



# Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

STEVEN GLICKMAN  
Chair

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Vice Chair

KEVIN SCHMIDT  
Treasurer

BECKY A. BRADLEY, AICP  
Executive Director

## ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 11:00 am AGENDA

THE MEETING CAN BE ACCESSED AT <https://tinyurl.com/ENV2022mtgs> OR VIA PHONE  
610-477-5793 Conf ID: 579 141 820#

### Roll Call

### General Announcement

1. Geoff Reese, PE, Director of Environmental Planning Retirement

### Committee Business:

1. *ACTION ITEM:* Act 537 Review – Sewage Facilities Plan Update – Northampton Borough/Allen Township (SR)
2. *ACTION ITEM:* DRBC Review – Application to Renew Approval of Existing Groundwater Withdrawal and Expand Service Area – Portland Borough Authority (SR)
3. *ACTION ITEM:* DRBC Review – Application to Renew Approval of Existing Groundwater and Surface Water Withdrawal – Holcim US, Whitehall Township (DK, SR)
4. *ACTION ITEM:* Lehigh County Authority Preliminary Capital Plans – Suburban and Allentown Divisions 2023-2027 (SR)

**Next Environment Planning Committee Meeting:**  
May 24, 2022 at 11:00 am via Microsoft Teams



## Project Review Summary Sheet

Environment Committee

Date: April 2022

Project	Municipality	Statement of Purpose	LVPC Comment
Sewage Facilities Plan Update (Act 537 Review)	<b>Northampton Borough/Allen Township</b>	<p>Borough treatment plant currently serves the Borough and portions of the Township. The plan evaluates existing and future public sewer needs of the Borough and Township in defined sewer service areas as well as on-lot system needs. Based on evaluation over 20-year planning period, an additional 0.274 million gallons per day (mgd) is required to meet future sewer service area needs. The plan recommends upgrading the Borough treatment plant from 1.5 (mgd) to 2.0 mgd. Borough will investigate/reduce infiltration/inflow (I/I) in sewer system. Township will adopt sewage management plan for on-lot systems.</p> <p>Potential infill development in southern area of Township between the Borough and industrial development that includes FedEx is recommended to connect to Catasauqua sewer treatment plant. The industrial development is served by Catasauqua plant, which has capacity to meet identified future needs (0.17 mgd) of the infill development.</p>	<p>Treatment plant upgrade exhibits consistency with FutureLV. Proposed future sewer service areas primarily located within designated Development area, with some areas partially within Preservation Buffer and Farmland Preservation. Sewer service should be provided in areas recommended for Development in the General Land Use Plan or consistent with the action to “match development intensity with sustainable infrastructure capacity” (under Policy 1.1) or meet the defined Development Criteria of FutureLV.</p> <p>I/I removal matches with the action to ‘improve the utility and mobility infrastructure of the region.’ Township adoption of sewage management program aligns with action to ‘protect the quality and quantity of surface water and groundwater.’</p>
Application to Renew Approval of Existing Groundwater Withdrawal & Expand Service Area (DRBC Review)	<b>Portland Borough/Upper Mt. Bethel Township</b>	<p>Application by Portland Borough Authority (PBA) to renew approval of existing groundwater withdrawal of up to 12.4 million gallons/month (mgm) from four wells in Upper Mt. Bethel Township. PBA serves the Borough and portions of the Township and proposes to expand service to additional areas of Township, including the Turkey Ridge Road, Mt Bethel Village and River Point Industrial areas and Portland Power Plant site. Ten-year peak month demand expected to increase to 14.88 mgm. No increase in allocation currently proposed. Ten-year renewal cycle.</p>	<p>Continued provision of service to existing customers exhibits consistency with FutureLV. The proposed service areas are not recommended for growth in FutureLV, however, due to growth interest coupled with Township zoning, the provision of the public utility infrastructure necessary for future development exhibits consistency with the action to “match development intensity with sustainable infrastructure capacity” (under Policy 1.1).</p>



## Project Review Summary Sheet

**Environment Committee**

**Date: April 2022**

Project	Municipality	Statement of Purpose	LVPC Comment
<p>Application to Renew Approval of Existing Groundwater and Surface Water Withdrawal (DRBC Review)</p>	<p><b>Whitehall Township</b></p>	<p>Application by Holcim US, Inc. to renew approval of existing groundwater and surface water withdrawal to supply up to 70.68 million gallons per month of water to the applicant's cement manufacturing plant. Water use is primarily for non-contact cooling purposes. Water is withdrawn from two existing wells and existing intake on the Lehigh River. No increase in allocation proposed. Ten-year renewal cycle.</p>	<p>Exhibits consistency with FutureLV action to 'protect the quality and quantity of surface water and groundwater' (under Policy 3.2). No substantial adverse impacts anticipated with continued operation. In addition, under the permit, DRBC may modify or suspend its approval or any permit condition to mitigate adverse impacts.</p>



## Project Review Summary Sheet

Environment Committee

Date: April 2022

Project	Municipality	Statement of Purpose	LVPC Comment
<p>Lehigh County Authority - Preliminary Capital Plans (2023-2027)</p>		<p><b><u>SUBURBAN DIVISION</u></b></p> <p><b>New Projects:</b> <b><u>Water</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Water Systems Master Planning</i></b></p> <p>Preparation of preliminary water supply study for Central Lehigh Division (Upper Macungie, Lower Macungie and small portions of Lowhill, Weisenberg and Upper Milford) and North Whitehall Division to evaluate supply capacity requirements to meet existing and future needs.</p> <p><b><i>Upper System Tank Installation Project</i></b></p> <p>Aging existing 2-million-gallon storage tank in Central Lehigh Division Upper System in Upper Macungie Township north of I-78 to undergo repairs to extend service life. Construction of 2-million-gallon water storage tank to provide redundancy and long-term storage needs in Upper System.</p> <p><b>New Project:</b> <b><u>Sewer</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Western Lehigh Interceptor (WLI) Major Rehabilitation and Repairs</i></b></p> <p>Project includes infiltration and inflow investigation and remediation of sewer manholes and interceptor main line in the WLI service area.</p>	<p>Evaluating/providing system improvements to meet existing and future needs exhibits consistency with <i>FutureLV: The Regional Plan</i> action to ‘improve the utility and mobility infrastructure of the region’ (under Policy 1.1). Provision of service should be provided in areas recommended for Development in the General Land Use Plan or consistent with the action to “match development intensity with sustainable infrastructure capacity” (under Policy 1.1) or meet the defined Development Criteria of FutureLV.</p>