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Fall 2007

NEWS

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Upgrade Update

The Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA) is continuing to implement plant expansion and upgrades that will improve service and promote a cleaner environment. The upgrades, all part of the Comprehensive Strategic Plan (CSP) that the RVSA has worked with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to develop, are progressing well, with some activities ahead of schedule and under budget.

Michael J. Brinker, Jr., Interim Executive Director at the RVSA, provided this update:

"Since the April 2005 groundbreaking at the plant, we've made significant progress on the three major ongoing projects: Contract 155, which is the wastewater treatment plant expansion; Contract 105, the Cogeneration/Sludge Drying Facility; and Contract 156, construction of a Gravity Relief Sewer in Rahway. We are happy to announce that Contract 156 is complete and that our contractor, Northeast Remsco Construction, came in a year ahead of schedule and about \$1.5 million under budget. The Gravity Relief Sewer will be activated once the treatment plant is complete – which brings us to Contract 155. Work on this project also is progressing nicely and ahead of schedule. We were originally anticipating completion of the project by the end of 2008 but at the current rate of progress, it may be possible for the contractor on this project, E.E. Cruz, and the engineering team, to beat this timeline and complete work by late summer or early fall 2008. Finally, our third project, the Cogeneration/Sludge Drying Facility, has met with some challenges. In April, there were malfunctions during engine testing which have set back the timeline slightly. The engineer, contractor and suppliers are working to remedy the situation in order to prevent it from happening in the future. We also hope to begin testing the sludge drying equipment within the facility at the end of September." This project remains a top priority because once the facility is operational, the RVSA will realize savings and self-sufficiency from its electric utility provider as well as reduced costs for sludge disposal. ■

Progress at the RVSA



A rotary drum thickener being placed in a new building. (April 2007)



A gas blender in the compressor room will blend digester and natural gases for engine fuel. (April 2007)



Progress made at settling tank rehabilitation – installation of the center column and sludge collecting arms. (August 2007)

Read all about it!

An article on the RVSA plant expansion and upgrade appeared in the February 2007 issue of *New York Construction* magazine. Read the article on the RVSA Web site at <http://www.rahwayvalleysa.com>.

RVSA User Charge System

The RVSA recently retained a Consulting Engineer, HatchMottMacDonald (HMM), to perform an evaluation of the RVSA's current billing system to the municipalities for sewer conveyance and treatment services. HMM evaluated the existing methodology of billing the member municipalities along with two alternatives, an Equivalent Dwelling Unit concept and a Water Consumption concept. The study required input and cooperation from the member and user municipalities. The end-recommendation by HMM was for the RVSA to continue with its existing system, while including some enhancements. ■

Distinguished Award for Engineering Excellence

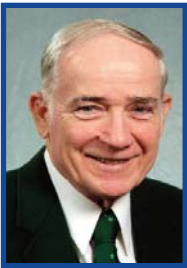
Earlier this year, the American Council of Engineering Companies of New Jersey (ACEC), recognized PS&S, the engineering contractor for the RVSA Gravity Relief Sewer project, and RVSA with its Distinguished Award for Engineering Excellence. The award recognizes "high professional execution of engineering design on a project."

The RVSA Gravity Relief Sewer project extended through a heavily urbanized section of the City of Rahway, crossing over greatly traveled highways and the Rahway River. Because of these factors, it was in the RVSA's best interest to reduce the length of the conveyance line and eliminate as many obstacles as possible. PS&S's award-winning recommendation and design is a system that allowed for trench-less installation within the congested City streets of Rahway. This minimized impact to residences and businesses, as well as environmentally sensitive areas along the Rahway River. ■



Pictured at the award ceremony (from left to right): Jim Cassella, Assistant to RVSA Executive Director; Kathy Corcoran, Engineer, PS&S; Mike Gennaro, President, PS&S; and Paul Passaro, Engineer, PS&S.

Thomas McHale Resigns from RVSA Board of Commissioners



The RVSA recently announced the resignation of Thomas McHale as the commissioner serving Kenilworth following nearly 14 years of dedicated service.

"Tom has always been active in his community and dedicated to service. His actions have helped to improve the lives of local citizens and serving on the RVSA Board of Commissioners has been no exception," commented Attilio "Sonny" Venturo, Chairman, RVSA Board of Commissioners. "On behalf of the Board and the Authority, I thank Tom for his many years of dedicated service and wish him well on his retirement."

Tom was appointed to the RVSA Board of Commissioners in 1994 and during his tenure served one term as Chairman in 2000. He worked at Schering-Plough for 41 years as a Supervisor and retired several years ago. With a history of service in his community, Tom was involved with the Borough Council, Planning Board and Board of Adjustment, as well as serving as President of the Board of Education and as Little League Vice President. Tom has been active in the Juvenile Conference Committee, served on the Recreation Committee and the Fire Department Rescue Squad. He is in the Fraternal Knights of Columbus (3rd and 4th degree), a member of the Veterans of Foreign War, President of the Columbian Club and is an active member of St. Theresa's Church. ■

RVSA Laboratory Supervisor Receives Award

Jean A. Manigold, RVSA Laboratory Supervisor, was honored earlier this year with the New Jersey Water Environment Association's (NJWEA) Robert Rowe Award for Laboratory Analyst Excellence. The award was presented at the Presidents Luncheon held at the NJWEA annual conference in May in Atlantic City, NJ.

