



# **2017 Annual Facilities Inspection Report**

Hackettstown Municipal Utilities Authority

January 3, 2018

Hackettstown Municipal Utilities Authority

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## **Executive Summary**

The HMUA was formed in 1965 and took over the operation of the Town of Hackettstown Water Supply System and a sewage treatment plant that served a small portion of the Town. Today, the HMUA provides service to portions of five municipalities in the Hackettstown Area. The five municipalities include the Town of Hackettstown, Independence Township and Mansfield Township in Warren County and Mt. Olive Township and Washington Township in Morris County.

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Mott MacDonald conducted the Annual Inspection of the operation and maintenance of the Hackettstown Municipal Utilities Authority's (HMUA) water and sanitary sewer utilities on November 3, 2017 covering the following:

#### Wastewater Facilities:

- One (1) water pollution control plant; and
- Four (4) sewage pump stations in the collection and transmission system

#### Water Facilities:

- Six (6) water supply wells;
- Two (2) booster pump stations; and
- Four (4) water storage tanks.

The utilities are well maintained and capably operated and remain in excellent overall operating condition.

## 1 Water Supply

The Hackettstown Municipal Utilities Authority completed an extensive potable water supply system improvement program between 1975 and 1981. This program included water transmission, water treatment, water supply and water storage projects and was necessary to meet State and Federal standards promulgated at that time and to keep pace with the growth in the Hackettstown area. Following completion of the aforementioned water system improvements, the HMUA undertook a series of individual projects designed to further increase the water supply capacity of the system and to replace the oldest, and in some cases undersized, water mains comprising the distribution system.

The HMUA has been and continues to be proactive in its maintenance of their water system as demonstrated by the HMUA undertaking ten (10) water distribution and transmission main replacement Contracts since 1993, including the installation of more than 66,200 linear feet (over 12.5 miles) of new replacement water mains. This includes the recent Contract 45W with installation of 5,177 linear feet of replacement water mains. The investment in new infrastructure allows the HMUA to maintain a high quality of service to its patrons by reducing main breaks, service interruptions and O&M costs.

The water supply system is being competently operated under the direction of five (5) licensed operators. The average daily water production for the period between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017 was approximately 2.14 MGD and the maximum monthly rate was 2.44 MGD (September 2016). These figures compare to 2.31 MGD and 2.60 MGD (July 2016), respectively, for the period between September 1, 2015 and August 31, 2016.

#### 1.1 Water Allocation Permit

The HMUA received a modified NJDEP Water Allocation Permit (NJDEP Program Interest ID No. 5145 and Water Allocation Permit No. WAP110002) on June 20, 2012 with an effective date of July 1, 2012. The permit is a 10-year permit with an expiration date of June 30, 2022. The modified Water Allocation Permit combined the HMUA's two (2) Water Allocation Permits into one (1) combined Permit, eliminated surface water reservoirs and the water filtration plant, added Well No. 9 (Heath), increased pumping capacity of Well No. 8 (Claremont Well No. 1R) to 800 gpm and eliminated Well No. 2.

#### 1.2 Water Distribution System

Since 2000, the HMUA has completed four (4) major water transmission main projects to improve the fire flow capacity in the distribution system. During 2010 and 2011, the HMUA undertook the construction of a water main replacement project (Contract No. 38W) to replace undersized water mains located on Fifth Avenue, Reese Avenue, Liberty Street and Cook Street in the Town of Hackettstown. The Claremont Water Transmission Main Project (Contract No. 40W) was completed in April 2013. The project followed the recommendations of a 2011 hydraulic model of the water system for the Diamond Hill area which evaluated the effect on the water distribution system with an increase in capacity of the Diamond Hill Well No. 8 from 300 gpm to 1,050 gpm.

During 2014, HMUA undertook the construction of a water main replacement project (Contract No. 43W) to replace unlined cast iron water main with cement lined ductile iron pipe within the Arthur Terrace and College View areas of the Town of Hackettstown. Contract No. 43W included the construction of 17,000 LF of water main replacement which included a change order to construct approximately 6,000 LF of water main to replace the remainder of water main in the College View area due to concerns with water main breaks. During 2014, there were several sink holes in the College View area of Hackettstown on College View Drive and Ferris Place related to water main breaks. The HMUA repaired the water main breaks, authorized Mott MacDonald to investigate the extent of sinkholes and provide recommendations, and remediated the affected areas.

During 2016, under Contract No. 45W HMUA replaced an additional 5,177 LF of water main within areas of Hackettstown and Mount Olive. A current water main replacement project is under design and will likely be bid in Spring 2018.

The water main projects also included the replacement of almost all of the old non-pumper fire hydrants. In 2007 the ISO upgraded the classification of the Town of Hackettstown from a Class 5 to a Class 4 Public Fire Protection Classification, which is in the top 10% among all communities in the entire country. HMUA has been painting hydrants on an ongoing basis, with roughly 65% completed to date. The Hackettstown DPW has also been painting hydrant markers on an ongoing basis.

In 2013, HMUA contracted with Mott MacDonald to prepare a hydraulic model of the entire water system. As part of this project the model was used to simulate the hydraulics associated with the replacement of the existing one million gallon (MG) ground storage level tank. The tank has a high water elevation of approximately 830 feet which is approximately 26 feet above the prevailing hydraulic grade line (HGL) of the Main Zone of the system. The HGL of the Main Zone is currently established by a 2.4 MG Tank in the southern portion of the distribution system, in Washington Township. Because of the tank's high elevation, it was unable to "float" on the existing system, and was instead filled via a small booster pumping station. Water within the tank had been stored for fire protection use by the Mars Company with a dedicated 10-inch diameter water main from the tank to the Mars Company (which is approximately 4,000 feet away). One of the main observations from the modeling was that a new tank located in the northern part of the system would have a significant impact on overall hydraulics, pressures, and fire protection in this area. The modeling effort also established a general prioritized ranking for potential tank sites. The 1 MG Tank which had been out of service since September 2015, was inspected by DN Tanks in August 2016 and underwent repairs which allowed it to be placed back into service to facilitate painting of the 2.4 MG Tank in 2017.

Also, in September 2013, Mott MacDonald modeled the hydraulics associated with the removal of an existing 12-inch transmission main located within the Harvestone easement.

During 2011, the HMUA undertook a project to install water pressure transmitters at up to seven (7) locations throughout the distribution system to continuously monitor the pressures at these locations within the water system, including any pressure spikes that may be present. Mott MacDonald has completed preparation of plans and specifications for the project. The HMUA has completed the installation of transmitters at three (3) of the seven (7) locations.

In 2013, HMUA added confined space equipment (hoist mounts) at numerous water facilities.

In 2016, Mott MacDonald completed an evaluation of 2,170 LF of 8" and 470 LF of 6" water main located on State Highway 46 between Willow Grove Avenue and Valentine Street. This evaluation provided options for the HMUA regarding this approximately 90-year old asset based

on upcoming road improvements in the area. HMUA will be making repairs on an as-needed basis.

