

MINUTES
August 10, 2015 6:00 PM
Millis Drinking Water Committee
900 Main St., Millis, MA 02054

Present:

James McCaffrey
James McKay
Craig Schultze
Barbara Thissell
Charles Aspinwall

Eric Las, Beals & Thomas
Dan Wusinich, Exelon
Matt Cote, Beals & Thomas
Todd Brown, Tighe & Bond
Tom Mahanna, Tighe & Bond

Mr. McCaffrey called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. He explained that the Town was approached by Exelon to see if Millis was interested in selling water to Exelon for use at their 200 MW peaking facility in Medway. The water would be used as part of the emissions control process. The site would add two new 100 MW turbines, a 1 million gallon storage tank for oil, and a 950,000 gallon water tank.

Water demand for the site would be 95,000 gallons per day. Peak use could be as high as 190,000 GPD, ten days per year. Peak demand is in the winter.

Bellingham, Medway and Milford have been approached to sell water but Millis has the best supply of those contacted. Medway is operating above their water management act permit amounts.

The proposal contemplates an interconnect with the Medway system, pushing Millis water into Medway, and a long term contract with the town.

Exelon has agreed to pay Kleinfelder Inc. to study Medway's system and would do so for Millis. They are here tonight to get feedback from the town and see if Millis is interested in the sale of water to them. The project would be permitted by the end of 2016, construction in 2017, and operation in the 3rd - 4th quarter of 17.

Mr. Aspinwall responded to the potential of hiring Kleinfelder. He noted the two towns have disparate interests and it may not be wise for Millis to have one firm study both towns. He inquired as to what other permits were needed

Mr. Las responded that this study is merely a feasibility study. Mr. Wusinich noted that they need approvals from the state Energy Facilities Siting Counsel, FERC - a filing

only, DEP, MEPA with an ENF and EIR filing, and local Con Comm. ISO, which oversees the grid in New England, approved the project last January.

Mr. McKay said he had a lot of engineering questions and noted that the towns use dissimilar treatment chemicals. He said that he too had concerns about being reviewed by an engineering firm representing both towns. Ms. Thissell asked for an explanation of the water main sizes at the border of the two towns.

Mr. Las responded that the study is merely a look at the mechanics of getting water from one community to another. Mr. Schultze said he understood why having one firm study the two systems but it would make sense for us to have our own review.

Mr. Aspinwall referred to the pumping scenarios outlined when the town was talking about selling water to Franklin. He asked Mr. Wusinich how the state views this project. Mr. Wusinich responded that the state wants back up to intermittent power supplies. When wind is slow or its cloudy out, there needs to be backup to solar & wind power.

Mr. McCaffrey asked Exelon to provide a list of other communities with which they have host community agreements or from whom they purchase water.

Mr. Aspinwall asked how the Town of Medway is viewing the project. Mr. Wusinich responded that Medway has been helpful and professional. They are negotiating a host community agreement.

Mr. McCaffrey asked Exelon to summarize what they are seeking. Mr. Las asked for the town's willingness to participate in the study to be performed by Kleinfelder to study the mechanics of the two systems. Mr. McKay asked if the study would look at the regulatory environment and the four log rule. Mr. Las responded those issues would be reviewed. Mr. Wusinich said that Exelon would be open to paying for a peer review done by a firm selected by the town. Mr. Brown said that it made sense to him as an engineer to have one firm perform the study; particularly the hydraulics.

Mr. McCaffrey asked Mr. Aspinwall to open a dialogue with Medway.

Mr. Schultze moved to recommend that the Selectmen hear the presentation made by Exelon, to consider the sale of water to Exelon, and to participate in the Kleinfelder study provided there is a peer review. The motion was seconded by Mr. McKay, vote 5-0 in favor.

At 7:30 PM Mr. Schultze made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McKay, vote 5-0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles J. Aspinwall