

**Representative Policy Board  
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District**

**Application for Approval of a Project** : **June 18, 2020**  
**for North Sleeping Giant Wellfield** :  
**Chemical Improvements** :

**Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and  
Final Decision of the Representative Policy Board**

A. The Applicant's Request

On March 23, 2020, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (“RWA” or the “Applicant”), through its five-member Authority, submitted an application for approval of a project for North Sleeping Giant Wellfield Chemical Improvements, at a total project capital cost of approximately \$2,100,000, including a 5% contingency (the “Application”). The project consists of replacement of the fluoride, phosphate, and sodium hypochlorite chemical feed systems with in-kind replacement of the bulk tanks, day tanks, transfer pumps, and metering pumps, as well as new piping and appurtenances for each of the chemicals. The project also includes the installation of a new sodium hydroxide chemical feed system, inclusive of a bulk storage tank with fill system, day tank, and transfer and metering pumps, with associated piping and appurtenances. Additionally, several upgrades to the building that will be completed, including replacement of the exhaust fans, unit heaters, and emergency eyewash/shower. A new tempered water system will also be installed as part of the new eyewash/shower and entry doors to the chemical rooms will be replaced.

The Application, for approval of the project, was filed pursuant to the statutory authority set forth in Section 19 of Special Act No. 77-98, as amended.

B. Participants

In addition to the RWA, the district's Office of Consumer Affairs ("OCA") participated in this proceeding. The OCA is authorized by Section 15 of Special Act No. 77-98, as amended, to act as the advocate for consumer interests in all matters that may affect water customers in the district.

C. Statutory Standard

Pursuant to the legislation cited in paragraph A above, the RWA is required to obtain approval from the Representative Policy Board ("RPB") prior to commencing any project costing more than two million dollars to repair, improve, construct, reconstruct, enlarge or extend any of its properties or systems.

D. Notice and Procedures

On March 14, 2020, Governor Lamont issued Executive Order 7B concerning Protection of Public Health and Safety During COVID-19 Pandemic and Response – Further Suspension or Modification of Statutes. In accordance with Executive Order 7B, the RPB was permitted hold the hearing on the North Sleeping Giant Wellfield Chemical Improvements by conference call, videoconference, or other technology remotely provided and various procedural requirements were met. On April 16, 2020, the RPB voted unanimously to accept the Application as complete and called a public hearing on Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., via remote access. The RPB designated Brian Eitzer (Bethany) to serve as Presiding Member at the public hearing.

As required by Section 10 of Special Act. No. 77-98, as amended by Public Act No. 02-85, the RPB published in the New Haven Register and the Connecticut Post the date, time and place of the public hearing to be held by the RPB to consider the Application for approval of this project. The date of publication was April 28, 2020. A copy of this notice was filed with the Office of

the Clerk of each city and town within the District. The notice was posted on the RWA's website in accordance with Governor Lamont's Executive Order 7B, including information about remote participation for the meeting.

E. Public Hearing

At the public hearing on May 21, 2020, the Applicant provided sworn testimony from Rose Gavrilovic, RWA's Director of Capital Planning and Delivery, and Orville Kelly, RWA's Capital Construction Lead. These witnesses provided a presentation that described the project background, the need for the proposed project, project scope, alternatives analysis, and the project budget and schedule.

Members of the RPB asked questions of the Applicant with respect to the Wellfield supply and demand, cost savings, number of wells at the facility, water supply, upgrades, safety initiatives, disruption in service, and impact on water flows.

The OCA recommended approval of the Application for the reasons set forth in his memorandum to the Representative Policy Board dated May 13, 2020.

No members of the public attended the public hearing.

F. Analysis

After considering all of the evidence presented, the RPB believes that the North Sleeping Giant Wellfield Chemical Improvements project is necessary, is included in the five-year plan of capital improvements, and is in the best interest of the RWA and its customers. The presentation at the public hearing reinforced the need for and importance of the project.

G. Conclusion

We therefore conclude that the Application for approval of a project for North Sleeping Giant Wellfield Chemical Improvements be approved. Separately stated findings of fact and conclusions of law are attached hereto as Exhibit A.



## **Conclusions of Law**

1. The RWA's application for approval of a project for North Sleeping Giant Wellfield Chemical Improvements was filed pursuant to the statutory authority set forth in Section 19 of Special Act No. 77-98, as amended.
2. Notice of the public hearing to consider the Application and to allow interested persons, including water users and property owners within the district, to be heard was properly made pursuant to Section 10 of Special Act No. 77-98, as amended, and in accordance with Governor Ned Lamont's Executive Order 7B, dated March 14, 2020.
3. Pursuant to Sections 10 and 19 of Special Act 77-98, as amended, and Governor Ned Lamont's Executive Order 7B, the public hearing was held on May 21, 2020.
4. Based upon the above Findings of Fact, the RPB concludes that the RWA's application for North Sleeping Giant Wellfield Chemical Improvements meets all requirements for approval.