. Robert Hayman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19385

Dear Mr. Hayman:

We have been in our home for over 30 years and have had no problems with our "on lot" system to date.

The system was updated a number of years ago and all we do is have David Hickman come every few years to pump out our septic tank.

We are both in our 20s and do not need any added expenses.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Henry and Kathryn Price

RECEIVED
AUG 13 2012
BY: _____

67-2-77

August 13, 2012

Sharon & John Bush
1535 CARMAL RD
WEST CHESTER, PA 19382
[610] 430-6693

ATTN: Robert Layman - Township Manager

RE: ACT 537 ON SITE MANAGEMENT PLAN

WE DO NOT NEED PUBLIC SEWERS
WE DO NOT WANT PUBLIC SEWERS
WE CAN NOT AFFORD PUBLIC SEWERS
NEITHER CAN THE TOWNSHIP

Sincerely,

Sharon & John Bush

RECEIVED

SEP 05 2012

1056 Edgewood Chase Drive
Glen Mills, PA 19342
September 5, 2012

67-3-144.2

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P. O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Dear Mr. Layman:

This letter is in regard to the Act 537 On-Site Management Plan. We support this plan for the following reasons.

We are the original owners of a home in the Edgewood Chase development, having built our home here in the early 1970s. We have never had any problems with our septic system in these past 40 years. We have our tank pumped out regularly. It is our experience that the on-site management plan is a positive and cost-effective one.

My wife and I are retired senior citizens on a fixed income. We can't imagine the financial burden of paying for the grinder sewer system.

I have first hand knowledge and experience with the grinder system, and it's inferior. It was temporarily installed at a swimming pool where I worked one summer, and it clogged weekly and had to be dug up and cleaned out. I doubt few residents know about this system and its weaknesses.

In closing we want to emphasize again that we support the Act 537 On-Site Management Plan. Please enclose this letter with the township's proposed plan to the D.E.P.

Sincerely,



Richard and Helen Koshgerian

ANNE AND MARK CRUPI

1553 MARLBORO ROAD

WEST CHESTER, PA 19382

AUGUST 22, 2012

MR ROBERT LAYMAN

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP

P.O. Box 79

WESTTOWN PA 19395

DEAR MR. LAYMAN,

THIS LETTER IS TO REINFORCE THE PROPOSAL OF
ON LOT SEWAGE MANAGEMENT.

OUR FAMILY MOVED TO WESTTOWN FROM DECCO
IN 2006 TO RAISE OUR CHILDREN IN AN EXCELLENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT AND PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT.

WHEN WE PURCHASED OUR HOME, AS A CONDITION
OF SALE, WE WERE INFORMED THAT THE CESSPOOL
WAS OLD, AND SHOULD BE REPLACED EVEN THOUGH
THERE WERE NO SYMPTOMS OR REPORTED PROBLEMS.

WE WERE TOLD THAT PUBLIC SEWERS WOULD SOON
BE COMING TO THE AREA, SO WE DECIDED TO
WAIT AND SEE WHAT WOULD BE HAPPENING.

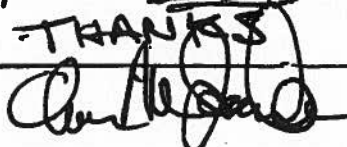
AFTER GOING TO THE 2006 PUBLIC MEETINGS, AND

SEEING THE COST THAT THE RESIDENTS WOULD BE FORCED TO PAY TO HOOK UP TO THE SYSTEM, WE BECAME VERY UPSET. THAT WE MOVED HERE.

BEING NEW HOMEOWNERS, WE WERE ALREADY STRETCHED THIN FINANCIALLY, NOW WE WERE BEING TOLD WE WOULD HAVE TO TAKE OUT ANOTHER LOAN? WE WERE AFFAILED THAT THE TOWNSHIP WAS TELLING RESIDENTS WITH RECENTLY INSTALLED SYSTEMS (THAT WERE BEING FINANCED) THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO ABANDON THOSE SYSTEMS AND HOOK UP. ALL OF THIS WOULD COST ADDITIONAL MONEY TO TAKE PLACE.

NOW, SIX YEARS LATER, WE HAVE STILL NOT EXPERIENCE A PROBLEM WITH OUR SYSTEM. WE HAVE ALSO EVALUATED OUR FINANCIAL STATUS, AND CONCLUDED THAT WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD THE EXORBITANT COSTS TO ABANDON OUR FUNCTIONING SYSTEM AND HOOK UP TO PUBLIC SEWER. WHAT WE HAVE MANAGED TO SAVE IS FOR OUR CHILDRENS EDUCATION. (ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS WE MOVED HERE)

IN THE EVENT WE NEED TO REPLACE OUR SYSTEM WE WOULD MUCH RATHER HAVE AN 'ON LOT' SYSTEM THAT WE CAN MANAGE, IN THE LONG-RUN IT WOULD BE CHEAPER, AND MAY PREVENT US FROM RELOCATING. DONT NEED, WANT, NOR, CAN AFFORD.

THANKS
 Mark Crupit

TO:

Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

FROM:

Paul & Adrienne Egan
1024 Robin Drive
West Chester, PA 19382

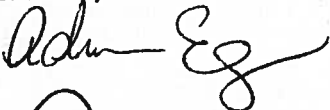

RE: Act 537 Plan, Full Support of On-Site Management Plan

We are in full support of the West Chester 537 plan submission to keep on-site waste management and not move to public sewers. There are two main reasons.

- 1) We do not need it. Our current system was installed in 2009 as "state of the art" at a cost of about \$25,000 and functions well. Its expected life is significant and as such there is no reason that it needs to be replaced.
- 2) We would not be able to afford the expense without a significant adverse impact on our family finances. This change would significantly impact our ability to prepare for college and retirement expenses.

Thank you.

Paul & Adrienne Egan
September 4, 2012

~~Philip J. Silver~~
1002 South Chester Rd.
West Chester, PA 19382

September 4, 2012

Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Dear Mr. Layman,

I'm sending you this letter in regard to Draft Act 537. According to the latest survey of on site septic systems in the township there are only a few homes in the township that are currently having problems with their on site septic systems. These few homes should not be driving the installation of an exorbitant sewer upgrade. The data just doesn't support the installation of sewage grinders on our front lawns at this time!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Philip J. Silver".

LINDA DEJESUS
1554 MARLBORO ROAD
WEST CHESTER, PA 19382

AUGUST 22, 2012

DEAR MR. LAYMAN,

THIS LETTER IS TO INFORM YOU THAT I CANNOT AFFORD, WANT, OR NEED PUBLIC SEWER.

WHEN MY PARTNER AND I PURCHASED OUR HOME IN 2006, A NEW SEPTIC SYSTEM WAS INSTALLED AS A CONDITION OF SALE. I AM DISABLED, AND MY PARTNER, ED HEIMARK, HAS RECENTLY PASSED AWAY. I AM ON A FIXED BUDGET, AND ANY FORCED SEWER PROJECT WOULD CREAT UNDUE FINANCIAL STRESS.

MY NEIGHBOR, ANNE CRUDI, HELPED ME PREPARE THIS STATEMENT.

THANK YOU

LINDA K DEJESUS

Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
1039 Wilmington Pike
West Chester, PA 19382

4 September 2012

Re: Residents' Personal Submission to Supervisors and DEP for Public Comment
re Current Draft 537 Plan

Richard & Barbara Pomerantz, 1005 Robin Drive, West Chester PA 19382

To Whom It May Concern:

Our reason for supporting Westtown Township's draft 537 On Site Septic Management Plan is simple:

- The plan is the *first* in any and all of Westtown's prior submissions to DEP that is based on current, specific, professionally and accurately gathered documentation.
- This draft plan as currently submitted is the *only* plan with the premise that accurate, current information, correctly gathered and analyzed will lead to appropriate options. Versus any and all prior submissions which were:
 - predicated on a desired end result and information, according to the Supervisors and URS, their consulting engineering firm
 - that was specifically selected and
 - "packaged" to meet that requirement.
- The new, current data clearly shows, and is supported by Chester County Health Dept. and Planning Commission, that there is currently no need for sewers to be added to Westtown Township, certainly not arbitrarily en masse for the 392 households the grinder plan targeted.

- But what *has* been needed, for a very long time, including during a period when our Supervisors had an obligation both to DEP and the residents of Westtown, is the very ON SITE MANAGEMENT PLAN being proposed now.
- The 392 homes included in the April 2012 Rustin Presentations which were singled out for sewerage as a result of a consent decree, were unfairly targeted. By Westtown Supervisors. By URS, its consulting engineering firm. By legal counsel, etc.
- We are among the 392.
 - Having had neither knowledge of, nor even the opportunity to engage personal legal representation in the matter.
 - Financially encumbered by a then acknowledged low-ball financial number which has now—
—with careful, thoughtful, information based analysis — mushroomed to not less than \$31,300 *per household*.
- We support the current draft plan as it provides the first and only effort to fairly, accurately and genuinely take into consideration REAL DATA. GATHERED REAL TIME. BASED ON ACTUAL ON SITE CONDITIONS.
- Please do misunderstand us: We recognize that DEP has good reason to be distrustful of anything coming from Westtown Township. For it's clear that the Township has never demonstrated the ability to follow through on its promises.....until threatened with a lawsuit. Paid for only recently by taxpayer funds—funds our Township can't afford to spend, but spend it did.
 - BECAUSE of this, BECAUSE we as residents felt similarly, WE RESIDENTS gathered, organized, and have in a consultative and collaborative way—spoken up and taken action — worked through the summer, since the day of the last Rustin presentation, to *insist* on the hiring of a qualified (with no long term economic ties or vested interest to WesttownTwnship) professional to oversee a fair and objective evaluation process to lead our township to appropriate, logical conclusions based on current data and conditions, and appropriate options to meet the DEP consent decree.
 - We have spent hundreds of man-hours working together as residents—something which one could argue every Township populace including ours should do... and in our case should have done long ago. Mea Culpa.
 - We learned our collective lesson the hard way...but fortunately before it was too late.
 - So now, our sleeping giant having been awakened, we will never again simply fade into the background, even after this submission.
 - Said simply: We cannot afford to do so:
 - For so many among the 392 households who have been traumatically impacted by what all of us know is at best a very anemic economic recovery after the worst recession since the Great Depression (e.g. savings depleted...retirement investments

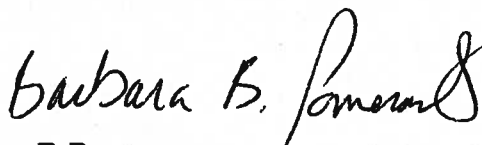
eviscerated...the cancer of rampant unemployment and underemployment...and the need to save for the incredibly high costs for college educations--including State schools)

- For Westtown Township itself with its disproportionately low tax base (lots of schools and churches...little commercial base), yet encumbered with millions and millions of extraordinary debt due to candidly ridiculously irresponsible spending decisions of previous Supervisor Boards.
 - Like we said: we the residents have learned the lesson of our apathy. So whilst we wish but cannot undo some of those irresponsible decisions, we have put this Board of Supervisors and future elected officials on notice that we the residents will never allow that to happen again...including the inexcusable decision of not responding appropriately to the ACT 537 Mandate until a private lawsuit led to the Consent Decree settlement.
- We firmly believe the On Lot Management Plan is the fair, right, and appropriate course. And DEP can be assured we will demand of our Town Supervisors that we continue to be included in the process of following through during and after plan approval. And through its eventual implementation. And beyond, without limitation.
- We recognize that we as citizens must take responsibility and so we do. We have DEMONSTRATED through our responsible actions that we can be a constructive force in our township. And will continue to do so in a structured, formal manner, to be proposed to the Supervisors at an upcoming meeting.
- In conclusion, we support the current Westtown DEP 537 plan because it is fair, honest, forthcoming and appropriate for our Township, now and into the future. It will allow for mandated septic system management that will accurately provide timely information in the years to come, upon which informed decisions can be made when, as and if appropriate.

Submitted With Respect,



Richard Pomerantz



Barbara B. Pomerantz

1005 Robin Drive, West Chester, PA 19382

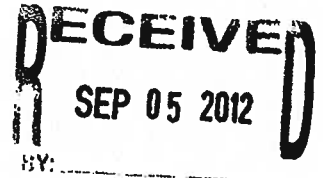
Hand Delivered September 4, 2012

ROBERT J. + SUSAN S. MCGURK
1422 BOBOLINK LANE
WEST CHESTER (WESTTOWN), PA 19382
SEPTEMBER 4, 2012

Mr. Robert Layman
WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP MANAGER

U7-2R-20

Dear Mr. Layman:



My wife and I have been residents of WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP since about 1971 when we bought our existing home on BOBOLINK LANE (WESTTOWN TWP). The home at that time, and still has, an on-site septic system with which we have been very happy and satisfied.

I will be 80 in 3 months, and have been unemployed for about 5 years. I have no significant income other than my small SSI. My wife is 72, and is in essentially the same financial situation as I am.

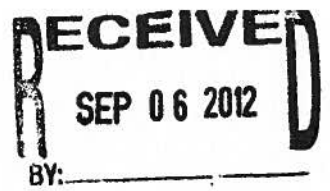
This letter is in response to the on-going township sewer plan (ACT #537 PW) which is being considered for implementation in our TOWNSHIP. We've attended several recent meetings regarding the possibility of either a gravity pump system or a grinder pump system. My wife and I are not in favor of either system because of any financial cost -- again, we are very pleased with our present on-site septic system which we have pumped regularly.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide you with this information, if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

x Robert J. McGurk
Robert J. McGurk
x Susan S. McGurk
Susan S. McGurk

67-3-46



Dear Mr. Layman:

I am writing in response to Act 537. I am completely opposed to it.

The system we have now is in good working condition, and is well maintained.

We cannot financially afford the cost, and have no means in which to raise that kind of money.

Being the homeowner and taxpayer, it should be my choice.

Thank you,

Karen Yiles

1546 Johnny's Way

RECEIVED
SEP 06 2012

01 - 174.50

Anthony and Valerie Rufo
1045 Powderhorn Drive
Glen Mills, PA 19342
September 5, 2012

Robert Layman, Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

RE: Act 537 Plan

Dear Mr. Layman,

We would like to add our voices to be counted in against forcing Westtown homeowners to have to hook up to sewers. We fully support the on site maintenance plan for existing septic systems.

We have lived here since 1994. Our system was completely replaced and certified by the township before we could occupy this home. We have faithfully kept up the annual maintenance of clean outs as recommended by the contractor, Karen Vickers with no problems.

To force us to hook into a sewer system would be financially devastating. We just don't have that kind of money to pay for it. Trust us, if we did, we wouldn't be living with a dumpy original kitchen from 1972!

Our family is not wealthy. We have worked hard to maintain our home in this wonderful township for 18 years, while putting two kids through Catholic elementary and high schools and then college. With all of the tuitions, we have just about made it some years. We are still paying back loans for that along with the cost of everything rising all the time. Because of the recession, this household has gone three years without a raise in income to help meet the new costs. Add to this mix a frail, elderly uncle and a sick, underpaid sister who are very frequently financially dependent on us, you can get the picture pretty clearly.

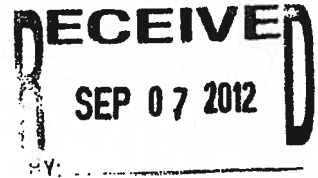
We have been married for 32 years and have always been prudent with our finances and tried to save for the future. We don't like to carry debt. We don't own fancy jewelry, lots of stocks and investments or high end cars. (A Fusion and Impala were in our budget.) We hope to see retirement in the next ten years or so. By making us have to go into to debt to pay for hooking into the sewer system will make that long awaited dream moot. So much for our long term planning.

Mr. Layman, we appreciate the difficult job that you and everyone on the Board have in running Westtown Township. (We saw your difficulties first hand last summer with our relatives' struggle over their pole barn in Edgewood Chase. We really felt for you all!) We appreciate all that everyone does to make this such a wonderful place to live. Please don't make it so we can't afford to live here any more. Our septic system works just fine. We can't afford the expense to hook into public sewers. Please allow on site maintenance to continue and be the law. Thank you for considering our plea.