#### 1.3 Water Filtration Plant

The HMUA surface water treatment plant was constructed at the Seber tract in the Town of Hackettstown in 1981 to treat surface waters derived both from the Mine Hill Reservoir and Burd Reservoir. With a design capacity of 1.0 MGD, the Water Filtration Plant (WFP) includes a raw water chamber, two solids contact clarifiers, two mixed media gravity filters, a chlorine contact chamber, two high lift pumps and necessary appurtenances, including a standby emergency generator.

The WFP is now permanently out of service. The facility has not been in service since August 8, 2008, as the HMUA had been able to meet the peak water demand period through the summers utilizing only groundwater supplies.

The facility clear well is emptied and cleaned periodically and the filters require periodic pumping to remove rain water. The facility continues to house a laboratory and the facility generator (tested monthly) provides emergency power to the onsite groundwater wells (Nos. 4, 5 and 7). Chlorine for the adjacent wells is also stored in the WFP building. Approximately 6" of Alum remain in the storage tank and some leakage was noted. In 2015, the water system SCADA system was relocated to the Administration Building. A boiler issue noted in the 2015 inspection was repaired. In 2017, HMUA has continued to clear brush along the site fencing, and it was noted that some repairs are required. In 2016, Mott MacDonald conducted a NJDEP Flood Hazard Area Permit (FHA) and Wetlands Permit Evaluation for a potential new outdoor generator installation. HMUA has been power washing the building and making minor concrete repairs.

#### 1.4 Well Stations

As of July 1, 2012, the HMUA potable water distribution system derives all supply from groundwater sources (wells). The HMUA water system now operates under a single NJDEP Water Allocation Permit. The HMUA Water Allocation Permit (NJDEP Program Interest ID No. 5145 and Water Allocation Permit No. WAP110002) was issued for a ten-year term, effective on July 1, 2012 with an expiration date of June 30, 2022.

Well No. 9 (Heath) was placed into operation in 2015, making the total permitted pumping capacity from the six (6) operational wells 5,100 GPM as shown in the table below.

#### **HMUA Potable Water Wells**

| Well Designation          | Current    | Permitted    |  |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------|--|
| -                         | Production | Pumping      |  |
|                           | Rate       | Rate *       |  |
| Well No. 4 – Seber        | 0 GPM      | 300 GPM **   |  |
| Well No. 5 – Seber        | 950 GPM    | 1,000 GPM ** |  |
| Well No. 6 – Heath        | 670 GPM    | 700 GPM **   |  |
| Well No. 7 – Seber        | 1,500 GPM  | 1,500 GPM ** |  |
| Well No. 8 – Claremont 1R | 450 GPM    | 800 GPM      |  |
| Well No. 9 – Heath        | 550 GPM    | 800 GPM      |  |
| Totals                    | 4,120 GPM  | 5,100 GPM    |  |

<sup>\*</sup> Maximum Diversion Rate for all groundwater sources is 4,000 gpm.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Maximum Diversion Rate for Wells 4, 5, 6 &7 is 3,200 gpm.

The maximum yearly water diversion allowed in the HMUA's current Water Allocation Permit is 1,165 MG (3.19 MGD) and the maximum monthly diversion is 123.7 MG (4.12 MGD). The actual water diversion for the 12-month period ending August 31, 2017 was 781.1 MG (2.14 MGD) and the maximum monthly diversion was 73.2 MG (2.44 MGD) (September 2016), both well within permit limits.

The original HMUA wells are in good operating condition. The static water levels at the well sites remain relatively constant from year to year indicating that these sources are not being overpumped. Well No. 9 became operational in 2015 and has been in continuous use since that time. Since being placed into service, HMUA added a radar sensor for monitoring the chemical tank level at Well No. 9 and installed a gate as required by Washington Township.

The HMUA received bids for Contract 35W in January 2008 to rehabilitate the well pumps for Well Nos. 5 and 6 to restore the pumping capacity of the wells to 1,000 GPM and 700 GPM, respectively. The Well No. 6 pump was in use at the time of inspection following a sampling event. Corrosion on the existing doors and some concrete damage was noted at the Well No. 6 facility. Minor masonry damage at Well No. 5 as noted during previous inspections was repaired in 2016. Well No. 4 has been out of service since November 2012 and the piping has been cut to prevent leakage back into the well. Roof repairs were completed at the Well No. 4 building which houses the controls for Wells No. 5 & 7. The detention main butterfly valve for Well No. 7 remains out of service (in the open position).

The HMUA acquired three (3) wells as part of the takeover of the Diamond Hill water system. However, the HMUA intends to only operate the Claremont Avenue Diamond Hill Well No. 8 (also known as Claremont Well No. 1R). The Elmwood Drive Well (Diamond Hill Area) has been abandoned and sealed by the HMUA. The Brookside Avenue Well (Diamond Hill Area) has been abandoned by the HMUA and will be sealed by the HMUA once it is no longer needed as a monitoring well.

In order to increase the capacity of Well No. 8 (Claremont Avenue – Diamond Hill), in 2013 a new well was drilled on the existing Well No. 8 site and the existing well was abandoned. The permanent submersible well pump and VFD has a maximum pumping capacity of 800 gpm. Well No. 8 is permitted by the NJDEP for 800 gpm and is capable of operating at 800 gpm. However, when this well has been operated at 800 gpm this has resulted in impacts to one or more nearby wells. The HMUA is using water level monitoring in one known nearby affected private well to determine the appropriate well capacity to avoid adverse impacts. The HMUA has connected the one known property that was adversely affected by Well No. 8 to the HMUA water system. Currently, when operational, the well is operated at approximately 450 gpm. The HMUA will continue to monitor water levels of other nearby wells and adjust the Well No. 8 pumping rates and operation times accordingly. Under Contract No. 42WS, an emergency generator was installed at Well No. 8. In 2017, HMUA staff added an enclosure above the well pump as a security improvement.

Well No. 8 was temporarily taken out of service due to failed water quality tests (positive e-coli in raw water sample) in June 2012. Due to the failed water quality tests, the HMUA and Mott MacDonald prepared a Ground Water Rules/4-Log Virus Inactivation Certification Form, calculations and plans which were submitted to the NJDEP, and in 2012, a 4-log analyzer was installed at Well No. 8. The 2012 forms were resubmitted in December 2017 in response to an NJDEP letter dated October 25, 2017. The NJDEP approved and issued a Construction Permit in 2012, and authorized use of the 800 gpm permanent pump in 2013 by issuance of the NJDEP Permit to Operate.

Well No. 2 was taken out of service in early November 2010 due to a failed water quality test (detection of E-Coli from a neighboring house). The well has remained out of service as it is now no longer part of the Water Allocation Permit. Well No. 2 has been abandoned and sealed and was decommissioned on December 11, 2012 as required by the Water Allocation Permit.



