



SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

4423 North Front Street • Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-1788

(717) 238-0423 Phone • (717) 238-2436 Fax

www.srbcc.gov

Docket No. 20231219

Approval Date: December 14, 2023

VILLAGE OF SIDNEY

**Groundwater Withdrawals (30-Day Averages)
of 0.999 mgd from Well PW-2 and 0.999 mgd from Well PW-3, and
Combined Withdrawal Limit (30-Day Average) of 0.999 mgd**

Section 1. Approval

After review of the record, including the technical findings of Susquehanna River Basin Commission (Commission) staff, the Commission has determined that no significant adverse impacts are anticipated by the operation of this project as described and conditioned herein, the project is physically feasible, and does not conflict with or adversely affect the Commission's Comprehensive Plan. Accordingly, the Commission hereby approves the project described herein in accordance with the conditions set forth below.

The project sponsor maintains and operates a public water supply system that includes one groundwater source (Well 2-88) that is currently online and, with this approval, Wells PW-2 and PW-3 will be approved. Once approved and brought online, Wells PW-2 and PW-3 will be replacements sources for existing supply Well 2-88. Based on information provided by the project sponsor, no other sources are operated by the project.

This approval authorizes withdrawals from Wells PW-2 and PW-3 at the requested withdrawal rates and establishes a combined withdrawal limit of 0.999 million gallons per day (mgd) for Wells PW-2 and PW-3. In accordance with Special Condition 21 of Commission Docket No. 19860201-3 and Special Condition 22 of this approval, use of Well 2-88 as a source for public water supply will terminate after Wells PW-2 and PW-3 begin to supply water to the public water supply system.

Commission staff has coordinated with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) during review of this project.

Section 2. Project Information

Information concerning the project sponsor, water use type, and location are set forth in the table below.

Project Information	
Project Sponsor:	Village of Sidney
Approval Type:	Groundwater Withdrawal
Authorized Water Use Purpose:	Public Water Supply
Municipality:	Town of Unadilla
County:	Otsego County
State:	New York

Section 3. Source Information

Information concerning the sources of water from which the withdrawals will be made is set forth in the table below.

Source Information	
Withdrawal Type:	Groundwater
Approved Sources:	Wells PW-2 and PW-3
Subbasin:	Upper Susquehanna
Watershed Boundary Dataset (WBD):	0205010109 (Unadilla River)
Withdrawal Location (degrees)*:	Lat: -- Long: --
Special Flow Protection Required:	No
* Specific location information concerning discrete water-related project features has been withheld for security reasons.	

Section 4. Aquifer Testing

The constant-rate aquifer testing required by 18 CFR § 806.12 for groundwater withdrawals was completed with prior Commission approval. A 72.75-hour, constant-rate aquifer test of Well PW-2 was conducted on August 24 through 27, 2021, pumping at an average rate of 851 gallons per minute (gpm). A 72.5-hour, constant-rate aquifer test of Well PW-3 was conducted on September 11 through 14, 2021, pumping at an average rate of 855 gpm.

Two property owners provided access to monitor their wells during testing; other property owners were non-responsive or refused access. Following testing, the project sponsor provided sufficient information to evaluate potential impacts to other groundwater users in the area at the individual test rate, but because of lack information from a number of property owners, sufficient information was not provided to evaluate potential impacts of concurrent pumping at the full tested rates. Because the project sponsor indicated that the individual requested rate for each well will be sufficient to meet current and projected 15-year demand, staff has not attempted to complete an evaluation of the potential for impact to private supplies for combined withdrawals at the tested rates. Therefore, staff recommends that the approval be conditioned with a combined withdrawal rate that would limit combined pumping to the requested quantity of 0.999 mgd (30-day average) from both wells.

Commission staff determined that the withdrawals from Wells PW-2 and PW-3 at the requested withdrawal rates should not cause permanent loss of aquifer storage, render competing supplies unreliable, or cause adverse impacts to the water resources of the basin, subject to the conditions set forth below.

Section 5. Approved Withdrawal Quantities and Limitations

The withdrawals approved hereunder are subject to the quantitative limits and restrictions set forth in the table below.

Approved Withdrawal Quantities and Limitations		
	Well PW-2	Well PW-3
30-Day Average Withdrawal (mgd):	0.999	0.999
Maximum Instantaneous Withdrawal Rate (gpm) (Not to Exceed):	850	850
Peak Day Withdrawal (mgd):	1.220	1.220
Combined Withdrawal Limit – Wells PW-2 and PW-3 (30-Day Average) (mgd):	0.999	

The withdrawals are also subject to all other conditions set forth in this docket approval.