Sincerely,

Anthony and Valerie Rufo
Anthony and Valerie Rufo

67-2-82



Harry and Mary McFadden
1520 Overhill Road
West Chester, PA 19382

Mr. Robert Layman
Township Manager
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Dear Mr. Layman:

I am writing to you to express my concerns about the possible installation of public sewers in Westtown Township. It is my understanding that public sewers would cost each of the affected residents at least \$20,000.00.

My wife and I have been paying college tuition for our children since 2003. This ongoing expense has left us with significant debt and little savings. We cannot afford \$20,000.00 or more to pay for public sewers. I encourage the DEP and Westtown Township to accept the proposed on lot management plan.

Our home is on a 100' x 375' lot with a septic system that was installed in 1994 and is in good working order. The septic system is maintained properly and does not need to be replaced.

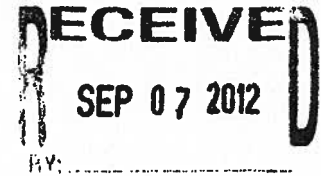
Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry McFadden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Harry McFadden

07-2-108



Tracy Pautz
Sarah Wolfe
1519 Overhill Road
West Chester, PA 19382

September 3, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

We have lived in Westtown for 3 years now. As first time homebuyers, most of our savings was used for the down payment and closing cost of our home. We are currently paying two sets of student loans for undergraduate and graduate school as well as car loans, and daily costs of property maintenance. We cannot afford to have the original 537 plan passed that requires us to provide funds for a public sewer system. If the original 537 plan were approved, it would cause heavy financial burden between an additional mortgage in order to pay for the initial cost, as well the ongoing maintenance fees.

We have a fairly new septic system that we properly maintain each year. The On-Site Management plan is more accommodating to our household. It is the responsibility of the homeowners to maintain their septic system, and to pay for repairs when necessary. We purchased this home with these expectations. If we had known that this change was a possibility, it would have deterred us from buying in this neighborhood. We cannot begin to imagine how this plan would hurt the unemployed families in our neighborhood or the families living on fixed incomes. The neighborhood will suffer and many of the fixed income families will be forced to sell their homes, of which many are original owners. Even for families that are not on fixed incomes, the additional financial burden can cause stress and money difficulties for years to come.

Thank you for considering the demographics of your current residents and modifying your 537 Plan to be an On-Site Management plan. We hope to continue to live in this neighborhood for many years. Please vote on the On-Site Management plan, because you don't need to fix what isn't broken.

Sincerely,

Tracy Pautz

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracy Pautz". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Sarah Wolfe

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Wolfe". The signature is written in a cursive style.

67-2R-8

RECEIVED
SEP 07 2012

9/4/2012
Robert Layman
Township Manager
Westtown Township
P.O Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Mr. Layman,

I am writing in regards to the Westtown Act 537 proposal for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Like most of the homeowners involved with this proposal, I am in favor of an on lot managed septic system for our waste concerns.

My wife and I purchased our home at 1423 Bobolink Lane approximately one year ago. During the sale and settlement, there was no mention of the township considering a transition to public sewers. We bought this home believing we would use the septic systems for several years to come. We made sure we had a local reputable company conduct a through inspection of the septic system and they provided us with an evaluation indicating the system was in proper working order, had been well maintained, and should not be a concern during the sale. We took every precaution to verify the condition of the system and make sure we were not going to have any problems with it. Once again, we are, and always have been, under the impression that we will use the on lot septic system for the next several years.

Currently, we do not have any problems with the system and do not have any interest in getting public sewer. Our house was not one of the ones previous identified with any problems. Our in ground on lot septic system has met our needs well for the past year and I know of no reason why it will not continue to provide years of service to my family.

To the best of my knowledge, the majority of the residents under consideration with the Act 537 proposal do not want a public sewer system. Personally, the financial burden will be more than my family can handle. When we purchased this home last year, we paid fair market value and do not have much equity built up in the house. As a younger couple, we have multiple expenses aside from our mortgage and are still spending money on various home repairs and areas of

concern. We also have a five-year daughter, who has various financial needs for us to meet.

I see nothing positive about forcing a public sewer system on the township residents and we have no intention of supporting the proposal in any way. Aside from being a financial burden for my family, we also see it as a waste of time, since our current septic system was recently inspected and is working properly. We do not need a public sewer system.

I know other families affected by this proposal feel the same way and I implore you to consider the needs and wants of the residents of the township. Of the handful of homes identified with septic system issues, several of them have already been rectified. By forcing the public sewer system on my family and the residents of the township, you are punishing us unnecessarily. Please consider the facts here and make the proper decision to use the on lot managed septic system plan currently proposed for the residents of Westtown. We are very happy with the way things are and have no interest in a public sewer system.

Thank you for your time and interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

The Harris Family

1423 Bobolink Lane

West Chester, PA 19382

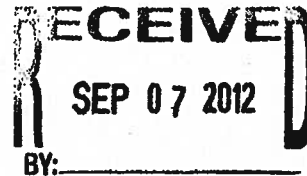
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Harris", written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth Harris

67-3-144.28

August 26, 2012

Westtown Township
c/o Robert Layman
P.O. Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395



Re; Act 527

Dear Mr. Layman,

My name is Frank Griffin and my family resides at 1049 Edgewood Chase Drive. We have a fully functional and inspected septic system on our property. We understand that the Township has considered in submitting a plan that will consider a septic maintenance system. In fact, I have been in contact with our state Senator and Representative whom both have confirmed to me that the DEP is definitely open to a septic maintenance system for our Township. That being said, I hope that the rest of this letter will be mute but it still must be part of the record.

We are against forcing residents to use the public sewer system for the following reasons:

1. There is no hard evidence that proves that any groundwater contamination has anything to do with our septic systems. The contamination is more likely due to run off from the various farms or is coming from another township. If we all maintain our septic systems it would be just as effective as using a public sewer system. As residents we have already showed our commitment to this in the past and would continue to do it in the future, whether we are required to by law or not.
2. A public sewer is subject to problems as much as a septic system. I have lived where we were hooked up to the public sewer system. There were numerous times where underground pipes burst and the run off of that is equal to the amount of homes on the line, whereas if a septic system has a problem you are only dealing with the run-off of one home. The grinder pumps that we will be forced to purchase run on electricity. If the power goes out, which it does a lot in this neighborhood, we will not be able to use the bathrooms. We do not run into this problem now.
3. Finally, the cost of connecting to the sewer system is something we cannot afford. We bought this house 7½ years ago when the housing market was still good. I held two mortgages for over a year before we sold our former residence. At that time the real estate market tanked and we got a lot less for the house than we had anticipated. At the present our mortgage is in excess of the fair market value of our home. In order to make ends meet we had to use credit cards to pay our bills. After two years I was laid off of my job. I was out of work for two months and had to settle for a lesser paying job. I worked there for two years and again was laid off and was out of work for six months. Again I had to settle for a lesser paying job while in the meantime energy prices are going through the roof. I was getting less and less and everything

was costing more and more. Again credit cards were our only way to make ends meet. At the present we are almost maxed out on all the cards and we have been denied additional credit. We have three children that live with us and all are in college. Also our 86 year old mother lives with us. If we are forced to use the public sewer system we would have no choice no possible means of coming up with the cost nor incurring another loan payment.

I hope you consider what effect the Township is causing their residents for suggesting that they join the public sewer without consciously thinking how it would impact them, especially since a septic maintenance system would be acceptable by the DEP. I sincerely hope you take credence to this letter and the others from other concerned constituents.

Yours Truly,

Frank Griffin

RECEIVED
SEP 07 2012

1613 W. Lynn Dr.
Gloria Castorani
(Homeowner)

August 30, 2012

Dear Mr. Lehman,

The purpose of this letter is to inform Westport Board of Supervisors that it is my opinion - on site management is the best solution for the needs of the sewage problem of this neighborhood. The other plan would be a financial hardship for many residents. I might add I do not have any problems with my cesspool. Hope it stays that way.

Respectfully,
Gloria Castorani

67-3-138.30

**Act 537 Plan for Westtown Township
Resident's Comment 9/09/2012**

My name is Dane Criddle.

Susie and I live at 1412 Johnny's Way, West Chester, PA.

We built our home in South Penn Woods in 1970 and at that time we had an On-lot sewage system installed. We have conscientiously maintained our system over the years, we have it pumped every two years and it is working perfectly. Our lot is a flat one acre lot with enough room for another On-lot sewage system, when needed. We raised our two sons here and both have lived away from home since 2002 and only Susie and I live here now. We have upgraded our toilets, dishwasher and washing machine to lower water usage models. Susie retired in 2005 after 30 years with the West Chester Area School District and likes to travel; and I am working at our family business Chalmers & Kubeck in Aston, PA. For all of the above reasons, our sewage discharge is considerable less that it used to be, resulting in less demand on our sewage system.

We unconditionally support Westtown Townships Act 537 proposed On-lot Sewage Management plan for our entire township, excluding, of course, those homes that are currently connected to the sewer. We know that the overwhelming majority of all On-lot sewage systems are currently fully functional, and many residents have replaced their systems over the years because of either capacity, functional problems or because they were selling their home and the buyer's Mortgage Company required it. Out of our approximately 2500 homes in the township, only eight are known to have no apparent On-lot sewage solution. For these few homes, the practical solution is an On-lot sewage storage tank which will need to be pumped at a frequency determined by the tank size and their discharge amount. The cost of this solution is so drastically less than the cost of a township sewer system, that this solution is literally unquestionable. Of course, there may be other solutions available in the future.

We believe that all residents with an On-lot sewage system who agree to responsibly maintain their system, as we have done for the past forty-two years and as have the majority of our residents, should not be forced to destroy their current working system and hook up to a public sewer system. The total costs to each home owner are staggering and the increase in the Westtown Township debt is unmanageable.

In Summary,

- 1. There is no justifiable reason why we should be required to shut down our fully functioning Sewage System that we own, and we maintain. When maintenance or replacement is required on our On-lot system, as the homeowners, it is our financial responsibly to take care of the problem and to pay for it.**
- 2. Many residences can NOT afford the costs of a Gravity Sewer System or a Grinder pump system, but they can afford to keep the On-lot system they already own. We all know - These are difficult economic times with high unemployment and the money to pay for sewers is just not there in many cases, Period.**

**Kind regards,
Dane and Susie Criddle
1412 Johnny's Way
West Chester, PA 19382
Dane.Criddle@verizon.net
(h) 610-399-1305
(w) 484-482-1230**

RESIDENT COMMENTS TO WESTTOWN ACT 537 PLAN, 2012

September 7, 2012

Page 1 of 4

Chapter 1 Background:

The original studies and evaluations of sewage needs, dating back to 1992, were seriously flawed. The supervisors were intent on taking over the privately owned sewage treatment plant (DeFeo's) and subsequently extending sewers throughout the entire township to pay for improvements and operation of same. As such, there was never a serious look at testing, maintaining or servicing the existing on-site systems.

In the early 2000's, a mail-in survey was distributed to Westtown residents. The stated purpose was to evaluate on-site systems for functionality. However, the questions were presented in such a manner to skew the survey results to support the supervisor's choice to connect everyone to sewers.

About 2004, the township contacted AQUA America (Philadelphia Suburban Water Co.) regarding supplying public water to portions of the township. Several meetings were arranged between the township, AQUA and the residents. Public water was provided at a very reasonable installation cost to residents. When asked, the supervisors stated that there was absolutely no connection with public water and future public sewer construction / user fees. They further stated that if the residents accepted public water there would not be any need for constructing public sewers in the foreseeable future.

In 2006 the township pushed again for public sewers. Again there was no on-site testing, inspections nor Chester County Health Department data explored. The residents contributed much anecdotal information affirming the proper function, reliability, maintenance and mortgagor required replacements of their on-site systems. This information was ignored since it didn't fit the supervisor's agenda.

We all know the outcome of these meetings. The township's engineering firm was (and still is) URS. URS admitted in May of 2012 that they have never done any soils testing, on-site system testing, inspection of on-site maintenance records, examination of soil conditions for the possible installation of a public sewer system or even evaluated any locations that they stated couldn't utilize or repair the existing on-site system. In short, all of their (URS) supporting data for public sewers was not based on any empirical testing, even though they had been advocating the need for over 15 years.

The 2005-6 Act 537 plan was never acted on due the impossible costs of \$53,000 to \$63,000 per household PLUS THE RESIDENTS OUT OF POCKET COSTS OF AN ADDITIONAL \$10-14,000 PER HOUSE.

Finally, in 2012, the current Board of Supervisors listened to the residents and undertook a factual study on the need for public sewers or the continuation of on-site systems. URS was assisted in the evaluation by Evans Mill Environmental.

Chapter II Sewage Needs Analysis:

The data analyzed for the current Act 537 submission shows that the vast majority of homes (greater than 95%) in the study area of +/- 900 homes showed functioning on-site systems that have be regularly pumped and inspected with the pumping. It appears that only 8 or so homes have serious problems with no quick resolution. However, there is no data to indicate that these homes were ever evaluated by a sewage engineering firm nor were any technically advanced system proposals tendered or considered.

Many systems were replaced during the past 10-15 years not as a result of failure, but as a result of and sale and subsequent mortgagor requirement.

Most of Westtown has well known good drainage soils and topography assisting in proper drainage of lots. Also, the township is virtually "built-out" which means there will be very little stress on the soils.

The results of the current analysis does not indicate the need for public sewers.

Some of the supporting maps have minor mistakes, such as:

Woodland Road DOES have public water.

Several lots designated as less than 1 acre are actually statistically 1 acre (.97 or larger).

The NRCS data that had been used in the past did not ever get verified by testing.

Chapter III Existing Sewage Facilities:

No Comments

Chapter IV Wastewater Alternatives:

Page IV-3 paragraph 5

"The head flow rates provided by the pumps are usually about 50 to 100 feet..."

URS engineering staff reports that the design system head for Westtown is 165 feet. Most small grinder pumps (single phase) have a maximum head of +/- 200 feet.

The topography of the Eastern end off the township coupled with the piping length pressure drop requires a higher head pressure than can be readily attained.

Page IV-4 Bullet Points paragraph 3

The stated cost of \$12.3 million dollars is probably \$18 million due to actual construction costs in 2012 dollars. URS states that its cost estimates were not performed with any construction management input, they are engineering assumptions. Also, the out of pocket costs to be borne by the residents is not included in this total. These costs to purchase and install a pump and tank, provide electric, re-route the house waste line to the new pump, de-commission the existing system settlement, cesspool or septic tanks and connect to the township main will add \$8 million to the above costs. Therefore, the total cost for 392 homes is approximately \$26 million or \$66,000 per house. This is not implementable even in the best of economic times. Nearly 50% of our homeowners are retired, on a fixed income or upside-down in their mortgage.

Chapter V Alternatives Evaluation:

No Comments

Chapter VI Institutional Evaluation:

No Comments

Chapter VII Selected Alternatives and Implementation Schedule:

No Comments

Map II-3:

This map misses many homes built post 1980 up to 2009

Map II-4:

Greater than 75% of lots listed as "public water available" are connected to public water.

Westover Farms has public water available and has >75% connected.

Map II-5:

Greater than 75% of lots shown as public water available are connected to public water.

Map II-6:

Lots designated long term sewage needs have not been tested to determine how many will still be able to continue with on-site systems. Given the data contained in this document, most should be able to remain with on-site.

Appendix F: Probable Costs for Alternative a.2

Page 2 "Summary of Total Costs"

Please note the chart footnote: "An engineering estimate of probable construction costs is made by an engineer, **not a professional cost estimator or construction contractor. The accuracy of the engineering estimate cannot be guaranteed.**"

The costs breakdown offered to the residents by URS at April and May 2012 meetings arranged by Westtown township and URS specifically state (in a PowerPoint presentation) that the residents would be responsible for the grinder pump purchase, installation and maintenance. Therefore that cost is NOT included in the chart.

