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April 2, 2008

Bethel Township Municipal Authority  
PO Box 24  
Bethel, PA 19507

ATTN: David Younker, Chairman

RE: Monthly Report for April '08

Dave and Board Members,

This office has been working on the following items this past month and would like to update the Board as follows:

**PENNVEST FINANCING MATTERS:**

1. This office accompanied Rufus Geesaman yesterday to Harrisburg where we met with PENNVEST staff in order to discuss the project logistics, financing and construction project where they gave us additional guidance for the project.

**TAP IN FEE'S:**

2. The Board may elect to continue their discussion on this matter which was briefly discussed at the Community Informational meeting (3/24/08). We have provided additional information for the Board's further consideration in this matter (separate attachment to the Board members).

**CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND LOGISTICS:**

3. We have been coordinating the Construction projects. As an update to the pre-construction meetings two (2) of the three (3) meetings have been held and the remaining one (1) is scheduled as follows:
  - a. **Contract # 1** – Frystown Collection Lines. The meeting was held on March 26, 2008. The site contractor (Joao & Bradley) is anticipating a start date of April 7, 2008.
  - b. **Contract # 2** – Bethel Collection Lines. The meeting was held on March 18, 2008. The site contractor (Marks Contracting) began the work on or about March 27, 2008.
  - c. **Contracts # 3 – # 8** Construction of the WWTP's (Frystown & Bethel), Pump Stations & M/E/P work. This meeting (largest of them all) is scheduled for next Friday (April 11, 2008).
4. We continue staking the sewer lines and manholes as needed and are providing the contractor with the appropriate cut sheets establishing the grades and lines.

5. We have received shop drawings for Contract # 1 (Frystown Collection lines) from Joao & Bradley. To date we have reviewed all submittals and have stamped a significant portion of them as APPROVED. A few require minor modifications and/or verifications. We have forwarded these approved shop drawings (separate correspondence).
6. We continue providing lateral stakes for the residents to physically stake their lateral locations. These stakes are being handed out by the Resident Project Representatives (inspection staff) in advance of the need and will be coordinated with specific construction schedules in the respective work vicinity.
7. We have been observing the construction activities and have provided the Board members with copies of the inspection reports. We can distribute these to Board members on a regular (daily, weekly, etc.) basis either electronic or hard copies at the Board's request and direction.

#### **PLAN REVISIONS:**

8. As the Board may be aware, we have encountered two (2) changes to the plans necessitated by various items this past month. The revisions and official Change Orders will be necessary and should be considered for **ACTION by the Board** as follows:
  - a. Revisions to Frystown (vicinity of Seigrist development): The plans were revised in the vicinity of the Seigrist development in order to accommodate the new connection into the site and across the roadway (SR0645). This would not be a change in scope but only quantities and price and is relatively minor in nature.
  - b. Revisions to Bethel (vicinity of Salem Road): As part of a site walk with the contractor (after the pre-construction meeting) it was revealed that there is an existing hand dug shallow well in very close proximity to the proposed force main (along Lancaster Avenue). In order to avoid immediate problems with this resident's water supply it is our recommendation to install a well on the property in advance of the construction activities. Bid prices are available for the Board's further consideration in this matter.

#### **STATUS OF PERMITS:**

9. As a follow up to the meeting last month, Dave Younker discussed the Township permits (for this project) with the Board of Supervisors at their regular meeting. The Township supervisors waived the fees for the project but required the filing of the necessary building permits (WWTP's and pump stations). As a result, this office has filed the necessary permits and is awaiting the Township's review.

#### **PUBLIC RELATIONS/ MISC. INFORMATION:**

10. As a follow up to a resident's request and the Board's concurrence (at the community meeting) we have now uploaded various documents to our website ([www.visionengineeringinc.net](http://www.visionengineeringinc.net)) for the purpose of community information and includes the following information:

- a. Detailed project plans (copies of PDF files of the plans and profile sheets for the villages of Bethel and Frystown). Interactive Aerial maps are provided so that residents can click on their particular property and the associated plan and profile sheet will appear.
- b. An FAQ/Project Updates section where we can post answers to frequently asked questions. We have also posted the prior notice to residents which was distributed prior to the community meeting.
- c. Copies of the monthly engineer's reports are included from January, 2005 to present.
- d. Copies of the board meeting minutes. We only have these available from January, 2005 through to December, 2006.
- e. Any other information the Board would like to provide on the website we can provide that information at your request.

#### **DEVELOPMENT PLAN STATUS:**

11. We were authorized within the past week to start our review of plans and additional information for the following development projects:
  - a. **Eugene & Carole Seigris (Frystown) site** (approximately 55 unit residential development). We completed our review of these plans initially on March 26, 2008 (copy attached to Board's packet) and received a revised plan submission this week (3/31/08). We have reviewed the revised plans on a cursory level and it appears that a majority of the plan items have been addressed.
  - b. **Werner Truck Terminal (Frystown) site** (commercial trucking facility). Although we have completed a cursory review of these plans we have not completed the review formally. Additional input from the Board may be appropriate on this plan relative to the overall sewer facilities proposed prior to the completion of our review.
  - c. **Industrial Development Authority** property (Route I-78 Industrial Park at Bethel). Consisting of the development of approximately 400 acres. We have begun our review of the plans but have explained to the site engineer that we received a sketch level plan only. One item the board may want to consider discussing now and with the Township Supervisors are the prior plans of sewer service for this area and surrounding properties relative to timing of the various improvements.

#### **ACTION ITEM STATUS:**

12. As requested by the Board last month all the Board's property corners have been staked by the surveyor with permanent monumentation as appropriate.

#### **ITEMS REQUIRING FURTHER BOARD INPUT/DIRECTION:**

13. We were authorized within the past week to start our review of plans and additional information for the following development projects which the Board may want to discuss further as follows:
  - a. **Gene Seigris residential development.** There are some policy and/or legal matters the Board may want to discuss relative to this project due to

it's current status with the Township Planning commission and Supervisors. The developer was planning on attending this evening's meeting for this purpose.

- b. **Werner Trucking Development.** The current plan proposes the installation of a pump station to service the site. However, generally looking at the topography it would appear that the site could be serviced with a gravity line. The board may want to consider a further study of the area to verify the most economically feasible option for the long term of the system.
  - c. **Berks County IDA property development.** The board may want to consider discussing this site development with the Township Supervisors relative to the overall proposed utilities on this site with respect to the surrounding area, consistent with prior plans in this vicinity.
14. One question that has come up by several contractors and a few residents is related to the requirements of the Authority installing the sewer lines. The general question was related to whether or not the entire sewer lateral would be removed for the new sewer connection. We can discuss the alternatives with the Board if they would like, otherwise, this particular item can wait to a later date for resolution.
15. Another question that the Board may want to consider is a little more urgent and critical for further action. This matter deals with providing laterals on currently vacant lots and will require Township input as well.

Should there be any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,  
**Vision Engineering, Inc.**

John K. Roche, P.E.