Section 6. Existing Approved Withdrawals

Quantities applicable to the existing approved withdrawals are listed in the table below.

Existing Approved Groundwater Withdrawals			
Source	30-Day Average Withdrawal (mgd)	Commission Docket No.	Docket Expiration Date
Well 2-88	2.000	19860201; 19860201-3	December 31, 2025

Section 7. Grandfathering Determination – Withdrawals

All withdrawals used by the project have Commission approval.

Section 8. Standard Conditions

1. The project sponsor shall comply with all Commission regulations, 18 CFR Parts 801, 806, and 808. This project is subject to the Annual Compliance and Monitoring fee as specified in the Commission's Regulatory Program Fee Schedule, which may be modified over the term of the approval.

2. The project sponsor shall adhere to the metering plan reviewed and approved by Commission staff. Any modifications proposed for the metering plan shall be submitted for

review and, if appropriate, approval by Commission staff in accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30. Modifications shall not be made until the project sponsor receives written approval of the amended plan.

3. Prior to any withdrawal from the sources listed in Section 3, the project sponsor shall install and maintain metering in accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30 and the approved metering plan. The project sponsor shall notify the Commission, in writing, and submit photographs of the meter when it has been installed, provide the serial number of the meter, and certify the accuracy of the measuring device to within five (5) percent of actual flow. Withdrawals shall not commence until Commission staff has approved the implementation of the approved metering plan and notified the project sponsor of such approval.

4. The project sponsor shall maintain the totalizing meter and other flow and volume measuring devices, accurate to within five (5) percent, so as to provide an accurate record of withdrawals, and certify to the Commission once every five (5) years, or as otherwise requested, the accuracy of all measuring devices and methods to within five (5) percent of actual flow.

5. The project sponsor shall keep daily records of the project's withdrawals and groundwater elevations for the sources listed in Sections 3 and 5, and shall report the data to the Commission quarterly, and as otherwise required, in the form and manner as prescribed by Commission staff. Quarterly monitoring reports shall be submitted online and are due within thirty (30) days after the close of the preceding quarter. Any alternative measuring, monitoring, or accounting procedure, and any modifications proposed for the groundwater elevation monitoring plan, shall be submitted for review and approval by Commission staff in accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30. Modifications shall not be made until the project sponsor receives written approval of the amended plan. All data collected and submitted as required under this approval shall be maintained by the project sponsor for the duration of the approval and all subsequent renewals.

6. The project sponsor or any other person representing the project sponsor shall allow authorized employees or agents of the Commission, without advance notice, at any reasonable time and upon presentation of appropriate credentials, and without delay, to have access to and to inspect all areas where the project is being constructed, operated, or maintained, or otherwise exercise all investigative powers authorized under 18 CFR § 808.12.

7. In accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30(b)(2), the project sponsor shall report violations of any withdrawal limits and any conditions of this approval within five (5) days of such violation or report loss of measuring or recording capabilities required under 18 CFR § 806.30(a)(1) within five (5) days after any such loss.

8. In accordance with 18 CFR § 806.6, if ownership of the project changes or if the project sponsor undergoes a name change, the project sponsor shall submit application for transfer or reissuance of all approvals to the Commission within ninety (90) days of the change in ownership or project sponsor name change.

9. The project sponsor shall comply with the water conservation requirements specified in 18 CFR § 806.25.

10. This approval is conditioned on the project sponsor maintaining legal access to the withdrawal locations for the duration of the approval.

11. The project sponsor shall register with the appropriate agency all groundwater sources described herein, as may be required by regulations of the member jurisdiction. The project sponsor shall also satisfy annual usage, capacity, and conservation reporting requirements in the form and manner prescribed by NYSDEC's Division of Water.

12. If the project sponsor fails to comply with the provisions of the Susquehanna River Basin Compact or any rule, regulation, or order of the Commission, or any term or condition of this docket, the project sponsor is subject to enforcement actions pursuant to 18 CFR Part 808.

13. Commission approval shall not be construed to exempt the project sponsor from obtaining and maintaining all necessary permits and/or approvals required for the project from other federal, state, or local government agencies having jurisdiction over the project. The foregoing shall include, but not be limited to, any applicable permitting requirements of NYSDEC. All such permits and/or approvals shall be obtained prior to the withdrawal of water. The Commission may modify, suspend, or revoke this approval if the project sponsor fails to obtain or maintain such permits and/or approvals. Furthermore, no water withdrawn by this project may be used in natural gas well development using High Volume Hydraulic Fracturing in New York State.

