

PUBLIC NOTICE

A draft sewage facilities plan entitled Official Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan was prepared for the Bear Creek Township Board of Supervisors and is proposed to be adopted. The plan was prepared as required by Pennsylvania Act 537. This notice has been published to allow the general public to comment on the proposed plan.

The Official Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan Update for Bear Creek Township has been developed to provide for the sewerage needs of Bear Creek Township and in particular two (2) study areas within the Township. Study Area No. 1 consists of the Llewelyn's Corners and Pittston Boulevard areas, and Study Area No. 2 consists of the Forest Park, Trailwood, and Country Club Estates areas. The total combined sewage flows for these areas are estimated at 150,000 gallons per day.

The plan provides pertinent background information about the two study areas, outlines five alternatives for sewage collection, conveyance, treatment and disposal and recommends the most viable alternative to meet the wastewater disposal needs of the two study areas.

The recommended alternative involves the construction of a central sewage collection system for Study Area 1 and Study Area 2 with conveyance to the Plains Township sewage collection system. The proposed system would connect to an existing manhole on East Mountain Boulevard in Plains Township. Sewage would then be conveyed through Plains Township to an existing Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WVSA) pump station. Ultimate treatment would occur at the existing WVSA plant located in Hanover Township with discharge to the Susquehanna River. The sewage collection and conveyance system for Study Areas 1 and 2 will consist of a combination of gravity sewers, low pressure sewers, and two (2) pump stations to convey the sewage to the connection manhole in Plains Township.

For Bear Creek Township residents located within Study Areas 1 and 2, the estimated minimum annual user fee per equivalent dwelling unit (EDU) for the recommended alternative is \$ 1,098 or \$91.50 per month. This project will not impact the current annual user fee for Plains Township residents. Funding for the proposed wastewater construction project is expected to be obtained from the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PennVest). If funding cannot be secured through the primary funding source, Bear Creek Township proposes to secure funding from the Rural Utilities Services (RUS), as its backup funding source.

Before construction of this project, Bear Creek Township and Plains Township will enter into an inter-municipal agreement regarding public sewage conveyance resulting from this project.

A 30 day comment period has been established on the date of this advertisement to allow the general public to comment on the proposed plan revision. The general public may review the proposed plan at the Bear Creek Township Building during regular office hours 8:30 a.m. to 2:30p.m., Monday through Friday.

The general public may provide written comments to the Bear Creek Township Supervisors, 3333 Bear Creek Boulevard, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18702. All written comments must be received prior to the end of the 30 day public comment period. A copy of written comments received and the responses to the comments will be included in the plan.