

# **Municipal Customer Meeting**

*Via Zoom* June 25, 2020



## Welcome & Agenda

- Welcome & NEW Water updates Tom Sigmund, Executive Director
- COVID-19 mode for NEW Water Pat Wescott, Director of Operations
- Financial impacts of COVID update Brian Vander Loop, Director of Business Services
- **PFAS update** Nate Qualls, Director of Technical Services
- **GB Packaging update** Nate Qualls
- Facilities Plan update Nate Qualls

## Updates from Executive Director

- Budgeting process 2020
- Weather events in 2020
  - Underscores need to reduce 'clear water' or Inflow & Infiltration (I&I)
  - I&I Stakeholder Advisory Group continuation
- What's new with Adaptive Management / watershed efforts

## COVID-19 Mode for NEW Water

- Convened a multi department team in late March to develop plans to ensure continued service through the pandemic
- Developed modified work location plans resulting in more than 60% staff working remotely. Remote work for most staff has continued since late March
- Critical field and support staff have worked on-site throughout the pandemic. Staff dedicated to the DPF and the GBF with minimal cross over
- Adopted a Return to Normal Operations (RTNO) Plan for NEW Water
  - Includes various action items that have been instituted at the facilities
  - Multi-staged approach to returning staff to on-site work
  - Stage One of the RTNO Plan began June 22. Additional staff have returned to on-site work
  - Stage Two of the RTNO Plan tentatively scheduled for mid July
- Continue to operate all critical organizational functions while maintaining regulatory compliance

## Financial Impacts of COVID-19

- Financial Working Group
- Customer inquires
  - Concern for customers
  - Customer challenges
  - Payment for services
- Water utilities
- Flow and load monitoring
- Grant inquires
  - Routes to recovery: Local government aid grants
  - Administered by the Wisconsin Department of Administration
  - County/municipality available allocations
- Ongoing communication

## \$20M Bond Refinancing

- 2013 General Obligation Sewerage Improvement Bonds
- Interim R2E2 financing
- Issued at 4.50% interest
- Began refinancing process April
- Moody's Investors Service Aaa Rating
- Bonds sale May 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Refinanced at 2.29% interest
  - NPV savings of refunded bond was 11.92%
  - Total savings of \$2,879,330
  - NPV savings of \$2,384,970
  - Annual debt service savings of \$148,000

## **PFAS Update**

This year:
Survey industries

- Next year: Industrial wastewater testing
- Beyond: Regulations

NEW

## **PFAS** WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### WHAT ARE PFAS CHEMICALS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS and GenX chemicals. Since the 1940s, PFAS have been manufactured and used in a variety of industries around the globe, including in the United States. PFOA and PFOS have been the most extensively produced and studied of these chemicals. Both are very persistent in the environment and in the human body. Exposure to certain PFAS can lead to adverse human health effects.

#### PFOA & PFOS

U.S. manufacturers voluntarily phased out PFOA and PFOS, two specific PFAS chemicals.



GenX Chemicals GenX chemicals are a replacement for PFOA.

Additional information about PFAS is linked here.

## Green Bay Packaging Update

- Water reuse project underway
  - Pipeline construction has commenced
  - Effluent reuse expected fall of 2020
- GBP process discharge to NEW Water for treatment expected summer of 2020
- Partnering for water
  - NEW Water, City of Green Bay, and Brown County collaboration on storm water pond on Quincy Street

## **Facilities Plan Update**

- Comprehensive look at liquids process needs at NEW Water facilities
- Plan will help inform and prioritize NEW Water's capital projects through:
  - Understanding future flows and loads
  - Evaluating condition, performance and capacity gaps
    - Aging facilities
    - Hydraulic constraints / peak flows
    - De Pere facility future
  - Understanding regulatory drivers
  - Developing and evaluating infrastructure packages
- Focus of work to date
  - Process and hydraulic modeling
  - Screening, grit and headworks infrastructure
  - Thickening infrastructure
  - De Pere Facility vision



### Thank you!

#### Stay tuned to NEW Water news



