

## **EHTMA QUESTIONS:**

### **How were wells selected for groundwater sampling?**

A mass mailing (1,594 surveys) was sent to all Township properties in late 2005/early 2006 requesting participation in a sanitary needs survey as prescribed by PA DEP guidelines. Five hundred forty-six (546) surveys were returned. In spring 2009 mailings were again sent to residents in order to schedule well water sampling. At the time of well water sampling, field verifications were performed for those receiving water samples and for a random sample of those who did not request a water sample. Two hundred and thirty nine (239) surveys were field-verified, satisfying the required percentage (15%).

### **Was Groundwater Sampling the only criterion used by the Township?**

No. Tier one on lot disposal system (OLDS) malfunction figures were derived from Township SEO documented malfunctions, interpretation of OLDS needs surveys from the 2006 mailing, and presentation of new survey data generated by the field technicians. A map of the Tier One malfunctions is shown on the Map 3.9 in the Appendix of the Act 537 Plan.

### **How many on-lot systems exist in the Township?**

That information is contained in various databases and not collated such that the EHTMSA can answer this question.

### **How many in the proposed service area?**

The proposed extension will service not more than 180 properties. The exact number will be determined as design progresses.

### **How many additional on lot systems are projected for the next 5, 10, and 20 years?**

The Township does not project the numbers of on lot systems. These are looked at on an as proposed basis. When development conforms to the ordinances, systems are permitted. As to potential areas to be included in future sewer service reference is made to Map 3.18 of the chapter 537 report.

### **How many on lot systems in the project area are mal-functioning/non-functioning?**

Township wide on lot malfunctions are shown on Map 3.9 of the Chapter 537 report. The presentation made by LTL Consultants on July 8, 2010 showed that 570 OLDS (On Lot Disposal Systems) were sampled and that 43% had no problems, 13% were suspected of malfunction, 34% had potential for malfunction, and 10% were confirmed malfunctions.

### **How many in the project area are non-compliant?**

Of the 546 systems surveyed and mapped in the development of the 537 plan, 21% of the systems were found in areas of natural restrictions, predominantly hydric soils and wetland buffer areas. 15% of the OLDS surveys in the study area were field-verified. This is done to determine the accuracy of the information provided on the surveys so that the surveys can be considered a representative sample, and be used for the determination of the OLDS malfunction rates. "Suspect" and "Potential" OLDS malfunctions, shown on Map 3.9 are based on PA DEP guidelines contained in the Act 537 Sewage Disposal Needs Identification Book (Needs Book).

**What is the number of non-compliant, mal-functioning, non-functioning systems outside the project area?**

Map 3.9 contains such information for the whole Township. The 537 Plan data indicates within Sector 4 (Bow Creek watershed south of I-81), the highest concentrations of malfunctions in the Township are located in the neighborhoods along Mill Road, Red Fox Lane, Campbell Court, Hunter Lane and Circle Drive. Several malfunctions and residential holding tanks are present south of Allentown Boulevard. System age and presence of systems near restrictive areas are the primary reason for these suspected and potential malfunctions.

**How will this project support/promote future development in the Township?**

This project does not support nor promote future development.

**Why is continued development desired/promoted?**

We are neither promoting nor impeding development. Such development happens of its own accord and must comply with subdivision and land development ordinances. Once such plans comply, the Township cannot deny permission to develop property.

**How will this project impact or improve our drinking water quality?**

This project will eliminate some infusion of waste water into the groundwater. Once the infusion ceases the quality of the groundwater will slowly over time improve. The LTL presentation of 7/8/10 showed that of the 239 wells sampled, 56% showed no problems, 44% showed evidence of coliform, and 5% showed evidence of fecal coliform.

**What percentage decrease will we see in our drinking water from nitrates, E. Coli, coliform?**

It is impossible to calculate the percentage improvement since it is dependent of many variables. However, this project will not impact the nitrates as they are a product of farming operations and not caused by on lot disposal systems.

**Why did the Supervisors propose/agree to this extension?**

Since there was evidence of malfunctioning on-lot disposal systems, the Township believed it was better to show DEP that information and to propose a remedy. Once a remedy was proposed and accepted, the Township could control the timeline for design and construction. Had the Township not taken this action, DEP could have unilaterally imposed requirements to design and construct the sewage system.

**Is this Board willing to revise their Act 537 report?**

The Chapter 537 report will be revised periodically. However, such revisions will not reverse the action as already agreed to by the Supervisors and DEP.