

Monthly GU & WPCA Pre-Meeting Minutes

Date: August. 13, 2026

Time: 9 am

Location: GU Operations Conference Room

Present: Ledyard WPCA: Ed Lynch, GU Management: Mike Weber, Steve Dietrich, Vince Bartelli, Doug LaFontaine, GU Project Management: Joe Allyn, Kate Blacker

1. **Water Quality** Discussion (Steve Dietrich, Water Quality Manager)

- a. Current considerations: July 21st GU's THM sample at Village Dr yielded a result of 100; this does not cause an NOV or an OEL but it is reason for concern. If Q4 yields a similar result, the outcome is likely a Q2 2027 NOV. GU Distribution continues to flush both the Ledyard Center tank and fire hydrants weekly in efforts to aid sampling and water quality. Fourth quarter samples are upcoming.
- b. In the Gales Ferry system last week, the chlorine residual was 0.49, this week it was 0.09, which suggests a high Q3 THM result for them, as well. Discussion included Wright-Pierces' in-progress work on updating the hydraulic model for water age. GU had vendor demonstration on automatic flushing stations last week; GU recommends Ledyard leadership, Finance and WPCA formally discuss a study related to water age/quality/usage and the increased need for flushing. Currently GU increased flushing at Poquetanuck Cove has been implemented.
- c. Upcoming Regulations – relating to Chlorine & THM's
- d. Upcoming Regulations 2031– relating to Chlorine & THM's: DPH has shared, most recently at the March 2026 ATCAVE conference, that water companies will need to be in compliance with revisions to the Microbial/Disinfection By Products Rule **by** 2031; regulations currently state that a detectable residual must be maintained throughout a water system. The future regulation is anticipated to require a minimum free chlorine residual of 0.2 mg/L throughout a water system. This change has the potential to negatively impact THM formation at the far ends of both the Gales Ferry and Ledyard Center systems. GU recommends WPCA and Mayor consider an Engineering Study of both water systems to determine best approaches for strategies to balance Chlorine residuals with THMs. With the known challenges of water age/quality and residuals currently in both Ledyard systems, GU recommends starting these efforts (and their budgetary considerations) as soon as possible. Ed asked if chlorine injection stations would be helpful – Steve indicated that the crux of this new regulation will pose a challenge of balance of increased chlorine residual required by DPH but while still managing to keep THMs (disinfection by-products) within the established limits; an engineering study will be best to address this for the specific nature of

each consecutive system. As well as potential for tank aeration and/or chlorination stations. Steve mentioned currently GU only provides certified distribution operator, if chlorination stations are added, a treatment operator will also be necessary to operate LWPCA water systems/ GU will provide hydraulic model information. It was later noted in discussion that interconnection with SWCA (increased water usage) would be beneficial to reduce water age. Also discussions with Holmberg Orchards.

2. Status of Ledyard **Hydraulic Model** (Doug): Wright-Pierce is still working on modeling
3. Site Plan Review Process with Ledyard Planning & Zoning
 - a. Current Site Plan Reviews
 - i. 740 Colonel Ledyard Highway – ECHO (Joe Allyn)
 1. Water main testing is underway
 2. Additional discussion needed related to potential extension of Fairway Drive as public road, or alternatives for water main extension/potential for looping and how these options relate to plans for 36 units
 - ii. Habitat for Humanity - no update
 - iii. 1947 Center Groton Road - EG Homes -Customer driven; no update since last month
4. Water Main Breaks – (Vince Bartelli) -None this month
 - i. Water Main Replacement Planning Efforts -Ed Lynch to reach out to Steve Masalin, Public Works Director
5. Lead Service Line Project – Request Status Update from Ledyard
 - a. GU again encouraged Ed to discuss status with Finance and Mayor 2027 DPH/EPA Deadline fast approaching and may be accelerated from November to May of 2027; discussion of risks If Arcadis is not doing this work.
 - b. Ed will reach out to Finance and the Mayor
6. Upcoming Bidding of the Ledyard Operations Contract
 - a. GU Management asked if a longer period (15+ year contract) would be an option
 - i. Relates to GU Staffing
 - b. GU asked Ed when the Bid will be posted – Ed will prioritize with WPCA
 - c. Mike suggested Ledyard Mayor, Finance, GU and WPCA meet to discuss
7. Exclusive Water Service Area – Fairway Dr and Colby Dr. – GU to outreach to SCWA, Josh Cansler, request meeting - for ESA as well as discussion of potential arrangement with GU and Ledyard to provide water in the Ledyard Center area where their well currently has elevated levels of PFAS.
8. CBYD – Sewer Area – Steve Banks is now handling CBYD tickets in Ledyard sewer area

9. Gate Valve Maintenance Plan – GU’s working to use new order management system for maintenance planning
10. Fire Hydrants: Flushing and Flags
 - i. Hydrant Flushing -Complete
 - ii. Flags can be replaced in Winter at Ledyard’s request – GU will resurface the information/quote for WPCA board to vote on, per Ian Stammel
11. Thomspon St. Project (Kate)
 - i. Records work in progress/TO be Billed upon completion in September
12. No update from WPCA on part time administrator job for WPCA.
13. Ed mentioned upcoming Phase II meeting related to sewer main lining led by Weston and Sampson.
14. Ed will be away in September therefore next GU Operations meeting to be scheduled for October.