Well No. 4 New Roof Installation

Well No. 8 Enclosure above well pump

#### 1.5 Surface Water Impoundments

The HMUA Water Filtration Plant derived its water supply from the Mine Hill Upper and Lower Reservoirs and the Burd Reservoir. The Authority undertook a process to sell these properties. The sale of the Burd Reservoir property was finalized in November 2013 and the sale of the Mine Hill Property was finalized in October 2015. In addition, all reservoir metering facilities have been completely removed.

#### 1.6 Water Storage Tanks

The HMUA's Water System includes four (4) Water Storage Tanks as follows:

- 2.4 MG Water Storage Tank (Washington Township)
- 1.0 MG Water Storage Tank (Independence Township)
- Mount Olive Water Storage Tank (Mount Olive Township)
- Independence Water Storage Tank (Asbury Road, Independence Township)

#### 1.6.1 2.4 MG Water Storage Tank

In 1979 the HMUA completed construction of a 2.4 million gallon (MG) water storage tank which maintains pressure in the distribution system and provides storage capacity for peak demand periods. The 2.4 MG Water Storage Tank is located in the southeasterly section of the HMUA service area in Washington Township off Schooley's Mountain Road. The HMUA replaced the cathodic protection system and completed the repainting of the tank exterior in 1998 under Contract No. 22W.

Areas of corrosion were noted on the tank exterior during the November 2014 inspection as well as during the 2012 and 2013 facilities inspections. During 2017, the tank was painted under Contract 46W. The tank was taken out of service in April 2017 and returned to service on July

20, 2017. The rectifier for the cathodic protection system, which was not replaced with the remainder of the system in 1998, was removed as part of Contract 46W. A 9' high security fence was also constructed around the tank during 2017.

#### 1.6.2 1.0 MG Water Storage Tank

The HMUA also owns and operates a 1.0 million gallon water storage tank located on the western side of its service area in Independence Township. Prior to being taken out of service in September 2015, the tank served primarily as a storage reservoir for fire protection water for the M&M Mars factory located in the northwestern section of the Town of Hackettstown. Fire service for M&M Mars is now provided by the main system.

In September 2015, it was observed that the booster pump serving the tank was running continuously, indicating leakage at the tank. The tank was taken out of service, but the location of the leak was not identified. A condition assessment was carried out by DN Tanks in August 2016 and HMUA undertook repairs to allow the tank to be placed back into service while the 2.4 MG Tank was repainted. When the tank was first placed back into service, water main breaks were reported. Review of these breaks found that the tank level was higher than required resulting in increased system pressure. Replacement of the tank level sensor and booster pump pressure gauges addressed the issue. The tank is currently being maintained with 1.5' of water from the system.

The concrete tank sidewalls of the 1.0 MG Tank have shown minor signs of cracking during past site inspections. An inspection of the tank in July 1994 noted a small amount of weepage at the base of the tank sidewall near the valve vault. The HMUA caulked this crack and although the caulk has held up well for 10 years, the crack appeared to have opened slightly since our 2004 facilities inspection. Weepage along the tank wall was noted in varying degrees in the 2005-2014 inspections. The 2016 condition assessment notes a build-up of hard dry efflorescence about 6 feet down from the roof slab. HMUA should monitor for vegetation on top of the tank.

As noted previously, the HMUA completed hydraulic modeling as part of continued planning for a new storage tank in the vicinity of the existing 1.0 million gallon tank. In 2017, Mott MacDonald prepared a conceptual site plan for tank replacement on a site northeast of the existing tank. Discussions are ongoing with NJDEP and Warren County regarding siting.

#### 1.6.3 Mount Olive Twp. and Independence Twp. Water Storage Tanks

Two (2) new water storage tanks were constructed in the HMUA service area in the 1998-1999 time frame to allow the water system to be extended to areas in Independence Township and Mt. Olive Township which are situated at elevations above the high water level of the 2.4 and 1.0 million gallon tanks. The capacity of each new tank is approximately 0.4 million gallons and they are both of the bolted, fused glass coated steel type construction. The HMUA approved this type of tank construction over conventional welded steel tanks in order to minimize the need for future painting.

The Mount Olive Township Water Storage Tank appeared to be in excellent physical condition during our November 2017 site inspection. Some minor growth near the tank base was noted. In 2016, repairs were made to the altitude valve at the Booster station. Both pumps have been retrofitted with stainless steel impellers following an investigation by Mott MacDonald which found that dezincification of the original Silicon Bronze impellers had occurred. In addition, HMUA has upsized 2" discharge piping to 4" on the pumps.

The Independence Township Water Storage Tank has been repaired for leaks in 2008, 2012, 2015, and again in 2016. No weepage was observed during our November 2017 field inspection and the exterior of the tank appeared to be in satisfactory condition.





Mount Olive Township Water Storage Tank

2.4 MG Tank Following 2017 Painting

#### 1.7 Development of Additional Water Supply

The HMUA has continued its program to develop additional sources of water to meet the projected water demands within its service area. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection firm capacity regulations require water utilities to be able to meet their peak water demands with their largest water source out of service. The completion of Well No. 7 on the Seber site provides additional firm capacity in the HMUA system and provides additional water quantity on a monthly and annual basis. Well No. 7 has been operating satisfactorily with a peak pumping rate of 1,500 GPM since the end of May 2007.

Aside from the amount of water which the HMUA is allowed to pump from its wells, the Bureau of Water Supply requires that adequate water source capacity be available to meet the peak system demands (as defined by the NJDEP) with the largest water source out of service. Currently, the HMUA water system meets the Bureau of Water Supply's definition of adequate supply capacity with a firm capacity of 3,500 gpm (5.04 MGD) as indicated in the table below. As of 2012, the WFP and Well No. 2 have been removed from the Water Allocation Permit.

| Source                | Source                       | Source Capacity               |  |  |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
|                       | (MGD)                        | (GPM)                         |  |  |
| Well No. 4            | 0.288 (1)                    | 200 (1)                       |  |  |
| Well No. 5            | 1.440 (1)                    | 1,000 (1)                     |  |  |
| Well No. 6            | 1.008 (1)                    | 700 <sup>(1)</sup>            |  |  |
| Well No. 7            | 2.16 <sup>(1)</sup>          | 1,500 (1)                     |  |  |
| DH Well No. 8         | 1.152                        | 800                           |  |  |
| (Claremont 1R)        |                              |                               |  |  |
| Well No. 9            | 1.152                        | 800                           |  |  |
| Total Source Capacity | 7.2 MGD                      | 5,000 GPM                     |  |  |
|                       | (5.76 MGD w/ Max. Diversion) | (4,000 GPM w/ Max. Diversion) |  |  |
| Less Largest Source   | 2.16                         | 1,500                         |  |  |
| Firm Capacity         | 5.04                         | 3,500                         |  |  |

(1) The maximum diversion rate from groundwater sources (Wells 4, 5, 6 & 7) is 3,200 GPM.

