



## INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

Acton Board of Health - Telephone 978-929-6632 - Fax 978-929-6340

September 5, 2014

TO: Board of Selectmen

From: Doug Halley, Health Director

SUBJECT: Water District Request to Connect to the Public Sewer

The Water Supply District of Acton has made a written request to connect to the Public Sewer for discharges related to their new South Acton Water Treatment Plant. The Board of Health has worked very closely with the Water District on this project and believes that its completion will address the chronic discolored water problem being experienced by the Water District's customers.

As land not previously served by the sewer system their connection is subject to the requirements of D - 10.5a & b of the Sewer Assessment Bylaw. These sections allow the Sewer Commissioners to establish reasonable fees to cover the costs of construction of common sewers and other facilities. The fee is calculated by the number of Sewer Assessment Units attributable to the proposed use.

The South Acton Water Treatment Plant will have two wastewater flows (150 gallons per day for sanitary wastes and 1,600 gallons per day of processed water) which have to be accounted for in establishing the fee. The formula used for the privilege fee is based on the same principles established for the issuance of betterments in 2005. As was the case in 2005 300 gallons per day made up one Sewer Betterment Unit and the value of a Sewer Betterment Unit is \$12,311.52. Below is the calculation for the South Acton Water Treatment Plant privilege fee.

### **SEWER PRIVILEGE FEE FORMULA**

$$\text{Number of Sewer Units} = \frac{\text{Maximum Use}}{300}$$

Maximum use is based on Title 5 gallons per day design flow for the activities that will be used or by using average meter readings and basing a daily flow of 200% of average water meter readings.

For the South Acton Water Treatment Plant the potential uses are as follows:

Sanitary Waste	150 gallons per day
Process Waste	1,600 gallons per week

$$\# \text{ Sewer Units} = \frac{150\text{gpd} + 1600\text{gpd}}{300}$$

Or

$$\# \text{ Sewer Units} = \frac{1,750}{300} \qquad \# \text{ Sewer Units} = 5.83$$

$$\# \text{Sewer Units} = 5.833 \times \$12,311.52 = \$71,776.16$$

We are in agreement with the Water District's request and their calculation of privilege fee. We would recommend that the Sewer Commissioners approve this connection and that the privilege fee be paid prior to an occupancy permit be issued for the South Acton Water Treatment Plant.