Summary of

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Actions in Response to the United States Environmental Protection Agency Emergency Administrative Order

Updated: 10/28/2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Emergency Administrative Order contains 15 overall items to be addressed by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). This update includes status only on items for which progress was made in the last week. It is anticipated that the next update to this summary will be provided on Monday, November 4, 2019.

On October 24, 2019, the monthly meeting between the USEPA, the city of Flint (City), and EGLE to discuss the progress of the Order was held. The following updates were provided:

Paragraph 57: Chlorine Residuals

• Chlorine residuals continue to do well. The five flushers in the distribution system will soon have to be removed as the impending cold weather moves in.

Paragraph 59 A: Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) Compliance

- The City has had to put a pause on collecting samples for the current LCR monitoring period (July 1 to December 31, 2019). There are plans to resume collection in the next few weeks. They have collected 77 samples and will continue to conduct excavations at these locations to confirm the service line material composition and acquire the requisite number of Tier 1 sites, which is 60. Of the 77 collected so far, the City reported 18 are confirmed Tier 1 sites, 12 are copper, and 47 have yet to be excavated for identification.
- The City is also taking proactive measures to determine the next steps in LCR sampling for future monitoring periods by identifying Tier 2 locations for when they no longer have Tier 1 sites to sample from. They have put together a preliminary list and will be refining it in the coming months.
- The City reiterated the fact that it has become increasingly difficult to either obtain consent or schedule work from ~1,300 homeowners for excavations and replacements to take place. They are exhausting all available resources including mail, phone, and knocking on doors, etc.
- The City reported the latest numbers for the FAST Start Program: a total of 23,711 service line excavations have taken place; 9,376 of those have been replacements.

Paragraph 60 B: Corrosion Control Study

 The City continues to conduct the corrosion control pipe loop study. The final three sections of pipe will hopefully be installed today. Phase 2 of the study will begin once the pipes have stabilized.

Paragraph 60 D: Technical, Managerial, and Financial Capability (TMF)

- The City provided an update in June that their financial situation has improved.
- There were no updates to the hiring efforts or staffing changes to report.
- A contract has been negotiated with Mr. Pizzi for water plant staff to continue their certification training.

Paragraph 61: Necessary, Capable, and Qualified Personnel

• The USEPA is looking into Water Work Force Initiative for extra training for personnel at the water treatment plant.

Paragraph 62: Optimization Plan

- The Chemical Feed Building construction will be posted for bid in the coming days.
- Final design of the Secondary Water Supply pipeline is finished and expected to go out for bid in November. New expected schedule for completion is October 2020.
- Water Meter Replacement project will be ready for installation in mid-November.
- Water Quality Monitoring contract has been awarded.
- Northwest Transmission Main project is split into two sections. The first project, the City reported as being done, and the disinfection process was taking place. The other 5.5 mile stretch ROWE is working on.