The issue of firm capacity relates to a water system's source water reliability, and specifically to its ability to continue to meet peak system demands without the use of its largest water supply source. With Well No. 9 commencing operation in 2015, HMUA has added production capacity and its firm capacity.

The HMUA has completed the process to increase the capacity of the Claremont (Diamond Hill) Well No. 8 located in Mansfield Township to 800 gpm (refer to previous comments on current operating level) and the construction of a new Heath Well No. 9 located in Washington Township on Schooleys Mountain Road, with a capacity of 800 gpm was completed in 2015.

It should be noted that there are new Radon Rules under consideration that may impact several of the HMUA's water supply wells, most likely Well No. 2 and Well No. 4 that are shallow wells. Under the new Water Allocation Permit, Well No. 2 is officially out of service. Well No. 4 is rarely used and is temporarily out of service.

The HMUA pursues an ongoing leak detection effort within its potable water distribution system. The leak detection program is a continuous long range maintenance program to ensure that unaccounted for water within the HMUA distribution system is minimized as required by the NJDEP. The HMUA purchased advanced leak detection equipment in 2003 to improve its inhouse leak detection efforts. The HMUA has also continued metering the injection water at the two booster stations. Unaccounted for water was reported to be approximately 18.1% during the 12-month period ending August 31, 2017, which is above the NJDEP goal of 15%. The HMUA is actively taking measures to reduce the amount of unaccounted water. The table below summarizes the reported approximate unaccounted water percentages since 2005.

| Calendar Year | Unaccounted for Water (%) |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| 2005          | 19.5                      |
| 2006          | 14.1                      |
| 2007          | 15.1                      |
| 2008          | 12.7                      |
| 2009          | 12.2                      |
| 2010          | 13.5                      |
| 2011          | 16.8                      |
| 2012          | 21.7                      |
| 2013          | 22.2                      |
| 2014          | 15.6                      |
| 2015          | 19.8                      |
| 2016          | 22.3                      |
| 2017          | 18.1*                     |

<sup>\*</sup> For 12 months ending August 31, 2017

#### 1.8 Water Quality

The HMUA has complied with the Federal and State regulations requiring analysis of water samples for organic and volatile chemicals, inorganic chemicals, trihalomethanes, disinfection byproducts and secondary drinking water constituents. The routine water analysis results indicate that the finished water is in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Standards for these parameters.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is enforcing more stringent standards for lead and copper concentrations in potable water with adoption of the Lead and Copper Rule. Lead and copper in potable water typically originates as a result of corrosion occurring in plumbing systems within private homes rather than existing in the raw water the utility treats and pumps into the distribution system. The Lead and Copper Rule requires water utilities to optimize the treatment of potable water such that any corrosive tendency of the water is minimized.

The HMUA applies a polyphosphate/orthophosphate blended corrosion inhibitor at its Well No. 9 to minimize corrosion within the plumbing systems of its customers. The bi-annual sampling of patron services conducted during 2002 achieved compliance with the EPA Lead Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) of 0.015 M/L. It therefore appeared that optimal corrosion control had been achieved through the application of the polyphosphate/orthophosphate blend. However, the results of the first of the two annual sampling events from 2004 slightly exceeded the threshold for compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule. The HMUA met with the NJDEP to review the range of possible alternatives to ensure consistent compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule. The HMUA has replaced customer water meters with units which have almost no lead content, increased its effort in instructing customers on the proper water sampling techniques, and increased its frequency of corrosion inhibitor concentration monitoring within its water distribution system. The results from subsequent customer water sampling conducted in late 2004 and during the summers of 2005 through 2009, inclusive, have conformed to the Lead and Copper Rule. The results of the sampling in the summer of 2010 slightly exceeded the EPA's limits for the Lead and Copper Rule, but 2011, 2012 and 2013 samplings were in conformance. No sampling was required in 2014 and 2015, but standard sampling resumed in 2016. Sampling conducted in August 2017 was in conformance. An extensive Public Education Program has been completed by the HMUA.

As of October 19, 2017, HMUA is subject to requirements under the New Jersey Water Quality Accountability Act. This act requires purveyors to demonstrate and report upon the planning, operation, maintenance and reinvestment of its water systems. HMUA is taking steps to achieve compliance and review required manpower associated with requirements for:

- 1. Water system maintenance
- 2. Asset Management Plan
- 3. Mitigation Plans for Notice of Violations
- 4. Cybersecurity program
- 5. Annual certifications

## 2 Sewerage System

The HMUA Water Pollution Control Plant is being operated under the supervision of four (4) licensed operators.

The Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) constructed in 1971 had an original permitted capacity of 1.65 MGD and was designed to provide advanced secondary treatment. Development which occurred within the HMUA service area in the 1970's and early 1980's required that the HMUA undertake a plant expansion. The enactment of more stringent effluent requirements by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the New Jersey DEP also dictated that the treatment process be upgraded. The HMUA embarked upon the planning and design for the upgrade/expansion in 1984. The necessary construction permits and low interest rate financing received from the New Jersey Wastewater Treatment Trust were received in 1991. Construction of the WPCP upgrade/expansion to a capacity of 3.30 MGD was substantially completed in September 1993 and the construction contract was finalized in September 1995 at \$10,510,210.

#### 2.1 Water Pollution Control Plant

The amount of treated effluent that can be discharged to the Musconetcong River from the Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) is limited by the NJPDES Permit (NJPDES Permit No. NJ0021369) issued to the HMUA for operation of the plant. Currently, the permitted capacity of the plant is rated at 3.30 MGD. The August 2008 NJPDES Permit with and an expiration date of July 31, 2013 included provisions to formally increase the plant capacity rating from 3.30 MGD to 3.39 MGD due to additional flow from the Diamond Hill area of Mansfield Township. A renewal NJPDES permit was submitted to NJDEP in January 2013, and a draft permit was received and comments were provided to NJDEP in August 2016. The draft permit included proposed arsenic and mercury limits. A final NJPDES permit dated September 18, 2017 was issued. Based on concerns with the mercury limit, a stay request was submitted on October 16, 2017. NJDEP issued the stay for mercury in a letter dated November 17, 2017 and the NJPDES Permit Modification dated December 6, 2017. The final permit also included a limit for arsenic. However, NJDEP simultaneously stayed the limit to allow time to study background arsenic levels and HMUA will be participating in an arsenic treatability study at the WPCP, conducted by NJDEP and Stevens Institute of Technology.

The HMUA submitted an application to the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) by letter dated August 12, 2015 for the renewal of existing Wastewater Facility Discharge Permit (DRBC Docket No. D-091-30 CP-2). The application was approved December 9, 2015 and will expire on December 20, 2020.

As a result of requirements contained in the HMUA's NJPDES Permit, the amount of flow to the treatment plant could have a significant impact on whether the existing WPCP can meet the stringent load-based limitations. The HMUA already removes most of the phosphorus present in its effluent by application of alum. HMUA has determined, based upon findings from a Chemically Enhanced Primary Treatment (CEPT) study, that use of chemicals will be adequate to meet the permit limits.