The NJWEA presents a number of awards each year to acknowledge and extend its gratitude to those members who warrant recognition for their contributions and dedicated service to the Association, its goals and its achievements. The Robert Rowe Award for Laboratory Analyst Excellence recognizes individuals for outstanding performance, professionalism and contributions to the water quality analysis laboratory profession.

Congratulations, Jean! ■

New Commissioners

The RVSA is pleased to welcome two new members to the Board of Commissioners: Rahway Commissioner Peter H. Pelissier and Kenilworth Commissioner Gregg F. David.



Get To Know Peter H. Pelissier

Peter H. Pelissier was appointed to the RVSA in February of 2007. He began his career in 1976 as an Elected Municipal Clerk and Appointed Administrator in Passaic Township (now called Long Hill Township), Morris County, where he worked for 12 years before taking a government position as Town Clerk and Administrator with the Town of Boonton, Morris County, in 1988. He then served as the Municipal Business Administrator for the City of Rahway from 1990 to 2002, retired briefly to Montana, and then was reappointed to that role in January 2007 for a four year-term. As Municipal Business Administrator he oversees operations of the local government serving at the direction of the Mayor. His responsibilities cover day-to-day operations of various departments, including Police, Fire, Public Works, Planning and Economic Development, Revenue and Finance, and Community Services. During his brief retirement, Peter served as the Executive Director for the Rahway Redevelopment Agency on a consultant basis – a role he now fulfills full-time in addition to his responsibilities as Municipal Business Administrator. Peter earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Health – Physical Education from the University of Bridgeport, CT; a Masters of Education from Springfield College, MA; and a Masters of Public Administration from Rutgers University, NJ. In addition to serving communities here in New Jersey, Peter has served the Country. He was in the United States Marine Corps from 1968 to 1970, obtaining the rank of Captain. In 1969, he served as a Rifle Platoon Commander in the Vietnam War.



Get To Know Gregg F. David

Gregg F. David was appointed to the RVSA in July 2007. As a third-generation Kenilworth resident, Gregg is committed to the community and is currently serving as Mayor of the town. He is a member of the Kenilworth Planning Board and the Kenilworth Historical Society where he has served as President and Treasurer. In addition, he has held leadership roles on the Kenilworth Borough Council and the Kenilworth Board of Adjustment, and was a Director of the Kenilworth Rotary Club for five years. Gregg has been employed at Merck in Rahway since 1999 and is currently a Program Integration Manager in the Information Technology department. Previously, he worked for Info Technologies, Prudential Insurance, United States Testing Co., and Heyco, Inc. Gregg earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting from Rutgers University, NJ, in 1981 and a Masters of Business Administration in Management from Fairleigh Dickinson University, NJ, in 1988. ■

RVSA Employee Published!

An article written by RVSA Shift Supervisor Andrew Sasso, titled “Hydro Power; The Future’s Environmentally Safe Energy,” was published in the Summer 2007 issue of *New Jersey EFFLUENTS* magazine. The magazine is published by the New Jersey Water Environment Association for its members and is archived in the library system at Rutgers University. The article is also available on the RVSA Web site at <http://www.rahwayvalleysa.com>.

Attilio “Sonny” Ventura, Chairman of the RVSA Board of Commissioners, congratulated Andy on behalf of the RVSA, stating his efforts and interest on this subject, and recognition by his peers, are commendable. Congratulations, Andy! ■

RVSA Anticipates \$25 Million Grant

Earlier this year, Congress passed the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2007. The WRDA seeks to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes. As part of the WRDA, RVSA’s Washington lobbyists are continuing their efforts to secure a \$25 million authorization for the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority. This grant will be used to fund wastewater infrastructure improvements. ■



1050 East Hazelwood Avenue
Rahway, New Jersey 07065

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Vice Chairwoman: Joan Papen

Interim Executive Director:

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Secretary - Treasurer: Robert J. Materna

Commissioners:

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Allen Chin, Westfield

Gregg F. David, Kenilworth

C. Clark Landale, Mountainside

Charles P. Lombardo, Garwood

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Frank G. Mazzarella, Clark

James J. Murphy, Cranford

Joan Papen, Scotch Plains

Peter H. Pelissier, Rahway

Attilio S. Ventura, Roselle Park



Progress at the RVSA

Top left: Progress on main pump level in Headworks facility. (June 2007)

Top right: Structural steel installation at the Headworks facility. (March 2007)

Left: Cogen exhaust stack inspection in July 2007.

Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority

1050 East Hazelwood Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey 07065

Phone: 732-388-0868 • Fax: 732-382-0774

Web site: <http://www.rahwayvalleysa.com>