Thank you for your time to review and consider our comments. For the record, I am a professional construction manager and contractor since 1970. Therefore, I feel qualified to comment on the costs and methodologies presented by URS in this document.

In closing, I concur with conclusion that Westtown does not need to abandon on-site sewer systems to be replaced with public sewers. Further, it is not economically feasible to spend \$26 million to alleviate problems associated with less than 2% of our homes.

An ongoing system of proper maintenance, inspections / certifications will allow for many years of service from our existing on-site systems. Also, once homeowners are told there will be no additional public sewers at this time, they will take better care of their present systems.

Brian and Kathryn Walsh
1529 Woodland Road
West Chester, PA 19382

—Original Message—

From: Terri Littrell [mailto:idictao@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, September 09, 2012 10:40 PM

To: rlyman@westtown.org

Cc: Westtown Sewers

Subject: Comments on Act 537 Plan

Westtown Supervisors:

I have been living in Westtown Township since 1974. My husband passed away in 1985 and since then I have been the sole homeowner/taxpayer.

Since 2001, I have been the sole support of my parents. My Mother passed away in 2011, however I continue to be the sole support of my Father. He is now 90 years old and is depending on me more and more.

My Mother suffered from dementia and was placing paper towels in the toilet which led to a backup of my septic system into the lower level of my house.

Although the insurance company paid for the clean up and sanitation, I had to pay for the septic tank to be pumped out, and the whole waste line to be checked for anything still in the pipes , and to have the complete system flushed out to be sure the system was working properly. I have had no problems with the system and recently had the septic tank pumped out as needed for maintenance. I therefore would see no reason to abandon my on site system and be forced to install a sewer.

I have recently retired and am now living on my pension, social security and some small investments of which I lost up to 40% of during the two market crashes. In addition I am now paying premiums for health insurance plans that my employer paid a percentage of while I was working. I am also paying for the upkeep of the property which in previous years my parents would do while they were still healthy.

As you know, heating, air-conditioning, and appliances do not last forever and before the beginning of the winter of 2010-2011 I replaced my oil fired furnace with a new propane system for which I am still making payments on the loan in addition to other loans that I continue to pay.

I will be incurring more debt as I continue to make repairs on my house.

I will also be paying educational expenses to be able to find part-time supplemental income. It would create a severe financial hardship to have to pay for public sewers. (Not to mention what it would cost the township in these difficult financial times.)

I applaud the township supervisors for listening to the residents and with some review and updating of data will be submitting a new Act 537 Plan using on site management of the existing septic systems.

Sincerely,

Theresa Littrell
917 South Chester Road
West Chester PA 19382

GERALD R NAIL

1535 Marlboro Road
West Chester
Pennsylvania 19382-7847

Phone: 1.610.213.1963

September 09, 2012

Attn: MR. Robert Layman
Westtown Township
P. O. Box 79
Westtown Township, PA 19395
Fax: 1.610.692.9651

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: WESTTOWN TWP 537 PLAN RESIDENT COMMENTS

My wife and I strongly support the continuing of on-lot sewer systems in Westtown Township with an On-Lot Management System.

We take this position for the following reasons:

1. Our current on-lot system is working fine with an every-2-year pump.
2. Should the need arise, we would rather replace the existing system with a current state-of-the-art on-lot system at an initial cost which is less than 1/3 the cost of any type of public sewer system.
3. Financially, the cost of a sewer system would be quite a burden for both us and our township—credit (including bonds etc.) is not “free” money. The annual cost of a public sewer system is not insignificant in this economy and for those on a fixed income.
4. We agree with the National Small Flows Clearing House of West Virginia University that On-Lot systems are a viable, cost-effective option for many small communities. Fairfax County Virginia has been focusing on On-Lot sewer systems since 1972 (Dennis A. Hill, Director of Environmental Health) when they decided that On-Lot systems were far more cost effective and frequently could function as well as or better than Public Sewer systems. They feel that their current specifications and maintenance requirements can produce a likely indefinite life for their on-lot systems.

There should be no “Rush to Sewer.” Let’s keep the millions of gallons of water in our local Westtown water table and with a cost effective method.

Sincerely,



Gerald R Nail & Lieselotte M Nail, Home Owners—24 years, Westtown, PA 19382

Sunday, September 09, 2012

Robert Layman
Westtown Township
1039 Wilmington Pike
West Chester, PA 19382,

John and Kathleen Messersmith
1656 Musket Lane
Glen Mills, PA 19342
Westtown Township

Letter to DEP
Supporting "On Lot Management Approach"

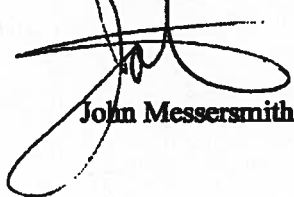
Mr. Layman,

This letter is to inform the DEP that our home is a four bedroom home on a one acre lot with a Septic System that was installed in 1998, (14 yrs ago) under the supervision of Chester County. It is in great operating order and was built with the capacity of a six bedroom house.

Our house hold income is 20% lower than it was prior to the 2008 Economic collapse and the equity to loan value of our home is such that we would not qualify for any type of loan to finance a hook up to public sewers. We have two children in college and are helping them to pay tuitions. Because of the reasons given above our savings has been reduced substantially and in no way shape or form could we afford to pay for public sewers.

In closing, we support the "On Lot Management Approach" our present "On Lot Septic System" is only 14 yrs old and works great and we simply do not have the money nor could I get the money to hook up to a public sewer system.

Sincerely,



John Messersmith



Kathleen Messersmith

-----Original Message-----

From: Dana Lynch [<mailto:danalynch@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, September 10, 2012 11:08 AM

To: rlayman@westtown.org

Subject: Westtown sewers

Dear Mr Layman,

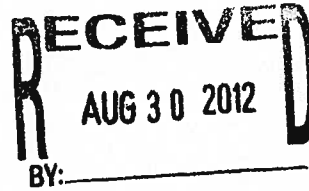
I am a Westtown resident in the area that is proposed for sewers. Our current septic system is working fine and we have it regularly cleaned. I am not in favor of sewers due to the cost. My husband and I are on a fixed income and a new sewer is not an expense we could afford. Having said that, I am particularly opposed to the grinder / pump system that is often mentioned. Although, as I understand it, this alternative would initially be cheaper than a total gravity feed system, we do not want a system that is dependent on electricity. We very frequently lose power. Additionally, we do not want another mechanical system to maintain. Nor do I think any new buyer would want such a system. If a pump / grinder system is installed, I believe our property value would plummet and the properties would be even more difficult to sell. Such a system would put us at a disadvantage when selling because there are homes in the township and surrounding areas that have gravity systems that the homeowners don't need to worry about. So in the long run, I believe a grinder/pump system will cost all of us more due to the loss of home value. I do hope we can continue to utilize the on-site septic system we have. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Dana Lynch
902 Robin Drive
West Chester, PA 19382

Sent from my iPad

67-2-91



August 20, 2012

Westtown Township
PO Box 79
Westtown, PA 19395

Attention: Robert Layman, Township Supervisor

Subject: Westtown Township Draft ACT 537 OFFICIAL SEWAGE FACILITIES PLAN
SPECIAL STUDY: SEWAGE NEEDS OF EXISTING RESIDENCES,
WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY, PA, DATED
AUGUST 12, 2012

Attachment: Annotated Copy of the Subject Plan

Dear Mr. Layman,

This letter delivers my comments to the Subject draft ACT 537 Plan. While Attachment (1) provides an annotated copy of the draft, I did want to provide some overarching comments with a particular focus on Chapter I.

First, I want to be very clear that I am 100% in favor of the new on-lot management plan and think this is the most viable approach for both the citizens and the Township.

I am grateful that the Board of Supervisors, along with the citizens took the time to further investigate the current conditions which exist in the township, with the specific focus on the study area. It is both amazing and disheartening that the supporting data, which has always been available, was not revealed in any of the earlier assessments of the Township's sewer need assessments. The lack of a deep-dive into the *relevant* data by URS resulted in excluding the most viable approach (on-lot management), and could have cost 397 citizens of the township a huge outlay of cash. It still does not seem right. At some point, I would like to understand more fully how the contract with URS was let, and the specific statement of work which they were tasked to perform.

On a positive note, it is inspiring how, with the right people, and the right expertise, it only took a few months of working together to uncover the health department data, which always existed, to give the needed credibility to the new on-lot management plan. This plan is the most financial viable and strongly supported by facts and data. Additionally, it is the plan that the citizens support.

I have included my comments in the Attached annotated copy of the Draft ACT 537 plan. Please interpret these comments in a positive light. They are meant to enhance the document. Overall, I did find the document difficult to read. I believe it is because Chapter I, (*Background and Summary*) of the document does not clearly and succinctly orient the reader to the new approach. It mixes in too much information, confusing the reader. I respectfully suggest rewriting this

chapter. I suggest that it be presented in the form of an Executive Summary which prepares and orients the reader with a less complicated background/history and with a stronger focus on the results of the deep-dive evaluation of existing data which has led to the Township's presentation of a new approach for an on-lot management system

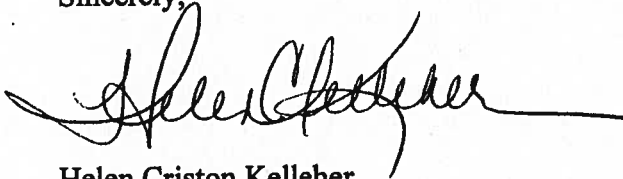
I believe that the oral summary provided by Mr. Jeff Miller at the Planning Commission meeting held on August 8th was the *perfect* synopsis. The audio recording of this session should be used to rewrite Chapter I of the Subject Plan. Please consider asking Mr. Miller to work with URS to rewrite Chapter I, or to have URS review the tapes and incorporate Mr. Miller's summary.

The other overarching comment is with regard to the financial impact on both individual citizens, as well as the Township. This is crucial information and from my understanding holds considerable weight in the DEP's evaluation. The status of the Township's financial situation needs to be presented more clearly, as does the financial burden it will place on the 397 citizens.

The other comments in the attached annotated document are fairly self explanatory. However, should you have questions please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in this review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helen Kelleher", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Helen Criston Kelleher
1002 Martone Road,
West Chester, PA 19382
610.547.2358

67-2-91

Comments by: Helen Criston Kelleher 8/2012

ACT 537 OFFICIAL SEWAGE
FACILITIES PLAN SPECIAL STUDY
SEWAGE NEEDS OF EXISTING
RESIDENCES

Define in
the
"Executive
Summary"
section.

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP

CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Westtown Township
1039 Wilmington Pike
West Chester, PA 19382

Date: August 2012

Check Tables and Maps against
~~the~~ what is written (text) to confirm it
is consistent.

URS

Iron Hill Corporate Center
4051 Ogletown Road, Suite 300
Newark, DE 19713

Not sure if this is a DEP format or a US format. But typically in US Government documents each paragraph is numbered as follows. If there are sub paragraphs, then those should follow sub-indenture numbering (i.e. 1.1.1, 1.1.2)

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Bullets (•) are so difficult to comment against.

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I	Westtown Township Planning Commission Correspondence
J	Chester County Planning Commission Correspondence
K	Chester County Health Department Correspondence
L	Public Notice
M	Westtown Township Resolution of Adoption
N	Act 537 Plan Content and Environmental Assessment Checklist

CHAPTER I

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

A. Background

Westtown Township adopted a Township-wide Act 537 Base Plan in 2002 and an Act 537 Plan Addendum in 2005 which were collectively approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in 2006. Discussion of each planning document follows.

1. Act 537 Sewage Facilities Base Plan, 2002

The 2002 Plan focused on evaluating the sewage needs of existing residences served by on-lot sewage systems throughout the Township. This document relied primarily upon incidence of on-lot sewage system repair permits to determine public sewage needs of existing residences; 354 such permits were issued in Westtown Township by the Chester County Health Department between 1982 and September 1999. Parcels subject to this permitting activity were generally dispersed throughout the unsewered areas of the Township. These data were supplemented by the Regional Sewage Study prepared by the West Chester Regional Planning Commission, dated fall 2000. This study noted a high incidence of on-lot failure and repair in the region, and stated "Westtown Township has had significantly more on-lot systems replaced or repaired when compared to the other townships in the study area."

Based upon ~~these conditions~~ ^{the non-viable presumptions}, the Township evaluated alternatives to extend public sewerage facilities to all unsewered portions of the Township. The selected alternative was use of a grinder pump and/or gravity collection and conveyance system to connect residences to public sewerage facilities. Westtown-Chester Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant service was proposed for those properties in the eastern portion of the Township, and West Goshen Wastewater Treatment Plant was proposed for applicable properties in the western portion of the Township.

The timing and type of any specific sewer extension were deferred to follow-up Act 537 Special Studies, which would incorporate the findings of additional investigations to refine sewage needs determinations for each neighborhood or area. The additional investigations proposed were twofold: a Township-wide inventory of on-lot sewage system conditions would be completed via a mail survey, and an on-lot sewage management program would be implemented with a certification component which would further detail lot-by-lot sewage system status.

The Base Plan was adopted by the Township and submitted to DEP in 2002. DEP indicated concerns with the lack of specificity, i.e. no actionable conclusions with regard to construction of public sewer extensions to serve existing residences. The Township prepared an Act 537 Plan Addendum in response to these concerns.

2. Act 537 Plan Addendum, 2005

The Act 537 Plan Addendum dated 2005 incorporated the results of a Township-wide on-lot sewage system survey conducted by West Chester University's Center for Social and Economic Research to better establish the public sewage needs of existing residences served by on-lot sewage systems. This mail survey asked a series of questions regarding size of property, age of the home, the type of on-lot system on the property, and the occurrence of symptoms indicating on-lot system problems. The information requested in this mail survey was based upon the sample form provided in DEP's Sewage Disposal Needs Identification guidance, dated March 1996. A follow up interview of 100 respondents geographically dispersed throughout the Township was also conducted to verify information provided in the original survey.

The survey results indicated symptoms of on-lot system problems throughout the Township, with a concentration in older communities where smaller lot sizes are common. In consideration of the survey results, the Township concluded that all unsewered areas of the Township were in eventual need of public sewer. Specific sewer extensions were only proposed for the eastern portion of the Township, indicated as the Westtown-Chester Creek Study Area in the 2002 Base Plan, based upon a generally higher incidence of survey findings suggesting on-lot system problems in this area.

A gravity sewer extension utilizing 13 pump stations was selected to serve approximately 900 existing residences in the eastern portion of the Township via an expanded Westtown-Chester Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, with additional planning proposed to identify sewerage service for the balance of residences with on-lot systems. An on-lot sewage management program was selected to address the sewage needs of all residences which would not be sewered in the near future.

DEP approval was granted in 2006 for both the 2002 Base Plan and the 2005 Plan Addendum; this approval memorialized the gravity sewer extensions in the eastern portion of the Township, need for additional planning elsewhere, and implementation of an on-lot sewage management program for all residences not proposed for public sewer connection in the near future. A copy of this DEP approval letter can be found in Appendix A.

Westtown Township initiated design efforts for the gravity sewer extensions subsequent to the 2006 DEP approval. Additional detailed information required as part of final engineering design efforts, coupled with construction cost escalation, resulted in a 2007 total project cost per household of approximately \$63,000 for service to all residences in the Westtown-Chester Creek Study Area via gravity sewer. The Township attempted to mitigate this financial burden to residents by pursuing a modified sewer extension project which would reduce costs by lessening the depth of gravity sewers and connecting some homes by individual grinder pump units. The total project cost per household for this modified project approach would have been approximately \$53,000.

Why? Rate is prohibitive *and?*

The high costs for a gravity (or mostly gravity) sewer extension were deemed infeasible by the Township, residents could not afford the mandatory connection costs. Many residents also questioned the fundamental need for public sewage, anecdotally reporting a lower incidence of on-lot sewage system problems than suggested by the West Chester University survey data.

define

The current planning effort has accordingly been prepared as an Act 537 Special Study to revisit the sewage needs of existing residences served by on-lot sewage systems. The Township is presently operating under a Consent Order and Agreement with DEP (Appendix B) which requires this planning.