As required by the Plant's NJPDES Permit, Mott MacDonald completed an evaluation of local discharge limits and preparation of Local Limits Evaluation (LLE) Report dated February 28, 2011 that was submitted to the NJDEP.

The WPCP operated at an average daily flow of 2.01 MGD between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017, compared to 1.98 MGD for the prior 12-month period. This equates to approximately 60.9 percent of the permitted plant capacity of 3.30 MGD. The maximum monthly flow during the period between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017 was 2.30 MGD (April 2017). The ratio of the maximum monthly flow to the 12-month average daily flow was 1.14 times. The plant performance results for the major effluent parameters of concern, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Ammonia and Phosphorus, averaged 3.2, 3.9, 0.11 and 0.26 mg/l, respectively, over the past year, well within the NJDEP permit values of 20, 25, 1.0 and 0.49 mg/l assigned to the plant in the NJPDES Permit.

The upgraded and expanded WPCP has now been in service for twenty-five (25) years. The major treatment reactors and equipment were found to be in good physical and mechanical condition during the November 2017 facilities inspection. Routine maintenance and occasional hardware replacement, particularly for equipment which has been installed since the original plant construction completed in 1971, will continue to be required on an as needed basis.

The HMUA has recently completed four (4) construction projects at the WPCP as follows:

#### Contract No. 37S

- Site Piping Improvements
- Inlet Facilities Improvements including new Screening/Washer/Compactor unit and "bus stop" Enclosure
- New Motors and variable frequency drives (VFDs) for the two (2) main Raw Sewage Pumps
- Improvements to the existing Anaerobic Digesters

#### Contract No. 39S

Installation of two (2) new Nitrification Tank aeration blowers and associated controls

#### Contract No. 42WS

- Installation of equipment to connect the two generators at the site
- Installation of a new power monitor allowing HMUA staff to operate additional equipment on the 660kW generator.

#### Contract No. 44S

- Building Architectural Improvements and Interior Painting
- Replacement of non-potable water pumps and site piping
- Elimination of Ponding Issue at lower level of Advanced Treatment Building
- Removal and decommissioning of Equalization Basin

The HMUA, under a separate procurement Contract No. 36S, purchased new Digester Mixing and Heating Equipment that was installed by the Contractor for Contract No. 37S.

A 31.7 kW solar array was installed at the WPCP Site under a Power Purchase Agreement. The installation of the solar array was completed in September 2011, with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 6, 2011.





Water Pollution Control Plant Site

Solar Panels at WPCP Site

Since approximately 2006, the HMUA has been utilizing a maintenance management program software called "E-Maint" to keep track of the numerous routine maintenance tasks required to keep the equipment throughout the treatment plant operating efficiently and to increase the longevity of the equipment. The Chief Operator indicated that the "E-Maint" software has proven to be very helpful in keeping track and scheduling of the required maintenance tasks throughout the facility.

During 2009 and 2010, the HMUA evaluated whether it may be possible to accept a higher strength of sewage from the M&M Mars facility to allow M&M Mars to reduce the level of pretreatment required at their on-site treatment facility prior to discharge to the HMUA public sewer collection system. In 2012, this request was discussed again and Mott MacDonald completed review of a report evaluating the M&M Mars wastewater flow and its impact on the HMUA's sanitary sewer collection system and the operation of the HMUA's WPCP. Mott MacDonald provided recommendations on future steps in the process to evaluate the impact of M&M Mars wastewater flow on the HMUA's facilities and Mott MacDonald was authorized to conduct an evaluation of partially treated wastewater from the facility. A meeting with M&M Mars, Mott MacDonald and the HMUA was held on December 11, 2013. Mott MacDonald completed a report entitled "Evaluation and Feasibility of Acceptance for Treatment of Partially Treated M&M Mars Wastewater" dated April 2014. The report included recommendations pertaining to acceptance of partially treated wastewater from the facility. Mott MacDonald reviewed 60% Design Documents for new wastewater pretreatment facilities at the M&M Mars facility in Hackettstown and provided review comments in a letter dated August 11, 2014. Mott MacDonald reviewed final design documents and NJDEP Treatment Works Approval (TWA) forms for the new M&M Mars pretreatment facilities and provided review comments in a letter dated February 3, 2015. The applicant addressed the review comments and HMUA signed the TWA endorsement forms for the project. The new wastewater pretreatment facilities are now online.

#### 2.1.1 Inlet Facilities & Raw Sewage Pumping

The influent flow meter was calibrated in 2016 (required every 5 years per NJDEP requirements). New Division Box No. 1 flow control cones were manufactured in 2013 to replace existing corroded units.

New Screening, Washing and Compacting Equipment was installed in November 2010. The HMUA reported that equipment is working well after making adjustments to improve efficiency of the Washing Compaction portion of the equipment. One dumpster of material is collected during a typical week. The compactor motor required replacement in 2013 and HMUA staff constructed a rain shield to protect the motor.

During the 2011 inspection, the HMUA reported that a pinhole leak has been detected on the volute for Raw Sewage Pump No. 1 and in September 2012, Mott MacDonald recommended the purchase and installation of an ABBA replacement pump. Raw Sewage Pump No. 1 was replaced in December 2012.

HMUA personnel replaced the impeller and shaft sleeve for Raw Sewage Pump No. 3 in April 2011. The pump bearings and suction cover wear ring for this pump were also replaced by the HMUA in August 2011. During 2011, the HMUA investigated pump noise and bearing temperature concerns for Raw Sewage Pump No. 3; however, a report by Rapid Pump and Meter in November 2011 found the pump to be operating within limits and the pump was returned to service. In 2016, HMUA personnel replaced the rotating assembly for pump No. 3. Raw Sewage Pump No. 2 was rebuilt in 2017.

New motors and VFDs for Raw Sewage Pumps No. 1 and No. 2 were installed under Contract No. 37S. During 2013, the HMUA completed the replacement of the existing Raw Sewage Pump Control Panel. HMUA staff also removed recirculation piping associated with future filters and repaired a damaged plug valve on the recirculation system during 2013.

The floor coating system in the Pump Room was replaced under Contract No. 44S. The Contract also included painting of the piping, valves and pumps in the lower level of the Raw Sewage Pump Station Building.

The influent wet well is cleaned out by outside Contractors periodically as required. The refrigerant unit for the influent sampler was replaced in 2017.





Raw Sewage Screen

Raw Sewage Pump Motors

#### 2.1.2 Primary & Secondary Treatment

A single primary clarifier was in operation during our site inspection. The HMUA reported that both primary clarifiers are in satisfactory condition and an oil seal repair was completed for primary clarifier # 2 during 2017. The single clarifier operation has addressed primary sludge issues. Repainting of clarifier walkways is planned due to peeling and minor surface rusting.

