Washington Aqueduct Proposed Residuals Management Process – New Alternatives/Options Suggested by Stakeholders

November 16, 2004

Outline

- Background
- Listing and Preliminary Discussion of Public Suggestions
- Boundaries Beyond our Discretion
- Plan of Action

Background

- **Extended comment period for suggestions for new alternatives to allow Washington Aqueduct to comply with Clean Water Act Permit**
  - Comment period established in a letter to neighbors and officials (dated September 10, 2004) – set deadline as “end of September”
  - Comment period deadline was further extended to November 15, 2004
- **New alternatives to be evaluated against the same screening criteria used to identify feasible alternatives**
- **Any feasible alternatives will be evaluated in detail to determine extent of potential impacts**

Listing/Discussion of Suggested Alternatives/Options

- Over 100 individual specific suggestions were made
- Some were variations on alternatives already considered
- Some were variations on options already considered that could be used as part of multiple alternatives
- Some were entirely new alternatives not already considered
- Some were entirely new options not already considered that could be used as part of multiple alternatives

Listing/Discussion of Suggested Alternatives/Options Include

- Store water treatment residuals in a sectioned-off portion of the Dalecarlia Reservoir prior to processing them
- Move sedimentation processes and/or residuals processing facilities closer to the Capital Beltway
- Construct new pipeline in Capital Crescent Trail right-of-way or Metro right-of-way
- Construct new pipelines within or above various existing sanitary sewer pipelines to Blue Plains WWTP with or without thickening at Dalecarlia

Listing/Discussion of Suggested Alternatives/Options Include

- Use existing piping to transport residuals to Potomac River, then transport by barge to bioreactor landfill or Blue Plains WWTP
- Construct new pipelines within or above existing sanitary sewer pipelines or raw water conduit to WSSC Potomac WTP
- Construct new pipelines across Potomac River to FCWA Corbalis WTP
- Build underground residuals processing facilities at one of various locations

Listing/Discussion of Suggested Alternatives/Options Include

- **Switch from alum to an alternate coagulant, such as PACL (Polyaluminum Chloride) to reduce the volume of residuals produced**
- **Consider other disposal locations, such as cement manufacturing plants**
- **Use alternate water treatment technology to eliminate the need for alum coagulant and reduce the volume of residuals requiring disposal**
  - Requires replacement of many significant components of the entire Washington Aqueduct system

Listing/Discussion of Suggested Alternatives/Options Include

- Utilize existing abandoned sewer or other abandoned pipeline
- Construct new pipeline in the Potomac River to Blue Plains WWTP
- Construct a new pipeline along the Virginia shoreline to Blue Plains WWTP with two Potomac River crossings
- Construct new pipelines within or above existing sanitary sewer pipelines or raw water conduit to new thickening or dewatering facility at local federal installation

Listing/Discussion of Suggested Alternatives/Options Include

- Utilize DC WASA Combined Sewer holding tanks to store water treatment residuals, then pump to Blue Plains and process
- Locate processing building at Dalecarlia in a different location
- Locate processing building near or in Georgetown Reservoir
- Remove/treat river silt at intakes (Great Falls and Little Falls)
- Obtain raw water from groundwater sources and abandon existing surface intakes

Listing/Discussion of Suggested Alternatives/Options Include

- Modify raw water intake similar to FCWA's raw water intake
- Co-utilize existing or new pipelines for multiple purposes
- Alternative truck route to and on Clara Barton Parkway

Boundaries Beyond our Discretion

- **Other municipal operations are not required to accept Washington Aqueduct water treatment residuals.**
- **Other federal landowners are not required to swap, sell, lend right-of-way, or allow use of property to Washington Aqueduct.**
- **Washington Aqueduct must follow the stipulations set in the Federal Facility Compliance Agreement in order to comply with the Clean Water Act.**
  - Significant schedule implications
- **Washington Aqueduct must continue to provide drinking water to customers.**

Plan of Action

- Screen suggested alternatives to determine their ability to meet the project's purpose and need.
- Present screening analysis to stakeholders via website.
- Carry forward any feasible alternatives for detailed analysis in the Draft EIS.
- Identify the alternative that best balances potential impacts on the environment, on neighbors, and on operations of the water treatment plants.
- Publish the Draft EIS for public review and comment.