Consistent with prior approved Act 537 planning, this Act 537 Special Study focuses on the eastern portion of the Township which was proposed for public sewer connection in the 2005 Act 537 Plan Addendum. Map I-1 illustrates this Study Area.

Why? This special study was

Need to add more detail to this section stating the purpose and need to revisit the current approved plan.

~~Edwards~~ petition to
The Board.

B. Summary

^{In} The prior study

Westtown Township, in coordination with DEP, evaluated the following criteria to establish an updated determination of public sewage needs:

- Chester County Health Department records – the Chester County Health Department issues permits for all on-lot sewage systems and investigates reports of sewage system malfunctions. (Areas where this permit data indicates a high incidence of sewage systems which could not be repaired may warrant consideration of public sewer connection.)
- Age of sewage systems – areas constructed prior to initiation of DEP standards for on-lot sewage system construction may have a high incidence of obsolete sewage system types.
- Soils – areas with soils which are mapped as generally unsuitable for on-lot sewage disposal may be indicative of increased likelihood for on-lot system malfunction.
- Lot sizes – small lots which do not have sufficient area to install a replacement sewage system can be indicative of a long term sewage need, since adequately repairing system malfunctions in the future may be difficult.

Data were analyzed for the criteria above and resulting conditions were generally categorized as existing and long-term sewage needs indicators. Existing sewage needs indicators are those which may be indicative of a current on-lot sewage system problem. Long term sewage needs indicators reflect conditions which could pose challenges to repair or replacement of on-lot sewage systems in the future. The following table summarizes these categorizations, and detailed discussion for each criterion is presented in Chapter II.

Comments: The underlined sections/sentences are confusing and lead the reader to believe that the new plan is confirming the need for public sewerage.

This is confusing. Why as this comment here? The current data indicates something other than this.

Date of Information:

Sewage Needs Identified	Criteria	No. of Parcels	% of Study Area ⁽¹⁾	Comments
Existing	Repair permit application, unresolved	17	1.7%	Current on-lot repair difficulties possible
	Repair permit application, no feasible repair	8	0.8%	Current on-lot repair difficulties known
	Pumping more than once per year	62	6.1%	May be indicative of ongoing need for repair
	Total Existing Sewage Needs	83	8.1%	Total less than sum of each criteria; some parcels meet more than 1 criterion
Long Term	Absorption area permit issued	124	12.2%	Diminished ability to install another replacement area
	Absorption Area permit issued with BTG	3	0.3%	Unlikely to accommodate another replacement area
	Pre-1972 Lots/Systems	476	46.7%	Limited significance in the absence of other needs indicators
	Small Net Lot Sizes	360	35.3%	Soil suitability incorporated via net-out of unsuitable soils
	Total Long Term Sewage Needs	579	56.8%	Total less than sum of each criteria; some parcels meet more than 1 criterion
None		357	35.0%	Includes all remaining improved parcels

(1) Percent of 1,019 improved parcels in the Study Area. There are 29 vacant parcels excluded from calculation

Need to define "Study Area" vs. "Special Study" in beginning of report

DP Given the limited incidence of identified existing sewage needs, Westtown Township has determined that sewage planning is needed primarily to address the long term needs of existing residences. Alternatives to meet these needs are identified and discussed in Chapter IV, including public sewerage service and continued use of on-lot sewage systems.

These needs to change

A limited scale sewer extension utilizing a low pressure sewer system to serve only communities close to the existing collection & conveyance system was identified for the purposes of considering a more economically feasible public sewer option than that proposed by the 2006 DEP approved Act 537 planning. This scenario would provide sewer service to 392 residences at a total project cost of approximately \$12,292,000, a cost which includes the purchase price of all individual grinder pump units and necessary downstream conveyance system improvements. The total project cost per new home connection would be approximately \$31,300.

Need to revise the numbers

In consideration of the updated sewage needs data collected, Westtown Township has determined that such a public sewer extension is neither warranted nor implementable for the following reasons:

()*

- Based on the new data collected & evaluated, there are only 8 existing
- Limited existing sewage needs have been identified which would justify a sewer extension at this time.

properties which have been identified as having repair difficulties. This limited number of homes does not justify a sewer extension

- The majority of existing sewage needs identified remain indeterminate with regard to viability of suitable on-lot system repairs.
- This alternative ^{grinder pump/low pressure system} is not economically feasible; total project costs per home are significant; and many property owners may be unable to afford necessary costs for a sewer extension and connection.

- The Township may be unable to implement this alternative – if property owners cannot afford associated costs, the Township cannot be assured of sufficient revenue to finance the project.

* The selected alternatives ^{The financials required for the Township as a whole would increase the financial burden of residents.} are continued use of on-lot sewage systems with Township implementation of an on-lot sewage management program. These alternatives are also deemed applicable to the balance of the Township, i.e. properties served by on-lot sewage systems in Westtown which are not specifically within the defined Study Area, until such time as additional planning is completed to investigate current conditions in these areas in more detail.

The on-lot sewage management program will include the following Township and property owner responsibilities:

- Township administration of a public education program which would inform residents of the need for and benefits of regular sewage system maintenance.
- Detailed initial sewage system inspections to identify sewage system type, functional status, and maintenance needs. ^{to whom?} These inspections would be conducted by a maintenance contractor certified by the Pennsylvania Septage Management Association (PSMA) and hired by the property owner. A written inspection report will be provided by the Township to identify all required information. Inspection methods will generally be in accordance with PSMA standards, which are the only generally accepted industry-wide standards in Pennsylvania. Detailed initial inspections will be required to be completed within three years of Township adoption of an on-lot sewage management ordinance. ^{ok, but why do long?}
- Ongoing routine inspections will be required every three years after the initial inspection to maintain oversight of maintenance and operational measures that impact sewage system function. These inspections would not need to be as intensive as the initial inspections, since baseline data such as system type and general maintenance needs will have been established. Qualified maintenance contractors hired by the property owner would complete routine inspections using Township supplied forms.
- Property owners will be responsible for having on-lot systems pumped at least once every three years, unless a modified schedule is deemed appropriate by the Township due to inspection findings, operational conditions, or functional status.

*Title of this section? What is this section outlining?
Why is this in this section?*

The Pennsylvania Code provides for DEP reimbursement of Act 537 approved sewage management programs of up to 85% of program costs where sewage system permitting is administered by a local agency, such as the Chester County Health Department. Recent State budget constraints have significantly limited funding for this program, and actual reimbursement amounts may be very limited or nonexistent for the foreseeable future. Estimated costs for implementation and ongoing administration of the sewage management program are consequently presented below exclusive of any DEP reimbursements.

Implementation (1st Year)

Chester County Health Department Septage Management Database Subscription	\$1,200
Evaluation of CCHD database content to verify all subject parcels	\$1,000
Preparation and dissemination of public education materials	\$1,000
Completion and adoption of draft ordinance	\$1,000
Prepare database for inspection findings	\$3,000
Administration of database, pumping, and inspection requirements	<u>\$70,000</u>
Total	\$77,200

Annual Costs (Years 2 and 3)

Chester County Health Department Septage Management Database Subscription	\$1,200
Administration of database, pumping, and inspection requirements	<u>\$60,000</u>
Total	\$61,200

Annual Costs (Year 4 onward)

Chester County Health Department Septage Management Database Subscription	\$1,200
Administration of database, pumping, and inspection requirements	<u>\$30,000</u>
Total	\$31,200

No. They start...

Actual costs may vary widely in proportion to problems identified in system inspections and needed Township follow-up. The Township may consider implementation of a fee to applicable property owners for administration of the sewage management program, as deemed appropriate when actual program costs and DEP reimbursement amounts are determined.

An implementation schedule with milestones can be found on the following page.

Implementation Schedule

Complete Draft Special Study	August 2012
Public Agency Reviews	August – September 2012
30 Day Public Comment Period (Comments must be in writing)	August – September 2012
Board Adopts Final Special Study and submits to DEP	September 2012
DEP Approves Act 537 Special Study (10 day completeness + 120 day technical reviews)	February 2012
Board Adopts On-Lot Management Ordinance*	August 2013
Complete updated planning for all existing residences	2018 - 2023

*Copy to be submitted to DEP upon adoption. Timing contingent on DEP approval date.

CHAPTER II

SEWAGE NEEDS ANALYSIS

Prior Westtown Township planning had evaluated on-lot sewage system conditions in the Study Area predicated primarily upon the results of a mail survey. In an effort to consider additional factors, and in coordination with DEP, additional physical features and on-lot sewage system data have been identified as sewage needs criteria for the purposes of the current planning effort. The term "sewage needs" is used herein as an identifier for areas where conditions may warrant some area-wide action by the Township.

Thorough review of Chester County Health Department records was not accomplished during the first planning phase in 2001 & prior.

The following sewage needs criteria have been evaluated:

- Chester County Health Department records – the Chester County Health Department issues permits for all on-lot sewage systems and investigates reports of sewage system malfunctions. Areas where this permit data indicates a high incidence of sewage systems which could not be repaired may warrant consideration of public sewer connection.
- Age of sewage systems – areas constructed prior to initiation of DEP standards for on-lot sewage system construction may have a high incidence of obsolete sewage system types.
i.e. cess pool?
- Soils – areas with soils which are mapped as generally unsuitable for on-lot sewage disposal may be indicative of increased likelihood for on-lot system malfunction.
- Lot sizes – small lots which do not have sufficient area to install a replacement sewage system can be indicative of a long term sewage need, since adequately repairing system malfunctions in the future may be difficult.

increased w/ page II-67P

Discussion of these criteria as applicable to the Study Area follows.

A. Chester County Health Department Records

de The Chester County Health Department (CCHD) is charged with all individual on-lot permitting in Westtown Township. When a sewage system malfunctions and needs to be repaired, the CCHD Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO) for Westtown oversees all site evaluations and reviews proposed designs to repair or replace the failing system. Records for all repair permitting since approximately 1999 are maintained by CCHD, evaluation of which can serve as valuable tool in assessing on-lot sewage system conditions.

de The available CCHD records indicate a total of 187 lots in the Study Area which have been subject to either repair permit issuance or repair permit application (without subsequent permit issuance). In many cases, the CCHD records also indicate the reason a repair was needed – either system malfunction or an unsatisfactory certification. An unsatisfactory certification may be the result of a regulatory malfunction, but is often a consequence of a property sale without system failure. In these cases, a private firm is hired to make a determination on the condition of the existing sewage system solely for the purpose of

informing parties involved in the property sale. There are no statutory standards for these private firms, and identified problems often address a range of issues that do not constitute a regulatory malfunction.

Of the 187 total repair permitting activities documented in the Study Area by available CCHD records, 77 (41%) were due to a system malfunction, 75 (40%) were due to unsatisfactory certifications, and 35 (19%) had no repair reason specified. Although this planning effort focuses on evaluation of specific site conditions as indicated by CCHD permitting records, it should be noted that total permitting activity may not accurately reflect historic rates of actual system malfunction - a minority of property owners indicated this condition when pursuing a permit. A large percentage of repair permitting activity may be instead related to property transfers.

In addition to sewage system repair permitting records, the CCHD maintains a septage management database which tracks on-lot sewage system pumping activity throughout Chester County. All sewage pumpers/haulers are required to be licensed by CCHD, and each must enter a record of all sewage pumping activities into the County database as a requirement of this licensing. While this database is primarily intended as a sewage management program tool, records may also be used to identify properties of concern for Act 537 planning purposes where unusually frequent pumping activities are documented.

CCHD records for both sewage system repair permitting activities and on-lot sewage system pumping were analyzed to identify associated potential sewage needs. Map II-1 illustrates resulting categorizations, which are discussed below. Detailed tables representing all CCHD data collected can be found in Appendix C.

1. Absorption Area Repair Permits Issued

This category comprises all permits issued to repair sewage system absorption areas which did not necessitate any compromises to applicable DEP regulations. A total of 124 of these repairs are documented by the available CCHD records, comprising both conventional and alternate absorption area technologies.

Conventional on-lot sewage system technologies are described by Title 25, Chapter 73 of the Pennsylvania Code. Chapter 73 also provides for "alternate" on-lot system technologies, which represent technologies that have been reviewed and approved by DEP but have not been fully detailed in Chapter 73 at this time pending completion of an update to DEP regulations. As noted in Chapter 73, Section 73.3(c), "The alternate sewage system permit will provide a method for utilizing proven technologies within this Commonwealth without constant changes to this chapter". The DEP document entitled Alternate Systems Guidance serves to define detailed standards for alternate systems until such time as Chapter 73 is updated and these technologies are fully incorporated therein.

✓ Since alternate systems represent proven technology as provided for by Chapter 73, all absorption area repair permits which CCHD data indicates to be in compliance with

conventional or alternate technology standards have been included in the same category. The majority of these repairs consist of standard in-ground beds or trenches, subsurface sand filter beds or trenches, elevated sand mounds, drip irrigation disposal, and use of infiltrator chambers.

✓ In the absence of other sewage needs indicators, a prevalence of absorption area repairs satisfactorily completed in accordance with applicable DEP standards suggests generally favorable existing conditions for on-lot disposal. Potential long term sewage needs may be of concern, however, since there may be a diminished ability to find a suitable site for another repair absorption area on a lot if needed in the future. *(This last sentence is "opinion" & conjecture. Suggest removing it.)* T.O.H.C. out

2. Absorption Area Repair Permits Issued Using Best Technical Guidance

As allowed by DEP regulations, a sewage system repair permit may be issued despite noncompliance with certain siting requirements. Specifically, minimum isolation distances between the sewage system components and features such as property lines, buildings, driveways, or water supplies may be violated to the minimum extent necessary to abate a malfunction. When a repair permit is issued which includes consideration of this "best technical guidance", specific indication of same is required in the permitting documentation.

This category includes all lots where CCHD records indicate use of best technical guidance, or BTG, in order to permit installation of a new absorption area to repair an existing sewage system. Only 3 repairs are documented in this category, as described in Table II-1 below.

**TABLE II-1
BTG ABSORPTION AREA REPAIR PERMITS**

Permit No.	Parcel No.	Address	Final Approval Date	Repair Reason	Absorption Area Design	Minimum Isolation Distance Reductions
Z047580	67-2Q-15	901 Robin Dr.	10/29/2010	Malfunction	Drip Irrigation	Absorption area to property line
Z65430	67-3-125.13	1510 Woodland Rd	8/20/2009	Unspecified	Standard Trench	Absorption area to property line, water supply line, and steep (>25%) slopes
Z047665	67-5D-1	1024 Robin Dr.	1/16/2009	Unsatisfactory Certification	At-Grade Bed	Absorption area to road R.O.W. <i>? what does this stand for</i>

As discussed in the DEP document entitled Technical Decision Making and the use of Conventional Technology, Alternate Technology, Experimental Technology, and Best Technical Guidance (BTG) in Onlot Sewage System Repair Situations (Document No. 362-2208-003), minimum isolation distances may be classified as "critical" and "non-

critical" when applying BTG to correct sewage system malfunctions. Critical isolation distances are defined as (1) minimum isolation distance to a water supply, (2) minimum vertical isolation distance to a limiting zone, and (3) downsizing absorption system areas below that already provided for in Section 73.16(c), the Alternate System Guidance, or Experimental System Guidance. All other criteria, when considered individually, are considered non-critical criteria. Non-critical criteria include minimum isolation distances to such things as structures, driveways, and property lines.

This distinction acknowledges that not all regulatory criteria will exert equal impact on public health and environmental protection. Only one of the noted BTG permits involve a critical criteria variance, permit no. Z65430.

New absorption area installations utilizing BTG for permitting do not suggest an existing sewage needs condition, since all applicable systems are relatively new and were otherwise installed in accordance with all DEP and CCHD regulations. However, the siting constraints inherent in these situations ^{may require a re-evaluation} suggest that a long-term sewage need may exist. Installation of another absorption area in the future ^{is not} impossible, since extraordinary measures were required to permit the current repair area. ^{possible if extended.}

This is opinion not fact. Suggest removing this sentence in its entirety.

