



## APPENDIX B

DEC 07 REC'D

December 2, 2020

Seeley Lake Sewer District Board

Box 403

Seeley Lake, MT 59868

Madam, and Sirs

I would like to take this opportunity to weigh in on the proposed February bond issue election. I have reviewed the proposed letter written by your manager to be sent to sewer district residents and consider it to be less than factual, and not wholly accurate.

I would like to propose to you that two 500-word statements be drafted to explain the project to Sewer District Resident Voters. One would be drafted by the proponents of the project and one would be drafted by the opponents. This would be similar to the procedure used by state and county election officials to explain ballot initiatives.

The two statements would be submitted to the residents with the February bond election ballots. Neither proponents or opponents should be able to review the others' statement. The statements should be submitted to the Missoula County Elections office for inclusion in the ballot mailing.

I look forward to hearing from you on this proposal



Don Larson, Citizens for Sensible Wastewater Solutions

Cc: Pathfinder

# APPENDIX C

## HELENA

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December 15, 2020

Jean Curtiss  
Seeley Lake Sewer District  
P.O. Box 403  
Seeley Lake, MT 59868-0403

RE: Economic Development Administration (EDA)

Dear Jean,

I am writing in response to your request to summarize the District's efforts to secure grant funding from the EDA for the wastewater project. The District and Great West Engineering worked closely with Kirk Keyser, the EDA's representative in Montana, to make a case for CARES ACT funding from the EDA. Congress allocated CARES ACT funding to the EDA to help distressed communities become more resilient to infectious diseases such as COVID-19. Great West Engineering prepared a Preliminary Engineering Technical Memo and an Environmental Report that comply with EDA requirements. We also prepared an application in which we attempted (with support of the PER Technical Memo) to identify a strong "nexus" between the project and protecting the community from COVID-19 or similar viruses. We spent a significant amount of time reaching out and discussing the proposed project with Seeley Lake business owners. The initial feedback on the project from the EDA was encouraging. However, after Mr. Keyser further reviewed the application and PER memo, he recommended the District take a more traditional approach by preparing an application for funding through the EDA's Public Works Program.

It is important to understand an EDA grant application's competitiveness for funding is directly related to the applicants' ability to demonstrate a direct relationship between a project and job creation. The businesses we contacted stated off the record the construction of a wastewater system would likely allow them to expand their existing facilities or build new facilities. However, no one we spoke with would provide the District with a written estimate of the jobs they would create if they were connected to the proposed system. Without direct evidence of job creation, the District could not submit the Public Works application through Grants.gov. However, if a business does step forward in the future, the District could take the work that has been done and apply for EDA funding.

Sincerely,

Great West Engineering, Inc.

*Craig Erickson*

Craig Erickson, CGW  
Funding Director

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