Since February 2012, the plant has operated with a single trickling filter operation. Both filters appeared to be in satisfactory condition. All three (3) of the trickling filter recirculation pumps were reported to be operating properly. HMUA has been power-washing the existing tanks.

Intermediate Clarifier No. 1 was in service at the time of our site inspection. Clarifier No. 2 has been out of operation since February 2012. Intermediate Clarifier No. 1 was reported to have operated satisfactorily during the past year and appeared to be in sound operating condition. An 8" valve was replaced in the sludge box for Intermediate Clarifier No. 1 during 2013.





Trickling Filter

Former Equalization Basin Area (following abandonment)

The Intermediate Pumping Station was constructed during the WPCP Upgrade and Expansion in 1993. The facility has been off-line since February 2012. The Intermediate Pumping Station includes three (3) pumps with 25 HP motors equipped with VFDs. All three (3) intermediate pumps were reported and appeared to be in satisfactory condition at the time of our field inspection. It was noted that VFD #1 is only capable of operating at full speed. The station is operated occasionally to test the equipment. During the November 2014 inspection, it was noted that the floor coating system has failed. The Pumping Station roof will require replacement at a future date.

The Equalization Basin had not been utilized for many years and its rubber liner required replacement. The abandonment of the Equalization Basin was completed as part of Contract No. 44S.

#### 2.1.3 Advanced Treatment

During 2011 and 2012, the HMUA inspected and cleaned all diffusers in both Nitrification Tanks. The cleaning of the diffusers reduced the operating pressure for the aeration blowers. The effluent end diffusers have been removed from one tank as a trial operation. In 2017, Mott MacDonald carried out an evaluation of options for diffuser replacement as the existing swingarm mechanisms are no longer manufactured, and other diffuser designs offer higher efficiency. HMUA is currently soliciting proposals to proceed with detailed design for the diffuser replacement.

The three (3) Nitrification Tank internal recycle pumps were reported to be in satisfactory operating condition.



Final Clarifier - Weir Brush System



Aeration Blowers

The HMUA aerated both of the Nitrification Tanks with a single 125 hp constant speed blower for many years. The 1991 plant upgrade and expansion provided four (4) constant speed centrifugal blowers with 125 hp motors. As recommended by the Energy Audit prepared by CDM, the HMUA completed Contract No. 39S to replace two (2) of the four (4) existing 125 hp constant speed centrifugal blowers with more efficient variable speed turbo blowers and to reduce the air flow capacity of the blowers based on the actual plant operating conditions. Two (2) new 75 hp turbo blowers with VFDs and controls were installed and have been operational since early 2012, and a single turbo blower typically meets plant air demands for both Nitrification Tanks. The installation of the new turbo blowers has resulted in energy costs savings to the HMUA. As reported in the 2015 report, the turbo blowers were out of operation since August 2015 due to a VFD issue with one of the units. Though repairs occurred in 2016. VFD issues persisted and a constant speed blower had been in operation. In 2017, HMUA worked with Neuros to analyze the blower issues. Air sampling suggested that H<sub>2</sub>S from thickening operations was resulting in corrosion of the electronic components. Replacement of one VFD (with enhanced coatings) and the PLC was completed in 2017. A second replacement VFD has been ordered. HMUA has also improved the seal on the door leading to the blower room, maintaining louvers in the open position and will test a new filter style as part of addressing the corrosion issue. Discussions are ongoing with Neuros on control system settings.

Both Final Clarifiers were operating during our site inspection and appeared to be in sound operating condition. During 2013, a Weir Wolf algae removal brush system was installed in Final Clarifier #1 and appears to be working satisfactorily. In 2013, HMUA installed new 8" WAS valves and replaced the WAS meter. In 2017, a new motor was installed on Final Clarifier #2. HMUA may also pilot a sonic algae removal system.

#### 2.1.4 Post Aeration & Disinfection

Post aeration of Final Clarifier effluent is provided by a step cascade which is a concrete structure with no mechanical or electrical components. The unit is in sound condition. Effluent disinfection is provided in a two-channel UV disinfection system. The HMUA replaced the UV equipment and installed weather protection housing around the UV channels in 2002. The system has been having issues in automatic operation, and the HMUA staff was completing a bulb change operation in 2017. However, as replacement parts are becoming difficult to obtain, HMUA is considering an upgrade of the UV system.

Additional post aeration equipment is also installed in the UV tank, but is rarely, if ever needed at current flows due to the effectiveness of the step cascade.

The HMUA installed bar screens just before the UV lamps to help prevent leaves and algae from affecting the performance of the UV disinfection system. The sluice gates located just prior to the UV lamps were replaced during 2012 with stainless steel versions. HMUA intends to change out the two (2) remaining aluminum gates.

#### 2.1.5 Auxiliary Systems

In 2007, the HMUA switched from the use of aluminum chloride to aluminum sulfate for phosphorus reduction. The HMUA reported to be very satisfied with the performance and use of the aluminum sulfate. The HMUA has two (2) Alum Storage Tanks and the Storage Tanks were reported and appeared to be in satisfactory condition. During our site inspection, both Alum Storage Tanks were in service. The seal water pumping systems at both the Administration and Advanced Treatment Buildings are in satisfactory operating condition and the service water pumping equipment in the Administration Building was replaced under

Contract No. 44S. HMUA staff installed a stainless steel seal water filter in 2014. HMUA staff installed new chemical feed pump and piping in 2011.

The WPCP has two (2) emergency generators. The original 300 Kw emergency generator was installed with the original plant construction in the 1970's. The other generator is a 660 Kw generator that was installed as part of the 1991 WPCP upgrade and expansion project. The emergency generators and automatic transfer switches (ATS) were reported to be in good working order at the time of our inspection. The emergency generators are exercised under load once per month. Maintenance and inspection of the emergency generator is performed quarterly by an outside contractor, and had just been completed at the time of the inspection. With the completion of Contract No. 42WS, HMUA staff can use a new power monitor to operate additional equipment on the 660Kw generator. One of the main breakers was tested in November, requiring an early morning plant shutdown. HMUA is awaiting the testing results.

During 2011, Mott MacDonald reviewed, investigated and evaluated the existing electrical distribution system at the WPCP to determine the feasibility of providing emergency back-up power to the Digester Building. The evaluation included preparation of Equipment List and Load Calculations for the existing 300 Kw generator. Based on the theoretical load analysis of the generator, the existing Digester Building feeder was connected to the existing 300 Kw generator to provide emergency power to the Digester Building.

The original boiler for the WPCP Administration Building, also constructed in the 1970's, was replaced approximately fifteen (15) years ago and is reported to be in satisfactory operating condition.

#### 2.1.6 Solids Handling Systems

Sludge collected in the primary and intermediate clarifiers is removed from the treatment process to the Anaerobic Digester system which was part of the original 1971 plant construction.

The HMUA undertook a Digester Repair Contract that included the construction of a new roof on the Digester Building, new waste gas burner, new gas piping and appurtenances. The Contract work for this project was completed during 2007.