3. Non-Absorption Area Repair Permits Issued

Repair permits issued for septic tank repair/replacement comprise the majority of the 22 total permits in this category, with limited incidence of pipe replacement noted. No inference of sewage needs is possible from this permitting activity, since system components exclusive of the absorption area can generally be installed without regard to site limitations as may constrain absorption area designs. ~~Parcels in this category are not appropriately considered as a sewage needs indicator.~~ It should also be noted that no holding tank permits are specified in the available CCHD data.

4. Permit Application Submitted, Repair Feasibility Unresolved

This category includes parcels for which a permit application was submitted but no permit has been issued to date. In some cases, CCHD records indicate completed soils testing but no follow-up on the part of the property owner. Soils testing for these parcels indicate either incomplete investigation (e.g. satisfactory test pit conditions but no percolation testing) or findings which do not expressly indicate a non-suitable site, such as suitable test pits with a passing percolation test. In other cases, the application paperwork was submitted with no documentation of any subsequent activity. CCHD records indicate a total of 17 lots within this category.

No clear indication of long term sewage needs can be drawn from parcels in this category; however, the fact that permit applications were submitted suggest that problems have occurred which may remain unresolved. This category may be accordingly considered as an existing, albeit somewhat indeterminate, sewage need.

This is an "opinion", not a fact. You could easily state in a more positive II-4 way.

5. Permit Application Submitted, Repair Infeasible

In extreme cases, the CCHD SEO may conduct a site investigation which reveals that no legally permissible sewage system repair can be implemented. Soil conditions, slope, or insufficient area may all influence this determination.

The 8 parcels in this condition were identified based upon CCHD field reports which document failed soils testing and/or annotation indicating a conclusion of no suitable site for absorption area repair. Table II-2 lists available data for these parcels, including incidence of frequent system pumping per the CCHD septage management database where applicable.

TABLE II-2
REPAIR PERMIT APPLICATIONS WITH NO FEASIBLE REPAIR

Application No.	Application Date	Parcel No.	Address	Repair Reason	Conditions Noted
R18357	9/15/2003	67-2-4.2J	921 Hunt Dr	Malfunction	Test pits mottled 3" & 6", no suitable site, no perc conducted
Z112511	8/8/2011	67-2-4.2M	927 Hunt Dr	Malfunction	Test pits mottled at 16" and 41", rock at 10", no suitable site, no perc conducted
T021343	4/13/2004	67-2G-5	308 Diane Dr	Malfunction	Failed elevated sand mound perc, no additional information
T018739	10/12/2004	67-2H-22	1503 Charles Rd	Malfunction	No suitable site per CCHD, no suitable alternate site per soil scientist report, small flow treatment facility permit application submitted to DEP but not approved.
Z112000	11/10/2011	67-2H-27	419 Leslie La	Unsatisfactory Certification	Test pits indicate limiting zone < 20", no suitable perc test location, system pumped 8 times from 5/12/05 through 5/31/12 per CCHD database
Z64673	8/6/2008	67-2H-29	1511 Grant Rd	Unsatisfactory Certification	No suitable perc site per CCHD, soil scientist report indicate suitable drip irrigation area but SEO notes say insufficient area for drip, system pumped 7 times from 12/1/05 through 1/16/12 per CCHD database
T019034	2/10/2006	67-3-144.38	1090 Edgewood Chase Dr	Unsatisfactory Certification	Eight test pits evaluated, limiting zone < 20" for all, no suitable perc site identified
R19649	11/27/2002	67-3-148	1642 E. Street Rd	Malfunction	Test pits mottled at 8", 16", & 18", no suitable perc site

6. System Pumping More Than Once Per Year

SR
* CCHD septage management database information documents sewage system pumping activity since 2005. These data indicate that most residents in Westtown have had their on-lot sewage systems pumped at least once during this period, with some instances of relatively frequent pumping activity as may be an indicator of on-lot sewage system problems. For the purpose of this planning effort, only parcels with sewage systems that have been pumped more frequently than once per year on average have been considered as a possible sewage needs indicator. Less frequent pumping activities are assumed to primarily be a function of routine system maintenance.

SR
Y Parcels in this condition were further evaluated in concert with absorption area repair permitting records. Several properties required numerous sewage system pumpings in the period spanning available CCHD data (2005 through June 2012), but pumping frequencies diminished markedly subsequent to installation of a new sewage system absorption area. Table II-3 summarizes applicable parcels, and Map II-1 does not illustrate these within the frequent pumping category. In these cases, no inference of existing sewage needs is applicable due to pumping frequency – the underlying condition was corrected. A resulting total of 62 parcels are noted within this frequent pumping category.

**TABLE II-3
FREQUENT PUMPING CORRECTED BY COMPLETED REPAIRS**

Permit No.	Final Approval Date	Parcel No.	Address	Repair Reason	Permitted Repair	Comments
Z015429	6/15/2006	67-2G-23	307 Diane Dr	Not specified	Septic Tank Only	CCHD database shows > 1 pump/year on average, but only 1 pump since tank installation completed 6/15/06
Z057223	3/25/2009	67-2M-1	412 Diane Dr	Malfunction	Standard Bed	Pumped 9 times from 0/6/05 - 2/6/09 per CCHD database, no pumping after new absorption area installation completed 3/25/09
Z106819	11/4/2010	67-2N-32	915 Hummingbird La	Malfunction	Standard Bed	Pumped 17 times from 6/6/05 - 10/19/10 per CCHD database, no pumping after new absorption area installation completed 11/4/10
Z047580	10/29/2010	67-2Q-15	901 Robin Dr	Malfunction	Drip Irrigation	Pumped 16 times 6/7/05 - 1/18/10 per CCHD database, no pumping after new absorption area installation completed 10/29/10
Z057241	11/10/2008	67-2Q-19	917 Shady Grove Way	Malfunction	Standard Bed	Pumped 7 times 8/25/05 - 1/30/12 per CCHD database, only 2 pumpings since new absorption area installation completed 11/10/08
Z086963	7/8/2010	67-2R-30	1103 Cardinal Dr	Malfunction	Standard Trench	Pumped 16 times 5/5/05 - 5/17/10 per CCHD database, no pumping after new absorption area installation completed 7/8/10
Z062522	12/22/2009	67-3-45	119 Hilltop Dr	Unsatisfactory Certification	Standard Bed	Pumped 13 times 2/9/06 - 4/3/12 per CCHD database, only 1 pumping after new absorption area installation completed 12/22/09
Z105857	8/5/2011	67-3-85	1005 Martone Dr	Malfunction	Standard Trench	Pumped 13 times 10/8/05 - 7/18/11 per CCHD database, no pumping after new absorption area installation completed 8/5/11 <i>2/11/11</i>
Z027750	7/2/2008	67-5A-46	1009 Carolyn Dr	Malfunction	Infiltrator System	Pumped 8 times 6/14/06 - 3/12/12 per CCHD database, only 2 pumpings after new absorption area installation completed 7/2/08

OK

B. Soils

Soils lying above the water table have a natural ability to attenuate pollutants. The effectiveness of a soil in attenuating pollutants depends on its composition, thickness, and degree of saturation with water. There are five separate processes operating in soils that can help to remove contaminants. The sixth, evaporation, can increase the concentration of contaminants. The six processes are:

1. Filtration processes depend on the soil acting as a physical filter to trap suspended solids.
2. Sorption and adsorption processes involve soil particles physically and chemically capturing dissolved or suspended compounds.
3. Oxidation and reduction of contaminants can render them chemically inert or may hasten their precipitation out of solution.
4. Biological assimilation processes involve the uptake of contaminants by plant material.
5. Dilution and volatilization processes can decrease the concentration of contaminants in soils to acceptable levels.
6. Evaporation processes can increase the concentration of contaminants.

The processes can be very effective in attenuating pollutants under the right conditions. Proper operation of on-site sewage disposal systems depends on these processes to treat wastewater effectively; if conditions are not suitable, potential pollution problems can result. For this reason, DEP has established minimum soil criteria which must be met when applying various on-lot treatment technologies. These criteria include such things as standards for percolation testing, soil morphology evaluations, and minimum depths of suitable soils. DEP regulations provide for on-lot system technologies with a minimum depth of suitable soil beneath system aggregate or tubing installation (in the case of options such as drip irrigation disposal) ranging from 10 inches to 48 inches.

Floodplains, very wet soils, shallow soils, steep slopes, and areas with fractured rock have been determined by DEP to be more susceptible to pollution because the contaminants can potentially reach the groundwater without sufficient opportunity or time for the above processes to operate. These conditions, in turn, can contaminate surface water resources. Surface water can also be easily contaminated by system malfunctions in areas adjacent to stream corridors if untreated wastewater is not filtered and allowed to run off.

According to soil data and information produced by the National Cooperative Soil Survey, operated by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), there are thirteen major soil series in the Study Area, with significant areas of urban land.

OK

Urban lands are those which have been disturbed due to development activity, compromising a determination of soil type and characteristics. Within each major soil series are more discrete subsets with varying characteristics due to such factors as slope, degree of erosion, and coarse fragment (rock) content. The NRCS soil data includes interpretations regarding limitations for various types of on-lot sewage system technologies permissible in Pennsylvania for each of these subsets, or soil map units.

NRCS soil interpretations were evaluated for all soil map units in the Study Area with regard to the most commonly installed on-lot system technologies in Westtown as indicated by available CCHD repair permitting records. Conventional technologies considered were in-ground trenches, elevated sand mound beds or trenches, and subsurface sand filter trenches. Subsurface trench technologies were evaluated where applicable in lieu of beds since trenches can generally be utilized anytime slope and soil conditions would allow for a bed configuration. Alternate system designs evaluated were at-grade beds, drip irrigation, and at-grade beds with peat filter. A copy of the associated NRCS soil limitations reports can be found in Appendix D.

As noted above, NRCS soil interpretation reports were designed to represent limitations for on-lot sewage disposal, as opposed to suitability. These limitations are based upon factors such as slope, seasonal high water table, and slow percolation. Numerical values ranging from 0.01 to 1.00 are assigned for each salient factor within each soil map unit, with larger values equivalent to greater potential limitations. Limitations are also more broadly summarized by categorizing each soil type as slightly limited, moderately limited, or very limited.

For the purpose of this planning effort, non-urban soils in Westtown have been classified into three on-lot disposal suitability categories based upon the NRCS interpretation of limitations: generally suitable (slightly limited), conditionally suitable (moderately limited), and generally unsuitable (very limited). Where a soil type had different NRCS limitation categories for the six system technologies evaluated, the least limiting technology was used for suitability classification. As with any broad scale assessment of soil conditions, site investigations are ultimately be required to confirm on-lot disposal suitability for any specific parcel.

Soil map units described by the NRCS data as urban land are not rated by the NRCS for specific on-lot sewage disposal system suitability. The majority of the soils in these areas have been disturbed by development activities and no determination of on-lot sewage disposal limitations is accordingly provided by the NRCS.

It should be noted that site-specific soils testing has been conducted on numerous parcels throughout the Study Area pursuant to CCHD repair permitting activities as discussed earlier in this Chapter and as illustrated on Map II-1. The repair permits that have been issued document permissible absorption area installations throughout many of the urban soils designated in the Study Area. Although this data does not provide sufficient detail to modify the NRCS soils mapping, large areas of potentially suitable soil appear to exist within the urban soils map units.

A summary of the soil suitability classification for on-lot disposal systems is as follows:

- Soils Generally Suitable for On-lot Disposal Systems

Approximately 28 percent of the soils in the Study Area are considered to be generally suitable for on-lot disposal. The Glenelg and Gladstone soil series predominate in this category.

- Soils Conditionally Suitable for On-lot Disposal Systems

Approximately 3 percent of the soils in the Study Area are considered to be conditionally suitable for on-lot disposal. As above, the Glenelg and Gladstone soil series predominate in this category.

- Soils Generally Unsuitable for On-lot Disposal Systems

Approximately 9 percent of the soils in the Study Area are considered to be generally unsuitable for on-lot disposal. This group includes all floodplain soils, soils with a shallow or seasonal high water table, and soils indicative of steep (greater than 25%) slopes.

NRCS soil interpretations reports analyzed for the current planning effort state that the Califon soil series is very limited, or generally unsuitable, for all sewage system types considered. Some discrepancy in the NRCS data is nonetheless noted; the more detailed NRCS soil series description indicates Califon soils to be moderately well drained (i.e. water or redoximorphic features deeper than 20" below the ground surface) and have slopes less than 8%. These conditions would more accurately describe a conditionally suitable soil. To preserve consistency with the specific NRCS reports for individual system types, the generally unsuitable designation has been retained for the purposes of this planning effort.

- Not Rated

These soils encompass urban lands for which suitability cannot be accurately projected due to development disturbance. Approximately 59 percent of the Study Area is categorized as urban land.

Table II-4 presents soil series name, map unit, suitability classification, acreage, and percent of Study Area for all soils mapped by the NRCS, and Map II-2 illustrates the distribution of these soil suitability classes. The predominance of urban soils which are not rated for on-lot disposal suitability limits any neighborhood specific determination of public sewage need, although combining this data with the soils finding documented by satisfactory CCHD absorption area repair permits (which are distributed throughout the Study Area) suggests that the majority of the Study Area comprises either generally or conditionally suitable soils.

**TABLE II-4
SOIL SUITABILITY FOR ON-LOT SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

Soil Series	Map Unit	Suitability	Acres	% of Study Area
Baile	Ba	Generally Unsuitable	18.64	1.32%
Califon	CaA	Generally Unsuitable*	3.53	0.25%
Califon	CaB	Generally Unsuitable*	42.11	2.98%
Codorus	Co	Generally Unsuitable	1.45	0.10%
Cokesbury	CpA	Generally Unsuitable	21.62	1.53%
Cokesbury	CpB	Generally Unsuitable	0.23	0.02%
Cokesbury	CqB	Generally Unsuitable	0.44	0.03%
Gladstone	GdA	Generally Suitable	0.95	0.07%
Gladstone	GdB	Generally Suitable	203.31	14.39%
Gladstone	GdC	Generally Suitable	144.23	10.21%
Gladstone	GdD	Conditionally Suitable	21.92	1.55%
Gladstone	GeD	Conditionally Suitable	5.21	0.37%
Gladstone	GfD	Conditionally Suitable	8.72	0.62%
Glenelg	GgB	Generally Suitable	39.75	2.81%
Glenelg	GgC	Generally Suitable	0.92	0.07%
Glenville	GIB	Conditionally Suitable	4.89	0.35%
Hatboro	Ha	Generally Unsuitable	25.64	1.81%
Manor	MaD	Conditionally Suitable	14.84	1.05%
Neshaminy	NvB	Generally Suitable	6.32	0.45%
Neshaminy	NvC	Generally Suitable	3.30	0.23%
Parker	PaC	Generally Suitable	0.02	0.00%
Parker	PaE	Generally Unsuitable	13.83	0.98%
Urban Land	UrB	Not Rated	1.66	0.12%
Urban Land	UrcB	Not Rated	12.74	0.90%
Urban Land	UrIB	Not Rated	253.38	17.93%
Urban Land	UrID	Not Rated	83.57	5.91%
Urban Land	UrmB	Not Rated	38.56	2.73%
Urban Land	UrnB	Not Rated	4.16	0.29%
Urban Land	Uro	Not Rated	0.10	0.01%
Urban Land	UrtB	Not Rated	1.32	0.09%
Urban Land	UruB	Not Rated	55.58	3.93%
Urban Land	UugB	Not Rated	268.33	18.99%
Urban Land	UugD	Not Rated	110.13	7.79%
Water	W	Generally Unsuitable	1.57	0.11%
Totals			1,412.98	100%

* Apparent conflict with NRCS data; generally unsuitable per soil interpretation reports for on-lot disposal, but moderately well drained per soil series description, suggesting conditional suitability instead.

C. Age of Sewage Systems

On Jan. 24, 1966, the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act (Act 537, as amended) was enacted to correct existing sewage disposal problems and prevent future problems. This legislation became effective on January 1, 1968, although the specific regulations needed to implement the provisions of Act 537 were prepared subsequent to this date.