14. The Commission may at any time reopen any project approval or issue such additional orders, as may be necessary, to mitigate or avoid adverse impacts or otherwise to protect public health, safety, welfare, or the environment, pursuant to 18 CFR § 806.32.

15. Commission approval confers no property rights upon the project sponsor. The securing of all rights necessary and incident to the project sponsor's development and operation of the project shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the project sponsor, and this approval shall be subject thereto.

16. This project is approved for inclusion in the Commission's Comprehensive Plan for the Water Resources of the Susquehanna River Basin.

17. The project sponsor is required to apply for and obtain approval prior to any increase in withdrawals that would exceed the amounts listed herein.

18. The project sponsor is required to apply for and obtain approval prior to any increase in the combined withdrawal that would exceed the approved combined withdrawal limit listed herein.

19. If the Commission determines that the operation of the project's groundwater withdrawals adversely affect any existing groundwater or surface water withdrawal, the project

sponsor shall be required to provide, at its expense, an alternate water supply or other mitigating measure.

Section 9. Special Conditions

20. The project sponsor shall adhere to the groundwater elevation monitoring plan reviewed and approved by Commission staff for the sources listed in Section 3. Prior to any withdrawal from the sources listed in Section 3, the project sponsor shall install and maintain water level monitoring equipment in accordance with 18 CFR § 806.30. The project sponsor shall notify the Commission, in writing, and submit make, model, serial numbers, and photographs of the water level monitoring equipment when it has been installed and certify the accuracy of the measuring devices. Withdrawals shall not commence until Commission staff has approved the implementation of the approved groundwater elevation monitoring plan and notified the project sponsor of such approval. The project sponsor shall maintain and monitor the accuracy of the measuring devices in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

21. The project sponsor shall comply with the water conservation requirements and reduce system water losses to less than twenty (20) percent to comply with 18 CFR § 806.25(a)(1). The project sponsor shall reduce system losses and achieve compliance with the water conservation requirements within five (5) years of the effective date of this docket approval unless the Commission grants an extension of time due to extenuating circumstances described, in writing, by the project sponsor. The project sponsor shall report to the Commission annually on the progress made pursuant to this requirement. Annual reports are due within sixty (60) days after the close of the preceding calendar year. If the project sponsor can show that system water losses are below twenty (20) percent for two (2) consecutive calendar years, annual reports for the remainder of the five (5)-year period may no longer be required following written notification from Commission staff.

22. Consistent with Special Condition 21 of Commission Docket No. 19860201-3, the project sponsor shall notify Commission staff within two (2) weeks of Wells PW-2 or PW-3 becoming operational. Continued use of Well 2-88 after December 31, 2025, requires either a renewal application to be submitted no later than June 30, 2025, or submittal of a Notice of Intent to operate under General Permit GP-02 for Groundwater Withdrawals for Emergency Uses or Maintenance Activities. Otherwise, if Well 2-88 is not needed after initiation of withdrawals from Wells PW-2 and PW-3, a request for rescission of Commission Docket Nos. 19860201 and 19860201-3 should be submitted to the Commission.

23. The project sponsor shall keep records, and shall report the same to the Commission upon request, of all persons supplied water from the project that maintain a permanent connection to the public water supply system. The project sponsor shall also keep daily records, and shall report the same to the Commission upon request, of all persons supplied water from the project that do not maintain a permanent connection to the public water supply system, including daily quantities supplied.

Section 10. Term

24. The project sponsor has a period of three (3) years from the date of this approval to commence the withdrawals from Wells PW-2 and PW-3 or this approval will automatically expire for any withdrawal not commenced, unless an extension is requested, in writing, by the project sponsor no later than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to such expiration and approved by the Commission as provided in 18 CFR § 806.31(b).

25. This approval is effective until December 13, 2038. As specified in 18 CFR § 806.31(e), if the project sponsor submits an application on or before June 13, 2038, the project sponsor may continue operation of this project pursuant to the terms and conditions of this approval until such time as the Commission acts on such application, or until otherwise notified by the Executive Director.

CERTIFICATION: I, Jason E. Oyler, Secretary to the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, do hereby certify that the foregoing project docket was approved by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission on December 14, 2023.

Dated: December 15, 2023



Jason E. Oyler, Esq.