As recommended by the WPCP Feasibility Study prepared by CH2M Hill and the Energy Audit prepared by CDM, the HMUA completed construction of Contract No. 37S to improve the gas production and performance of the anaerobic digestion system. The project included the installation of new sludge mixers. Air testing of the upgraded digesters occurred in late October 2011. HMUA staff added anti-slip pads to the digester covers to better facilitate flare maintenance. In 2014, the digester boiler was replaced and the existing oil tank was replaced with a propane tank. In 2015, boiler piping was replaced in stainless steel. In 2015, HMUA staff replaced an 8" digested sludge valve, which required draining the associated tank. The boiler receives quarterly maintenance. At the time of the inspection, HMUA had a raw sludge plug valve awaiting installation.

HMUA staff noted clarifier issues when the supernatant is recycled, so the flow is typically directed to the pre-thickened sludge wet well. It was noted that the coating on the supernatant piping within the Digester building is failing. A struvite build-up has been identified in the digested sludge line – the pipe clogs over the course of a three-year period.

Sludge collected in the final clarifiers is wasted from the treatment system to a pre-thickened sludge holding tank at the Advanced Treatment Building. The waste sludge is thickened prior to being trucked off-site (PVSC) for ultimate disposal using gravity belt thickeners located in the

Advanced Treatment Building. The two (2) gravity belt thickeners are now over twenty-five (25) years old, but continue to operate very well, requiring only occasional miscellaneous repairs. In 2017, HMUA rebuilt steering mechanisms. A number of the rollers beneath the traveling belts are showing signs of wear and the HMUA has been periodically replacing these rollers as required. The gravity belt thickeners are typically operated three (3) days per week. The positive displacement pumps used in conjunction with the gravity belts are reported to have operated satisfactorily over the past year. In 2015, HMUA replaced one of the polymer control panels and two pumps. Spare parts are not readily available for the remaining existing polymer equipment. The thickened sludge mixer was replaced in 2016. A new hatch was installed between the belt thickeners.





Gravity Belt Thickener

Anaerobic Digester

#### 2.1.7 Plant Laboratory

The existing WPCP water quality analysis laboratory, located within the plant Administration Building was modified under Contract No. 44S. The laboratory has been certified by the NJDEP to conduct chemical analyses. The laboratory is used to monitor select parameters used for routine process control of the treatment process and those for which the NJDEP requires monthly reporting from both the sewer utility and the water utility. Certain testing which is required on a monthly or less frequent basis does not justify the costs associated with purchasing additional laboratory equipment and maintaining a full-time lab technician on staff. These analyses continue to be performed by a private laboratory certified by the NJDEP.

#### 2.1.8 Buildings

The buildings at the WPCP remain in good, well-maintained condition. A roofing repair project was undertaken in 2006. As the 2006 project didn't include the roofs for the Intermediate Pumping Station or the Advanced Treatment Building, the HMUA should plan for replacement. A new heating unit was installed in the Advanced Treatment Building during 2008 and stairwell radiators were replaced in 2016 due to corrosion. Building lighting improvements recommended by the Energy Audit were completed in August 2011. In 2015, building fire alarm systems were replaced and replacement emergency lighting was ordered.

The HMUA received BPU approval on December 17, 2010 for an Energy Reduction Plan for the WPCP. The ERP provides for up to \$361,836 in rebates, including Lighting Retrofits that were completed in 2011. The ERP also includes many of the improvements constructed under Contract No. 37S such as piping upgrades and VFD's for the Raw Sewage Pumps as well as the Blower upgrades constructed under Contract No. 39S. To date, the HMUA has received \$250,546 in rebates from the ERP. The final report certified a 33.4% reduction in electricity costs, providing an annual savings of approximately \$70,000.

#### 2.1.9 Site

The HMUA installed new landscaping throughout most of the plant site during 2009. In 2017, HMUA has been cutting brush along the existing fence line. Some of the site paving is reaching the end of its life, and the HMUA may consider milling and providing a new top coat.

#### 2.2 Sewage Collection System

The HMUA continued to conduct internal television inspections of its sanitary sewer collection system during the past year in an effort to define areas where infiltration (groundwater leakage) may be entering the sewer system. Mott MacDonald completed a Phase I I/I investigation in the Spring of 2003 which identified which sections of the HMUA collection system warranted further investigation to locate and repair specific leaks. The majority of the system was found to be in sound shape. However, there were a number of areas identified in the Phase I study where the collection system requires further investigation and repair of leakage sources.

The HMUA purchased new TV Inspection equipment during 2008. TV Inspection equipment owned by the HMUA includes a sewer lateral camera to allow for the inspection of sewer service laterals within the collection system. The HMUA also owns a Jet/Vacuum Truck that is utilized to periodically clean the sanitary sewers within the HMUA's sanitary sewer collection system. The HMUA has established a Sewer System Cleaning Program as well as a TV Inspection Program. The HMUA performs TV Inspections of the sanitary sewers periodically as time permits. The wet wells of the pump stations within the collection system are typically cleaned by the HMUA every two (2) months.

The HMUA owns and operates three (3) sewage pumping stations and operates one (1) sewage pumping station that is privately owned. The Hills of Independence sewage pumping station is privately owned and operated. The HMUA has one (1) spare pump available for each pumping station.

The HMUA has taken efforts to identify sump pump discharges to the collection system. When identified, homeowners are contacted and follow-up inspections are conducted to confirm that sump pumps were disconnected.

HMUA has ordered new confined space signage for the stations.

#### 2.2.1 Oak Hill Sewage Pumping Station

The HMUA owns and operates a small sewage pumping station serving a section of the Oak Hill at Mt. Olive subdivision along Stephens State Park Road. The facility appeared to be in excellent physical condition and well maintained during our inspection. HMUA has installed new shock absorbers on the generator enclosure. The Oak Hill sewage pumping station includes two (2) submersible pumps, valve chamber, alarm dialer and emergency generator.

#### 2.2.2 House of Good Shepard Sewage Pumping Station

The House of Good Shepard sewage pumping station located in Hackettstown is privately owned, but is operated by the HMUA. This pumping station was constructed in approximately 1998. The pumping station was reported to be operating satisfactorily.

#### 2.2.3 Diamond Hill (Meadow Lane) Sewage Pumping Station

The Diamond Hill (Meadow Lane) sewage pumping station located in the Township of Mansfield is owned and operated by the HMUA. This pumping station was constructed in 2004. The pumping station includes two (2) submersible pumps and emergency natural gas generator.

The Diamond Hill sewage pumping station appeared to be in good physical condition and well maintained. In 2017, a new pump plate, lead pump float and replacement of controls was required at the facility.

#### 2.2.4 Water Filtration Plant (WFP) Sewage Pumping Station

The HMUA also owns and operates a small sewage pumping station located at the Water Filtration Plant in Hackettstown. In 2010, the existing grinder at the station was removed due to failure, and both pumps were replaced with non-clog pumps. In 2014, one of the two pumps was again replaced with a new version non-clog pump, and the second will be replaced when required. The station was reported to be operating satisfactorily.