Current Pennsylvania regulations for siting and design of individual on-lot sewage systems were initially set forth in 1972, with multiple revisions since that time. Prior to 1972, little or no detailed regulations for on-lot systems existed which were founded upon Act 537 requirements.

Modern on-lot sewage systems incorporate, at a minimum, two major treatment processes to mitigate threat of groundwater pollution and support long term function: primary treatment in a treatment tank and secondary treatment in the soil underlying a drainfield, or absorption area. Older on-lot sewage systems may be deficient with regard to one or both of these treatment processes. Cesspools, for example, were frequently installed to serve older homes yet incorporate no effective treatment mechanisms. A typical cesspool is a cylindrical excavation with an open bottom and walls lined with unmortared stone or concrete block. Raw sewage is discharged into the cesspool from a sewer pipe connected to the building drain. Most solids accumulate in the cesspool, and the remaining liquid sewage waste is absorbed into the soil through the open bottom and porous sides of the cesspool. With no treatment tank, cesspools do not allow for setting of solids and scum or anaerobic decomposition of the sewage wastes before introduction to the soil, as would a modern sewage system. The wastewater that is absorbed by the soil is also at a much greater depth than a modern sewage system, resulting in little or no aerobic bacterial treatment before coming in contact with groundwater. Lastly, a cesspool is often excavated to depths at or near groundwater, greatly diminishing the physical treatment of wastewater as occurs when moving through an adequate depth of unsaturated soil.

Other older on-lot systems may employ a treatment tank, but rely upon cesspools or obsolete absorption area designs for disposal. Many older absorption areas consisted of excavations with perforated pipe, often set in an aggregate bed similar to modern sewage systems, but these were typically installed without regard to soil percolation rates, depth to groundwater, or presence of excessive rock which could have open voids forming a direct conduit to groundwater.

Some of these older on-lot systems may appear to function well, in that no wastewater backs up into a home or on to the ground surface. An elevated risk for groundwater contamination may nonetheless exist due to potential treatment deficiencies.

In consideration of these factors, and in accordance with DEP sewage facilities planning guidance, the age of neighborhoods in the Study Area were evaluated to identify areas which may have sewage systems which were constructed prior to establishment of Act 537 design standards by Pennsylvania in 1972. In cases where these older homes have not had more modern sewage systems installed, a predominance of obsolete sewage

How many cases? There are not many homes in this situation. No data.

system technologies may exist.



Map II-3 illustrates the age of neighborhoods relative to the establishment of Act 537 defined on-lot system design standards in 1972. Since absorption area age is the salient consideration with older homes, properties where available CCHD sewage system repair data shows newer absorption area installations are excluded from any pre-1972 designations on this map regardless of neighborhood age. A greater number of older homes with newer systems exist than indicated on Map II-2, but accurate identification of these parcels is not possible given that the available CCHD data does not include system repair permits issued prior to approximately 1999.

Some neighborhoods were under construction when the design standards were instituted, and other clusters of non-development lots were constructed over a wide range of time. Such areas have a mix of pre and post 1972 home construction, and are designated as such on Map II-3. In these cases, the general age of sewage systems cannot be incorporated in sewage needs evaluations since no area-wide determination can be made. ✓ JPK

What is the point here? That further investigation is required? Does map II-3 support the new data? Has this map been updated to reflect the new statistics?

D. Lot Sizes

The size of a residential lot can be a significant factor in determining long term conditions for on-lot sewage disposal. If lot sizes in an area or neighborhood are generally large enough to allow for installation of replacement on-lot systems, limited problems may be expected for long term on-lot system use. Lot sizes of at least 1 acre in size are generally accepted by DEP as a threshold in meeting this standard, assuming soils mapping does not indicate unsuitable soils and lots are served by individual water supply wells.

How many wells still exist?

The 1 acre standard has been modified for this planning effort to also consider areas constructed with public water service in lieu of individual wells. In these cases, a smaller lot size was used as a threshold to identify potential sewage needs areas. Use of an individual on-lot well requires a minimum isolation distance of 100 feet between the well and any sewage system absorption area per DEP regulations; by eliminating sewage system constraints for this significant portion of a lot, a lot smaller than 1 acre served by public water may allow for similar replacement sewage system feasibility as a 1 acre lot with a well. A minimum lot size of 0.75 acre was used to identify areas without individual wells which may have lots which are too small to accommodate replacement sewage system areas.

How was this determined? What was the basis?

Map II-3 illustrates areas served by public water and areas served by individual wells. Although public water service is generally available in West Wynn I, the Grandview Acres area, and the West Lynn area, Chester County Health Department data suggests that many individual wells are still in use. Lot sizes for these areas were consequently evaluated at the more conservative 1 acre threshold.

How many?

Since soils which are generally unsuitable for on-lot sewage disposal would render any area infeasible for a replacement sewage system, all lot sizes have been further evaluated as net lot areas, exclusive of wetlands, 100 year floodplains, and any areas which NRCS soils data indicates to be generally unsuitable.

Map II-4 depicts lots of less than 1 acre net where on-lot water supplies are present (including areas where public water is available) and lots of less than 0.75 acres net where served exclusively by public water. All parcels in this condition may be appropriately considered as a long term sewage needs indicator.

Is this map up to date?

E. Sewage Needs Summary

As discussed in the preceding sections of this Chapter, various conditions have been identified as either existing or long-term sewage needs indicators per the criteria evaluated. Table II-5 summarizes all such data, and is followed by additional discussion of each salient category.

TABLE II-5
SEWAGE NEEDS SUMMARY

These comments seem to be subjective and based on opinion. With words like "unlikely", "may need ongoing repair" are not factual. Suggest changing wording.

Sewage Needs Identified	Criteria	No. of Parcels	% of Study Area ⁽¹⁾	Wording Comments
Existing	Repair permit application, unresolved	17	1.7%	Current on-lot repair difficulties possible
	Repair permit application, no feasible repair	8	0.8%	Current on-lot repair difficulties known
	Pumping more than once per year	62	6.1%	<u>May</u> be indicative of <u>ongoing need</u> for repair
	Total Existing Sewage Needs	83	8.1%	Total less than sum of each criteria; some parcels meet more than 1 criterion
Long Term	Absorption area permit issued	124	12.2%	<u>Diminished</u> ability to <u>install another</u> replacement area
	Absorption Area permit issued with BTG	3	0.3%	<u>Unlikely</u> to accommodate another replacement area
	Pre-1972 Lots/Systems	476	46.7%	Limited significance in the absence of other needs indicators
	Small Net Lot Sizes	360	35.3%	Soil suitability incorporated via net-out of unsuitable soils
	Total Long Term Sewage Needs	579	56.8%	Total less than sum of each criteria; some parcels meet more than 1 criterion
None		357	35.0%	Includes all remaining improved parcels

(1) Percent of 1,019 improved parcels in the Study Area. There are 29 vacant parcels excluded from calculation

Existing Sewage Needs

This classification represents those criteria which indicate either existing on-lot system malfunctions which cannot be repaired, or known conditions which suggest a repair may be warranted. A total of 83 lots exhibit one or more of the identified existing needs criteria, collectively comprising approximately 8.1% of the 1,019 improved parcels in the Study Area.

The specific criteria, all based on CCHD records, which have been deemed indicative of an existing sewage need by Westtown Township are summarized below.

1. Sewage system repair permit application submitted, repair feasibility unresolved – as previously noted, parcels included in this category represent those which have

submitted initial permit application paperwork but no documentation is available which confirms that a repair cannot be completed. Since no design information has been submitted to CCHD in order to secure a permit, problems may remain unresolved. Additional lot-by-lot investigation would be needed to confirm current status and identify regulatory malfunctions as may presently warrant repair.

There are a total of 17 parcels in this category, generally distributed throughout the Study Area with a somewhat higher concentration in the Grandview Acres area.

2. Sewage system repair permit application submitted, repair infeasible – this category represents parcels for which a CCHD repair permit application was submitted but no permit could be issued due to unsuitable site conditions. There are a total of 8 parcels in this category, and 4 of these are concentrated in the West Wynn I area.

3. System pumping more than once per year – the frequent pumping documented for the 62 parcels in this category may be indicative of ongoing on-lot sewage system problems. Additional lot-by-lot investigations would be needed to identify any incidence of malfunction and repair feasibility.

Frequent pumping incidence is noted throughout the Study Area, with greater concentrations in the Grandview Acres/ West Lynn area, West Wynn I, Westtown Farms, Edgewood Chase, and Tyson Drive/Hummingbird Farm areas.

Long Term Sewage Needs

* Long term sewage needs are those which do not suggest current problems but may nonetheless present challenges to on-lot sewage system use in the future. Parcels included in this classification are those not addressed as an existing needs indicator and which exhibit any of the following conditions:

1. CCHD absorption area repair permit issued – the 124 parcels in this category reflect relatively recent (since approximately 1999) absorption area installations completed in accordance with CCHD and DEP requirements. Although no significant incidence of current problems is likely, the ability for these lots to accommodate yet another new absorption area in the future may be reduced due to the area already consumed by the original and replacement absorption areas.

These repairs are generally distributed throughout the Study Area, although reduced incidence is apparent in Plum Lea Farms, Shiloh Hills, Chateau Drive area, Avonlea, and Butternut Drive areas.

2. CCHD absorption area repair permit issued using BTG – Only 3 parcels are noted in this category. Despite various isolation distance compromises, these system are all relatively new (the oldest was installed in 2009) and may be expected to be functioning satisfactorily at this time. Installation of another absorption area in the

future may be impossible, however, since extraordinary measures were required to permit the current repair area. *really? like what?*

Two of these repairs were conducted in the Pennwood South area, with the remaining permit issued for a parcel in the Westover Farms neighborhood.

3. Pre - 1972 sewage systems - in the absence of other needs indicators, a prevalence of older homes and sewage systems does not warrant consideration as an existing sewage need; however, a greater need for future sewage system repairs may be expected as older sewage systems need to be replaced.

()* The available data indicates likelihood for older sewage system technologies in the following neighborhoods or areas: Tyson Drive, Hummingbird Lane, Carolyn Drive, Hunt Drive, West Wynn I, Westtown Farms, Pennwood, Grandview Acres, West Lynn, Westover Farms, and Butternut Lane.

4. Lot sizes - where lots may be too small and/or have inadequate area of suitable soil to allow for a replacement absorption area, long term planning is warranted to mitigate any incidence of malfunction. As previously noted, soil suitability considerations are also incorporated within this category via calculation of net lot areas exclusive of generally unsuitable soils.

A high incidence of small net lot sizes is noted in the Tyson Drive area, West Wynn I, Westtown Farms, Grandview Acres, Westover Farms, and the West Lynn area.

Sewage Needs Conclusions and Planning Needed *of special study 7)*

As indicated on Map II-6, existing sewage needs indicators are generally dispersed throughout the Study Area and limited in number. Long term sewage needs comprise the majority of identified concerns, and are generally distinguished by areas with small net lot sizes and/or older residences.

DEP Act 537 planning regulations generally require identification of five and ten year sewage needs areas, i.e. those areas which may be in need of improved sewage facilities within the applicable time period. Given the limited incidence of existing sewage needs identified, Westtown Township has determined that no five year needs designation is appropriate for the Study Area. Sewage planning is needed primarily to address the long term needs of existing residences, and the Township has accordingly classified the entirety of the Study Area as a ten year needs area. ***

Alternatives to address the identified sewage needs are discussed in Chapter IV.

CHAPTER III

EXISTING SEWAGE FACILITIES

Existing sewage facilities in the planning area, generally encompassing the eastern portion of the Township, consist of the Westtown-Chester Creek public sewerage system, the Westtown School sewerage system, and on-lot disposal systems.

A. Public Sewerage Facilities

The Westtown-Chester Creek WWTP was originally constructed by a private entity as part of a residential development project in the 1970's. Westtown Township acquired the WWTP in 1997 with a permitted annual average flow of 290,000 gallons per day (gpd). The wastewater treatment facility was upgraded to a permitted capacity of 495,000 gpd in 2002 and is presently operating under NPDES permit No. PA0031771. It is an extended aeration activated sludge plant that has flow equalization and effluent filtration. Discharge is to the east branch of Chester Creek.

Figure II-1 illustrates a schematic of the major treatment units of the WWTP, and the description below identifies the major components of the design:

1. Influent Screen

A self-cleaning mechanical fine screen removes debris from the wastewater. Manual slide gates are used to control the flow to the screen channel or bypass channel. Design information for the mechanical screen:

Bar spacing = 1/4"
Flow Capacity = 2.97 MGD

2. Influent Grit Removal

From the screen room the flow travels to aerated grit chambers. These are rectangular concrete tanks with coarse bubble air diffusers in them. Grit is removed by a vacuum truck.

Nominal capacity = 6,000 gallons (3,000 gallons each)
Maximum air flow rate = 160 SCFM

3. Influent Lift Station

The screened and grit-free influent flows into a lift station. The station has a duplex system of submersible pumps. The pumps deliver the wastewater to the equalization tank. Each pump is sized to accommodate the peak influent flow. Lift station design information:

Pump flow rate	=	1,875 gpm
TDH	=	32.5 ft.
Forcemain diameter	=	16 in.
Forcemain velocity	=	2.8 ft/s

4. Equalization Tank (EQ tank)

The EQ tank was designed to dampen the flow rate variations. A submersible pump conveys the wastewater to the aeration basins for secondary treatment. EQ tank design information:

Available volume	=	352,150 gal
Detention time	=	17 hours
Air flow rate	=	440 SCFM
Water depth	=	16'
Freeboard	=	2'

5. Flow Splitter

Wastewater from the EQ tank is divided by the flow splitter with adjustable weirs to deliver a constant flow rate to each train of aeration basins. Overflow from the flow splitter is returned to the EQ tank.

6. Aeration Basins

The wastewater receives biological treatment by the extended aeration activated sludge process in the dual train aeration basins. Each train consists of two equally sized compartments, in series. Air is supplied to the basins through submerged, flexible membrane diffusers. Aeration basin design information:

Total volume (2 trains)	=	511,800 gallons
Total detention time	=	24.8 hours
Air supply	=	1,955 SCFM (mixing limited)
Sidewater depth	=	16'
Freeboard	=	24"
Return sludge capacity	=	100%

7. Secondary Clarifiers

Wastewater from the aeration basins enters one of two center-fed, circular clarifiers. Solids at the bottom of the clarifier are plowed to the center hopper where they are withdrawn and returned to the aeration basins or wasted to the sludge basin. The clarified effluent overflows to a weir along the perimeter of the tank and flows by gravity to the disk filter. Clarifier design information:

Clarifier diameter	=	34 ft. each
Sludge return rate	=	100%
Volume	=	91,680 gallons each
Hydraulic detention time	=	8.9 hr (@495,000 gpd)
Side water depth	=	15 ft
Freeboard	=	3 ft

8. Sludge Basin

Wasted sludge is held in the sludge basin for removal by a sludge hauler. Air supply is introduced to the sludge basin to keep it odor free and to initiate digestion of volatile solids. The supernatant is removed from the sludge basin.

Volume	=	352,150 gallons
Water depth	=	16 ft
Freeboard	=	2 ft

9. Effluent Filter

Suspended solids remaining in the clarifier effluent are removed by a cloth membrane disk filter. The filter consists of four disks, covered by the cloth membrane, and mounted vertically in a steel tank. The disk filter has a hydraulic capacity of 1 MGD average daily flow. A separate tank holds water for high pressure backwash.

