



# ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

January 13, 2021

To: Terrence D. McCracken, Secretary to the Authority

From: Michael W. Wymer, Senior Production Engineer *MWW*

Subject: Staff Item - Washwater Tank Replacement  
Sturgeon Point Water Treatment Plant  
Project No. 202100020

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The Sturgeon Point Water Treatment Plant utilizes a 500,000-gallon elevated steel washwater tank as the source of water to backwash the filters. The tank was constructed in 1978 and requires significant repair, including the blasting and repainting of the interior surfaces of the tank bowl. The tank however cannot be removed from service to complete the repair work as there are no alternate provisions to supply filter washwater.

Task 4 of Contract MP-085 recently examined nine alternatives for washwater supply. Short term measures were evaluated to provide filter backwash water during rehabilitation of the existing tank. These alternatives included variations of pump rentals, temporary piping interconnections, and the use of temporary tanks.

Permanent alternatives were also evaluated including new dedicated backwash pumps and a new backwash tank. These alternatives are meant to replace the existing tank and allow for its removal. Alternately, the Authority could choose to invest additional funds in the rehabilitation of the existing tank to act as a redundant washwater source.

Contract MP-085 recommended the construction of a new washwater tank to provide washwater supply from an economic, operational, and constructability standpoint. The estimated construction cost for the new tank is \$2,510,000.

If there are no objections, the Engineering Department will prepare a Request for Proposals for design and construction of a new 500,000-gallon washwater tank. It is desired to complete design and bidding of the tank in 2021 to allow construction to begin in the spring of 2022.

A new budget item will be created for this project in the amount of \$200,000. Contract W-027, Transmission Main Replacement is scheduled to be completed early, and thus excess funds budgeted for W-027 in the 2021 budget are available to transfer to the new washwater tank budget item.

MWW:jmf  
cc: R.Stoll  
L.Kowalski  
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