#### 2.3 Wastewater Service Area and Wastewater System Planning

During 2017, requests received by the HMUA for centralized sanitary sewer and potable water service from undeveloped or underdeveloped properties situated within its service area have remained slow. Regulations governing development within New Jersey are changing and increasingly being influenced at the State level. The aim of the new regulations is to force new development and redevelopment within existing developed areas in order to preserve open space in the surrounding rural areas. The HMUA's Future Sewer Service Area and water service areas were significantly reduced through implementation of the Highlands Preservation Act. The Highlands Regional Plan was approved by the Highlands Council on July 17, 2008 and has been approved by the Governor. Amendments in the State's Water Quality Management Plan rules including the designation of the Musconetcong River as a "C-1" waterway has further limited the extent of the HMUA's sewer service area.

The HMUA completed a project to update the November 2003 HMUA Wastewater and Water Flow Projections and the updated flow projections are included in a report entitled "Water and Wastewater Flow Projections dated September 2008". As detailed in the September 2008 Water and Wastewater Flow Projections Report, it was projected that the WPCP peak monthly flows will exceed the current permitted plant capacity rating of 3.30 MGD in 2017. However, the actual plant flows during the last 12-month period only increased by approximately 1.5% from the previous 12-month period (average daily flow of 2.01 MGD from September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017 compared to 1.98 MGD from September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016) due to efforts by the HMUA to reduce inflow and infiltration (I/I) flows and slowed development within the HMUA Sewer Service Area. In 2012, HMUA staff made adjustments to the values in the Flow Projections Report (as suggested in previous Annual reports) to reflect properties removed from the sewer service area and connections which have occurred since 2008 and excess capacity was shown for the WPCP. At this time, it is recommended that the HMUA monitor and evaluate the existing and projected flows to see the affect that the reduction in the HMUA Sewer Service Area caused by the Highlands Regulations and new Wastewater Management Plan regulations have on the actual and projected flows.

To comply with the recent NJDEP Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) requirements that became effective in July 2008 requiring updates to the Hackettstown Wastewater Management Plan (WMP), the HMUA and Town of Hackettstown sent initial draft NJDEP Sewer Service Area (SSA) maps to the NJDEP on October 1, 2009. Following the initial submission to the NJDEP, numerous revised SSA Maps, documentation and emails were sent to the NJDEP based on comments received from the NJDEP on the SSA Maps. Agreement was reached with NJDEP on two (2) lots that the NJDEP was excluding from the Sewer Service Area (due to lots being designated as Rank 4 Habitat in the State's database) that the Town of Hackettstown and the HMUA wanted included in the HMUA's Sewer Service Area. The Sewer Service Area, including these two lots, was the subject of an April 6, 2011 Public Hearing by NJDEP. In June 2011,

information from the 2008 Flow Projections Report was provided to the Highlands Council, which had become responsible for completing the Hackettstown WMP. In June 2012, April 2013 & December 2013 formal comments were provided to the Highlands Council regarding future flow estimates developed by the Highlands Council. In November 2014, the Town of Hackettstown met with the Highlands Council and was assured that the WMP will be completed and submitted to NJDEP. The proposed amendment covering the Town was adopted on February 12, 2016.

In 2011 and 2012, Mott MacDonald reviewed and prepared comments on the Washington Township WMP Chapter prepared by the Highlands Council, which included future flow estimates for the five (5) contributing municipalities. The HMUA elected to submit no comments on the final document and the Washington Township WMP was adopted by NJDEP in July 2012. In February 2016, HMUA provided comments on a proposed Washington Township Zoning amendment (RO-03-16) impacting the Musconetcong Age-Restricted Housing Overlay zone.

In 2012, Mott MacDonald reviewed WMP mapping for Mount Olive Township prepared by the Morris County Department of Planning. Comments were submitted on July 12, 2012 stating that only existing served/approved properties should be shown in the Future Sewer Service Area.

In 2016, Mott MacDonald updated the service area mapping from the 2008 Flow Projections Report reflecting the various updated municipal chapters.

## 3 HMUA HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX & OVERALL FACILITIES

#### 3.1 Facility Site Improvements

In 2016, the HMUA undertook several minor building repair/update projects at the HMUA Headquarters Complex at 424 Hurley Drive which includes the Administration Building, Storage Building, Operations Building and Material Storage Yard.

#### 3.2 Energy Audit of HMUA Facilities

During 2009, the HMUA completed an Energy Audit of the HMUA's facilities that included the Water Pollution Control Plant, Water Filtration Plant, Administration Building, Operations Building, Storage Building and Well and Booster Stations. The Energy Audit prepared by CDM included recommendations with potential areas to reduce energy usage and to reduce energy costs. The HMUA has undertaken several projects to implement some of the energy saving recommendations made in the Energy Audit report as discussed above.

#### 3.3 Security Improvements

As mentioned previously, in 2017, HMUA added a security fence at the 2.4 MG tank and an enclosure around the Well No. 8 pump equipment.

### 4 SUMMARY

The HMUA potable water and sanitary sewer utility infrastructure is in sound condition and updated to comply with current environmental requirements. Potable water production capacity has been increased to meet growth occurring in the service area and this has allowed for the sale of the HMUA's surface water supply properties and the abandonment of the Water Filtration Plant. The HMUA has completed the replacement of its surface water reservoirs with groundwater with the completion of Well No. 9 located in Washington Township and the increased capacity of Diamond Hill (Claremont) Well No. 8. It is also recommended that the HMUA continue planning for construction of a new water storage tank on the northerly side of its distribution system and the next water main replacement project in Spring 2018.

The WPCP upgrade/expansion was completed in 1993 and the plant is operating at approximately 60.9 percent of its permitted capacity and complying with its NJDEP effluent limits. Capital expenditures for the next five years should include the miscellaneous replacement of mechanical and electrical equipment on an as needed basis which reaches the end of its useful life. The planned diffuser replacement project will also improve the efficiency of the nitrification process. As mentioned previously, the HMUA has completed the following projects at the WPCP:

- Sludge Digester Mixer Project to improve gas production and performance of Anaerobic Digestion System (Contract No. 37S)
- New screening/washing equipment at headworks of plant (Contract No. 37S)
- Raw Sewage Pump (RSP) motors and VFDs for RSP No. 1 and No. 2 (Contract No. 37S)
- Site piping modifications (Contract No. 37S)
- Blower Replacement (Contract No. 39S)
- Generator Interconnection (Contract No. 42WS)
- Removal of Equalization Basin and other improvements (Contract No. 44S)

The HMUA water and sewer facilities are well maintained and capably operated. In order to continue this level of performance and keep pace with technological advances in the water supply and wastewater treatment field, HMUA personnel are encouraged to continue attending training seminars.