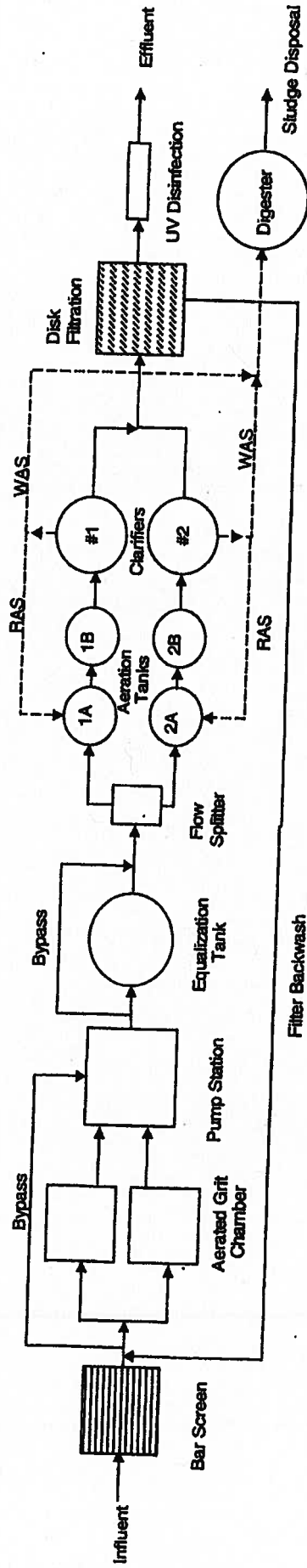
10. Disinfection

The UV disinfection system consists of multiple modules, made up of UV lamps, in a stainless steel channel. The lamps are submerged in the water and arranged parallel to the flow direction for maximum transmittance of the UV radiation to the effluent. The water depth in the UV system channel is maintained by a weir. The UV system has a hydraulic capacity of 800,000 gpd. The disinfected effluent flows by gravity to the replacement outfall and discharges to the east branch of Chester Creek.

11. Residual Management

Grit is regularly removed from the grit chambers by a vacuum truck. Scum at the surface of the secondary clarifiers is returned to the influent. The sludge is wasted to the sludge basin by airlift pumps. All wastewater residuals are hauled off-site and sent to a DEP approved disposal facility.

FIGURE III-1
WESTTOWN-CHESTER CREEK WWTP TREATMENT SCHEMATIC



The collection & conveyance system serving the Westtown-Chester Creek WWTP includes approximately 10.5 miles of gravity sewers and two municipally owned pump stations. Additional description of the collection & conveyance system can be found in the 2011 Wasteload Management Report (Chapter 94 Report) located in Appendix E.

The 2011 Wasteload Management Report indicates that the majority of the collection and conveyance system is in satisfactory condition and has adequate design capacity for existing and projected flows as identified therein. However, a projected hydraulic overload was identified for the Kirkwood pump station due to a significant wet weather event. Report projections indicate that the pump station cannot accommodate instantaneous peak flows with one pump out of service, as required by DEP.

B. Private Sewerage Facilities.

The Westtown School owns and operates a stream discharge wastewater treatment plant under NPDES permit No. PA0050652. This facility has a permitted capacity of 30,000 gallons per day and serves various school and associated residential uses with a discharge to the east branch of the Chester Creek.

DEP issued Water Quality management Permit No. 1507404 in 2007 which provided for abandonment of the Westtown School treatment facility and construction of a pump station and force main to direct wastewater flows to the Township owned Westtown-Chester Creek WWTP conveyance system. The Township is currently in discussion with the school regarding these actions.

C. On-Lot Sewage Systems

Discussion of existing on-lot sewage systems in the Study Area can be found in Chapter II.

CHAPTER IV

WASTEWATER ALTERNATIVES

As discussed in Chapter II, sewage planning alternatives are needed to address the long term needs of existing residences in the Study Area. Alternatives to address this condition are identified and discussed below.

A. **Public Sewage Collection, Conveyance, Treatment, and Disposal Alternatives**

1. Regional Wastewater Treatment

The Study Area is proximate to the Westtown-Chester Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (WCC WWTP) and excess treatment capacity exists in this Township owned facility to serve portions of the Study Area if and when needed. No consideration of regional wastewater treatment is consequently warranted for this planning effort.

2. Extension of Existing Municipal Sewage Facilities to Areas in Need

OR As discussed in Chapter II, existing on-lot sewage system conditions do not appear to represent a significant existing need for extension of public sewage facilities. This alternative was nonetheless considered in the course of this planning effort to identify costs and feasibility of addressing the long term sewage needs of the Study Area via public sewage service.

OR Extension of public sewer to the entirety of the Study Area was not considered within this alternative; it is neither administratively nor economically feasible for the following reasons:

OR • A project of this scope would require a capacity increase at the Westtown-Chester Creek WWTP. More stringent treatment criteria for this facility as may result from ongoing Chester Creek TMDL determinations by the EPA and/or DEP could render an upgrade at this time inadequate in the near future, rendering an informed and cost effective upgrade infeasible at this time.

OR • An area-wide sewer extension project would place significant burden on the Township's administrative and financial capabilities, resulting in a project which could not be reliably implemented by the Township at this time. *and the residents*

- Westtown-Chester Creek WWTP expansion would be needed were the entire Study Area so served. This capacity upgrade would introduce additional costs to affected residents, further compromising economic feasibility of any such project.

*** *Excessive cost to residents for individual requests*
For the purposes of alternatives evaluation, a more limited sewer extension capturing only the neighborhoods generally proximate to the existing collection system was considered (see Map IV-1).

• *Financial details of the Township's debt may be added in this section - in more detail.*

Confusing section

Total WCC WWTP flows under this scenario would remain within available capacity, mitigating costs and risks due to capacity upgrades and unknown TMDL constraints respectively.

Westtown-Chester Creek WWTP service was ^{previously} considered via both gravity sewer extensions and a low pressure sewer system.

Gravity sewers have historically been the most common method used for the collection and conveyance of wastewater. The pipe is installed on a slope to enable the wastewater to flow from the house site to the treatment facility. Pipes are usually a minimum of 8" in diameter and must be installed below the frost line. Manholes are located at regular intervals and at changes of direction or changes in elevation to allow for access and maintenance. In areas of hilly terrain, pump stations are needed to convey the wastewater at points where gravity flow cannot be maintained.

already taken into account
Prior Westtown Act 537 planning proposed an all gravity sewer extension to the entirety of the Study Area. Subsequent design efforts documented costs of approximately \$63,000 per home for such a project, a cost which was too high for most residents to afford. Excessive costs were primarily driven by pipe depth, which would have exceeded 30' deep in areas in order to maintain gravity flow through hilly terrain. The Township consequently investigated a mostly gravity sewer extension, which included some individual grinder pump units (approximately 6%) in an effort to reduce pipe depths to a maximum of approximately 25'. The resultant project costs were nonetheless in excess of \$53,000 per home, a figure the Township still deemed to be economically infeasible.

The current effort is not low pressure
In consideration of the high costs of the prior gravity sewer evaluations, the Township elected to consider a low pressure sewer system ~~for the current planning effort~~ to reduce costs for the more limited area studied under this alternative. A low pressure sewer system has a grinder pump at each service connection. The pumps are one horsepower (0.75 kilowatts) or more, typically require 220 volts, and are equipped with a grinding mechanism that macerates the solids. The head and flow rate provided by the pumps are usually about 50 to 100 feet and 10 to 15 gallons per minute (gpm) but vary widely. The pumps discharge into a completely pressurized pipe system terminating at a treatment plant or conventional sewer. Because the mains are pressurized, there will be no infiltration into them, but infiltration and inflow into the house sewers and the pump wells can occur. The discharge line from the pump is equipped with at least one check valve and one manual valve. Electrical service is required at each service connection. The sewer profile usually parallels the ground surface profile. Horizontal alignment can be curvilinear. Plastic pipe is typically used since it is economical in small sizes, and it resists corrosion. The minimum diameter is 1-1/4 inches for service connections and the smallest mains. Cleanouts are used to provide access for flushing. Automatic air release valves are required at summits in the sewer profile.

Upgrades to existing conveyance system components were also identified as a necessary component of any such sewer extension. Low pressure sewer system service to the subset of the Study Area considered would necessitate conveying additional flows through the Kirkwood pump station and the main interceptor serving the WCC

WWTP. Upgrades to these components would be needed to provide capacity for the additional sewage flows and address peak flow concerns with the Kirkwood Pump Station, as identified in the 2011 Chapter 94 Report for the WCC WWTP..

*Review the map **

Map IV-2 illustrates the low pressure sewer system extension and downstream conveyance improvements identified under this alternative. Detailed cost projections can be found in Appendix F.

This scenario would provide sewer service to 392 residences at a total project cost of approximately \$12,292,000, a cost which includes the purchase price of all individual grinder pump units. The total project cost per home would be approximately \$31,300.

After reviewing additional data recently obtained from the Chester County Health Department, Westtown Township has determined that this public sewer alternative is neither warranted nor implementable at this time for the following reasons:

- Limited existing sewage needs have been identified which would justify a sewer extension at this time. *do not justify*
- * • The majority of existing sewage needs identified remain indeterminate with regard to viability of suitable on-lot system repairs.
- This alternative is not economically feasible – total project costs per home are significant, and many property owners may be unable to afford necessary costs for a sewer extension and connection.
- The Township may be unable to implement this alternative – if property owners cannot afford associated costs, the Township cannot be assured of sufficient revenue to finance the project.

In consideration of the above, this alternative is discounted from further consideration.

1. Subsurface Beds and Trenches

Subsurface beds and trenches are the most conventional on-lot sewage system absorption area configuration. In both cases, perforated pipe is placed in a layer of stone within an excavation in the ground. Wastewater from a treatment tank flows into the perforated pipe and seeps through the stone to the underlying soil. The technology is essentially the same for both beds (single large rectangular excavation) and trenches (multiple narrower rectangular excavations), and the type used is largely a function of site slope; at slopes of greater than 8%, trenches are required in Pennsylvania.

These designs may also include a pump and associated pump tank to convey wastewater from the septic tank to the bed or trenches in cases where gravity flow is not possible, or in cases where a poor percolation rate requires the piping in the bed or trenches to be pressurized.

Two additional variations of subsurface beds and trenches are included in this category: subsurface sand filters and use of leaching chambers.

Subsurface sand filters include sand placement over the entire excavated area to bypass soils with unacceptable permeability prior to placement of stone and pipe. Minimum sand depth is 12 inches and all such designs require pressure dosed distribution.

Leaching chambers are semi-cylindrical plastic chambers installed with the open face on the bottom of a seepage bed or trench excavation. Multiple rows of chambers connected end-to-end may be installed in lieu of stone and pipe. Wastewater flows through the void space created by the chambers and is absorbed by the soil at the bottom of the absorption area excavation. DEP has approved a reduction of up to 40% in minimum absorption area square footage when using leaching chambers to repair an existing on-lot sewage system, which can facilitate installation where limited space is available. Although this area reduction can be beneficial in repairing on-lot systems, leaching chambers are also commonly used due to homeowner preference and site access concerns; it is much easier for an installer to transport plastic chambers than truckloads of stone to a site with difficult access.

Specific design standards for all subsurface bed and trench variations discussed above can be found in Chapter 73 of the DEP regulations, with the exception of leaching chamber use which is addressed in the DEP Alternate Systems Guidance.

Of the 152 permit applications submitted for absorption area repair per available CCHD records, 113 (approximately 74%) were permitted using the subsurface bed or trench variations discussed above, suggesting large areas with soil and slope conditions favorable for use of these technologies.

2. Elevated Sand Mounds

An elevated sand mound is typically used when rock or a water table is too close to the ground surface to allow for an in-ground system. Sand is placed on top of the ground to make up for the lack of soil depth, and the stone and pipe are placed on top of the

sand. All of this is covered and surrounded by a soil berm. As with subsurface sand filters, DEP regulations require that all elevated sand mounds be pressure dosed. Specific design standards for elevated sand mounds can be found in Chapter 73 of the DEP regulations

Six elevated sand mound permits are indicated by the available CCHD data, comprising approximately 4% of all absorption area repair applications submitted.

3. Drip Irrigation

Drip irrigation technology employs the use of small diameter flexible tubing to distribute effluent into the upper 12 inches of the soil. Its primary advantage is applicability for sites that may otherwise require an elevated sand mound; homeowners often prefer the buried drip tubing over an elevated sand mound for aesthetic reasons. Other advantages include use on up to 25% slopes with soils that are otherwise suitable for an elevated sand mound, and increased soil oxygen (due to shallow tubing depth) for more efficient renovation. Standards for drip irrigation are defined in the DEP Alternate Systems Guidance.

Five drip irrigation permits are indicated by the available CCHD data, comprising approximately 3% of all absorption area repair applications submitted.

4. At-Grade Beds

An at grade bed is similar to an elevated sand mound with no sand - the stone and pipe is placed directly on the ground surface and the resulting mound is covered and surrounded by a soil berm. Where the limiting zone is between 20 and 48 inches below the ground surface, the additional filtration as would be provided in an elevated sand mound is accommodated by filter technologies, including free access sand filters, peat filters, or the recently approved Eljen geotextile sand filter. At grade beds can be a viable technology where space is too limited for an elevated sand mound (the decreased mound depth results in a smaller soil berm footprint). Standards for at-grade beds are defined in the DEP Alternate Systems Guidance.

Very limited use of this technology is evident in the available CCHD records - three at grade absorption area permits are indicated, comprising approximately 2% of all absorption area repair applications submitted.

5. Individual Residential Spray Irrigation

Individual residential spray irrigation systems (IRSIS) utilize a stationary sprinkler irrigation system, similar to those used on golf courses, to spray treated effluent over the ground surface. Treated and disinfected wastewater is sprayed on vegetated soils. Effluent is further treated as it travels through the soil matrix by filtration, absorption, ion exchange, microbial action and plant uptake. Vegetation is a vital part of the process and serves to extract nutrients (primarily nitrogen), reduce erosion and maintain soil permeability. The spray system is generally designed to discharge a pre-determined volume of effluent for a short period of time each day. This is generally done at night to

avoid a potential nuisance situation with people or domestic animals. Specific design standards are found in Chapter 73 of the DEP regulations.

IRSIS typically require significantly more land area than other individual sewage system options, making applicability to the Study Area limited due to the relatively small lot sizes. No incidence of IRSIS permitting is noted in the available CCHD data.

6. Additional Alternate Sewage Systems

In addition to the various alternate system technologies discussed above, other alternate system technologies have been approved by DEP which may be considered as needed for any on-lot sewage system repair. These include several technologies which can facilitate system installation on smaller lots with limited available space, such as the Orenco Advantex treatment system, peat filters, and the Eljen geotextile sand filter. In certain conditions, an absorption area size reduction of up to 40% is permitted when using these treatment and filtration systems.

7. Experimental Sewage Systems

Chapter 73, Section 73.1 defines *experimental sewage system* as a method of on-lot sewage treatment and disposal not described in the DEP regulations which may be proposed for testing and observation. DEP administers these provisions through the Experimental Onlot Wastewater Technology Verification Program, whereby new or innovative technologies may be proposed, approved, and monitored. Although time consuming and often expensive, an experimental system option may be considered as a last resort to correct a malfunction in the Study Area.

8. Small Flow Treatment Facilities

In floodplain soils, areas of an extremely high seasonal water table, or areas where the soils will not support soils-based effluent disposal methods, an on-site treatment system with stream discharge may be installed as an individual on-lot system.

Small flow treatment facilities (SFTF's) discharge to surface waters, requiring issuance of a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Improved effluent quality is required to meet the standards set for discharges to surface waters. These systems cannot discharge into a stream designated under Pa Code Title 25, Chapter 93 as Exceptional Value (EV) and may only discharge into a High Quality (HQ) stream when used to repair a malfunctioning system. There are no EV watersheds in Westtown, although the portion of the Study Area generally east of Chester Road is within the Ridley Creek watershed with an HQ designation.

The use of multiple SFTF's is generally not a viable solution to correct significant incidence of on-lot sewage system malfunction, as this creates a proliferation of sewage discharges which require regular operation, maintenance, and Township administration issues. Use of SFTF's may nonetheless be a viable option in Westtown for limited cases of on-lot system malfunction when other soil-based options cannot be used

and where appropriate discharge areas exist. Treatment and permitting requirements would need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Since DEP issues permits directly for small flow treatment facilities, no incidence of this technology is noted in the available CCHD data.

9. Holding Tanks

As defined by DEP on-lot sewage system regulations, a holding tank is a water-tight receptacle which receives and retains sewage by a water-carrying system and is designed and constructed to facilitate ultimate disposal of the sewage at another site. Holding tanks require regular and frequent pumping to prevent tank contents from overflowing on the ground surface.

The term 'holding tank' should not be confused with the term 'retaining tank', which by current DEP definition includes holding tanks as well as chemical toilets, privies, incinerating toilets, composting toilets, and recycling toilets; as described, the term 'retaining tank' embodies treatment methodologies as well.

Although costly over time and maintenance intensive, holding tanks may be considered to repair a malfunctioning on-lot sewage system in Westtown where no other option exists and aggressive system pumping fails to adequately manage a failing sewage system.

Although many alternatives are potentially available to repair or replace a malfunctioning on-lot sewage system in the Study Area, a prevalence of relatively small lots in the Study Area may still compromise repair abilities. It should be noted that public water availability may alleviate this concern in some cases, as public water is generally available in several neighborhoods where individual on-lot water supplies remain (see Map II-4). In these cases, well abandonment and connection to public water may alleviate well isolation distance constraints and expand available lot area for any needed sewage system repair. In order to more fully meet the long term needs of the Study Area, however, additional consideration of an on-lot sewage management program may be warranted to mitigate the need for future sewage system repairs.

C. **Sewage Management Program**

Chapter 71, section 71.71 of the DEP regulations states "Municipalities are required to assure the proper operation and maintenance of sewage facilities within their borders. Proper operation and maintenance of sewage facilities is essential to the provision of adequate sewage treatment and disposal over the functional life of a sewage treatment system." ~~An on-lot sewage management program would provide for Township and property owner activities as needed to effect the noted requirements.~~

The 2002 Westtown Township Act 537 Plan, as approved by DEP in 2006, provided for an on-lot sewage management program with the following features:

- Township administration of a public education program which would inform residents of the need for and benefits of regular sewage system maintenance.
- Annual (or other specified period) certification of all on-lot sewage systems.
- Mandatory sewage system pumping at least once every two years or at the direction of the certifier.

Implementation of a program generally consistent with the scope above would promote the longevity of existing sewage systems, augmenting Alternative B (Continued Use of On-Lot Sewage Systems) by mitigating the need for future sewage system replacement or repair.

Although the general program scope from prior Act 537 planning may remain valid, it was originally proposed under the assumption that all unsewered properties in the Township would be eventually connected to public sewer. As discussed under alternative A.2 in this Chapter, Westtown Township has not determined any extension of public sewer to be feasible at this time. The Township has accordingly identified more detailed sewage management program provisions as appropriate to address the long term sewage needs of the planning area.

→ The on-lot sewage management program, as refined, would include the following Township and property owner responsibilities:

- OK • Township administration of a public education program which would inform residents of the need for and benefits of regular sewage system maintenance.
- OK • Detailed initial sewage system inspections to identify sewage system type, functional status, and maintenance needs. These inspections would be conducted by a maintenance contractor certified by the Pennsylvania Septage Management Association (PSMA) and hired by the property owner. A written inspection report will be provided by the Township to identify all required information. Inspection methods will generally be in accordance with PSMA standards, which are the only generally accepted industry-wide standards in Pennsylvania. Detailed initial inspections will be required to be completed within three years of Township adoption of an on-lot sewage management ordinance. - to whom
- OK • Ongoing routine inspections will be required every three years to maintain oversight of maintenance and operational measures that impact sewage system function. These inspections would not need to be as intensive as the initial inspections, since baseline data such as system type and general maintenance needs will have been established. Qualified maintenance contractors hired by the property owner would complete routine inspections using Township supplied forms.
- OK • Property owners will be responsible for having on-lot systems pumped at least once every three years, unless a modified schedule is deemed appropriate by the Township due to inspection findings, operational conditions, or functional status.

OK A draft On-Lot Management Ordinance can be found in Appendix G which memorializes the sewage management program activities. A draft form for initial inspection reports can be found in Appendix H which illustrates the general scope of anticipated inspection requirements.

* Some individual sewage system technologies may require more detailed maintenance activities than a typical septic system. The initial inspection process will serve to identify any such systems types, including certain alternate systems, experimental systems, and small flow treatment facilities. In these cases, the Township will require specific maintenance activities as recommended by the equipment manufacturer and/or DEP and the payment of a fee by the property owner to cover Township costs for increased oversight. The draft On-Lot Management Ordinance in Appendix G includes provisions for these specific maintenance activities.

Holding tanks would also require specific maintenance oversight, as specified in the draft On-Lot Management Ordinance.

Implementation of the sewage management program described above would facilitate the long term use of on-lot sewage systems by the following means:

OK • Current malfunctions – the initial inspections will provide detailed information regarding functional status. Any instance of suspected regulatory malfunction will be referred to CCHD for follow-up investigation and corrective measures. Should a repair be deemed infeasible, the Township will enforce water conservation and more aggressive system pumping requirements as necessary to abate any incidence of malfunction. Subsequent routine inspections will also serve to monitor conditions where any such increased maintenance is needed.

OK • Current system function – the initial inspections will identify a wide range of recommended repair and/or maintenance activities to improve current on-lot system performance. Initiation of periodic pumping requirements will further improve system function.

OK • Long term system function – rigorous oversight of maintenance activities, in some cases tailored to system type, will be provided by the inspection processes, the pumping requirements, and the additional measures specified in the draft On-Lot Management Ordinance. By ensuring adequate maintenance for all sewage systems, system longevity will increase, system performance with regard to environmental impacts will be improved, and future incidence of malfunction will be minimized.

D. Community Sewage Systems

No community systems are known to exist in the Study Area, and no discussion of community system rehabilitation or repair is applicable.

E. Non-Structural Planning Alternatives

Non-structural planning alternatives include revision to the Township's Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance, or Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to improve consistency with Act 537 planning for the Study Area. Since this planning effort focuses solely on existing residences, most land use planning documents are inapplicable and consideration of these alternatives is discounted from further consideration.

F. No-Action Alternative

A no-action alternative would necessitate implementation of the currently approved Act 537 Plan, which was approved by DEP in 2006 and provided for a gravity sewer system extension serving all residences in the Study Area.

OK The Township has determined that public sewer connection for all existing residences as provided for by the 2006 Plan approval is neither warranted nor implementable for the following reasons:

- OK* Sewage needs – identification of public sewage needs in the 2006 approved Act 537 Plan was predicated upon the results of a mail survey conducted by West Chester University to identify existing sewage system concerns, with additional consideration of other factors such as lot sizes and soils to establish long term needs conditions. New and updated information is provided in Chapter II of the current planning effort which suggests that the majority of parcels in the Study Area which have needed on-lot system repairs have been able to effect those repairs in accordance with applicable DEP and CCHD requirements. The ability to effect needed on-lot system repairs does not support the prior public sewage needs determination.
- OK* Costs – Westtown initiated design efforts for gravity sewer extensions subsequent to the 2006 Act 537 Plan approval. Additional detailed information required as part of final engineering design efforts, coupled with construction cost escalation subsequent to preparation of the prior Plan, resulted in a 2007 total project cost per household of approximately \$63,000 for service to all residences via gravity sewer. The Township attempted to mitigate this cost burden to residents by pursuing a modified sewer extension project which would reduce costs by lessening the depth of gravity sewers and connecting some homes by individual grinder pump units. The total project cost per household for this modified project approach would have been approximately \$53,000. The Township has determined the costs under either scenario to be economically infeasible.
- X* Implementation – the 2006 approved Act 537 Planning cannot be implemented by the Township due to excessive costs. *and no viable need.* Many residents would simply not be able to afford the requisite sewer connections. The Township project would consequently be substantially unfunded and thereby rendered infeasible from a financing perspective.

OK A no action alternative is accordingly deemed without merit and discounted from further consideration.

WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP ACT 537 SPECIAL STUDY
PUBLIC COMMENTS AND TOWNSHIP RESPONSES

Westtown Township received 103 comment letters and emails in response to the August 10, 2012 through September 9, 2012 public comment period as set forth in the public notice for the August 2012 draft Act 537 Official Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study: Sewage Needs of Existing Residences. Additional comments were provided via the residents' survey conducted by the Concerned Citizens for Westtown Sewers. All comments have been reviewed by the Township and changes to the Act 537 Plan have been made where appropriate.

A summary of comments received is presented below. Many letters conveyed the same general comments, and where applicable these comments have been consolidated into one summary statement. Westtown Township responses are indicated in bold italic text.

1. I support the Act 537 Plan with the on-lot sewage management program and/or I am opposed to public sewer.

No response needed.

2. My on-lot sewage system is working fine and/or has been regularly maintained.

These conditions support the currently proposed update to the Westtown Township Act 537 Plan.

3. I cannot afford the costs for a public sewer connection; these costs would be a financial hardship.

These conditions support the currently proposed update to the Westtown Township Act 537 Plan.

4. The Township's financial status would be jeopardized by borrowing to pay for a public sewer extension.

Although no public sewer is proposed by the current document, additional information regarding Township finances and associated impacts on residents for a public sewer alternative has been incorporated in Chapter IV of the Act 537 Plan.

5. I am opposed to a grinder pump public sewer system. This is an inferior technology and power outages in Westtown Township are too common to avoid problems with grinder pump usage.

No public sewer system is proposed by the current Act 537 Plan.

6. A one acre lot is not too small for on-lot sewage system replacement.

Every lot is unique, and in many cases a suitable replacement sewage system area can be situated on lots of less than one acre. In other cases, factors such as poor soils, slope, and existing features can compromise the ability to replace a sewage system on lots of greater than 1 acre. The 1 acre threshold is a DEP accepted standard for generally assessing area-wide conditions, and has been considered only in this context by the Westtown Township Act 537 Plan. Every property owner will need to evaluate conditions specific to their lot when and if a replacement sewage system is needed, and there is no Township restriction on lot size in doing so.

7. Availability of public water improves viability of on-lot sewage system replacement.

This is noted in the Act 537 Plan, and the prevalence of public water availability in the area studied is a factor which supports the selected Act 537 Plan alternative for continued use of on-lot sewage systems.

8. Should DEP require us to implement a public sewer system, we strongly believe a township-wide solution should be evaluated, approved, and implemented in which all residents equally participate.

The Township will consider this concern if necessary, but intends to make every effort to secure DEP approval of the current Act 537 Plan.

9. Can the Township install sewers but not require connection, or not require connection until some point in the future?

The Township considered this option, but the only feasible way to finance a public sewer project would be by requiring connections when a sewer is installed. Otherwise, the resulting Township debt burden would ultimately fall on the shoulders of residents in other parts of the Township.

10. Regarding page IV-11 of the draft Plan, yearly certification of on-lot systems is too frequent and inspections should be synchronized with pumping.

The provisions noted are part of a discussion about prior Township Act 537 planning. The current Plan provides for inspections every three years and allows for these inspections to coincide with pumping.

11. An executive summary should be at the beginning of the Act 537 Plan
An executive summary has been added.

12. The background section should be moved to the end or included as an appendix

The background is a significant component of the Act 537 issues faced by the Township, and has been retained at the front of the Plan for this reason.

13. Township financial status and the financial burden on residents for public sewer alternatives need to be presented more clearly.

Additional discussion of Township finances and the financial burden on residents (were a public sewer option implemented) has been added to Chapter IV.

14. Narrative comments were provided via an annotated copy of portions of the draft Act 537 plan.

All notes were reviewed and revisions to the Plan incorporated where deemed appropriate by the Township.

15. Has the Township investigated any grants for public sewer?

Yes, but the current economic downturn has severely restricted or eliminated most grant funding opportunities. The Township will revisit these conditions as part of any future Act 537 planning, but has determined that no public sewer extensions are warranted at this time.

16. Keeping on-lot sewage systems is important to replenishing groundwater.

Yes, and more importantly keeping well maintained and fully functioning on-lot sewage systems will help replenish groundwater while minimizing groundwater pollution. The current Act 537 Plan seeks to achieve these goals.

17. I don't want a sewer main through my property.

No new sewers are proposed by the Act 537 Plan, and those which were considered as part of the alternatives analysis would have been located entirely within road rights-of-way.

18. Additional narrative was suggested regarding the background discussion in Chapter I of the draft Act 537 Plan.

This has been reviewed and changes made to the Plan where deemed appropriate by the Township.

19. Discussion and comments regarding Chapter II of the draft Act 537 Plan were provided, including: Woodland Road does have public water available; Several lots designated as less than 1 acre are actually statistically 1 acre (0.97 acre or larger); and the NRCS data that had been used in the past did not ever get verified by testing.

Discussion and mapping has been revised to reflect the availability of public water on Woodland Road. The one acre lot size was considered as a general threshold in accordance with DEP policies and guidance. NRCS soils mapping represents the accepted soil science standard for area-wide assessments, but as noted in the Act 537 Plan lot specific evaluations are always needed to determine whether an on-lot sewage system can be installed.

20. The discussion on page IV-3 regarding a general low pressure sewer system configuration is not consistent with the specific alternative analyzed for the Act 537 Plan.

Although this discussion was intended as a general description, the language has been revised to incorporate specific conditions evaluated in Westtown as suggested.

21. The stated cost of \$12.3 million for a low pressure sewer system alternative on page IV-4 is probably \$18 million due to actual construction costs in 2012 dollars. Also, the out-of-pocket costs to be borne by residents is not included in this total.

As stated in the Act 537 Plan, Westtown Township has determined that a \$12.3 million sewer project is not economically feasible in light of the identified conditions. This determination would be unaffected by any increase in this figure.

The opinions of probable costs were based on recently bid municipal sewer construction projects similar to the alternative considered by Westtown, and incorporated an increase of 25% to allow for unforeseen contingencies as are inherent in any planning project.

Discussion has been added to Chapter IV to clarify additional out-of-pocket costs as would be borne by residents under the public sewer alternative.

22. Map II-3 misses many homes built post 1980 and up to 2009.

The map is intended to facilitate area-wide considerations and accordingly reflects Township records regarding overall development construction dates, not specific lot-by-lot construction dates. Revision has nonetheless been made to update sewage system ages commensurate with available Chester County Health Department repair permit data and specific lot ages where clarified by residents.

23. Greater than 75% of the lots listed as “public water available” on Maps II-4 and II-5 are connected to public water.

No accurate records are available to delineate each lot that has abandoned a well and connected to public water. Although the Chester County Health Department had tracked this activity in the past, these efforts were discontinued years ago.

The distinction is not germane to on-lot system repair feasibility in any event. The salient factor in considering on-lot sewage system repair feasibility is the availability of public water, allowing any homeowner in these areas the increased flexibility to abandon a well and connect to public water (if they have not already done so) if needed to effect a sewage system replacement.

Although the actual number of remaining wells in these areas is indeterminate, the prevalence of public water connections does mitigate any potential concerns with safe drinking water supplies and the Plan narrative has been revised to clarify that a majority of residences in these areas are so served.

24. Lots designated long term sewage needs on Map II-6 have not been tested to determine how many will still be able to continue with on-site systems. Given the data contained in this document, most should be able to remain on-site.

The Act 537 Plan supports this position and the alternatives of continued on-lot sewage system use in conjunction with an on-lot sewage management program which entails detailed inspections for every lot were selected by the Township for this very reason.

25. The costs breakdown for a low pressure sewer system offered to residents at April 2012 meetings specifically state in a PowerPoint presentation that the residents would be responsible for the grinder pump purchase, installation, and maintenance. Therefore that cost is not included in the costs found in Appendix F.

This sewer alternative has been discounted by the Township; however, the April meetings presentation materials, which are available on the Township web site, do not state that residents would have been responsible for grinder pump purchase. The presentation did indicate that residents would own the grinder pumps, which may be the source of some confusion. In considering that alternative, it was the Township's intention to provide pumps to homeowners as part of overall project costs so that economies of scale could be realized for bulk purchase. Appendix F includes pump purchase costs.

The presentation materials did specify that residents would have been responsible for grinder pump installation and maintenance. Discussion has been added to Chapter IV to address additional homeowner costs under the public sewer alternative.