

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM #4: REGIONAL SEWER CONSOLIDATION STUDY

SUBJECT:

Currently, the consulting firm HDR Engineering is evaluating the potential benefits of consolidating the region's sanitary sewer assets. The objectives and timeline for the study will be discussed including the deadline for localities to respond to the study's recommendation.

BACKGROUND:

In Hampton Roads, each locality owns and operates their own sanitary sewer collection system carrying sewage away from homes and businesses to facilities owned and operated by HRSD, the regional entity that treats sewage for all of Hampton Roads. The Regional Sewer Consolidation Study is looking at whether there is any benefit to consolidate all sanitary sewer assets - those owned and operated by the localities with those owned and operated by HRSD.

The study must be completed by August 2013. The study will make a recommendation to either consolidate sewer systems in all or part of the Hampton Roads region or continue to operate as independent but interconnected systems (like they operate today). Each local governing body as well as the HRSD Commission will have to decide if the recommendation is the best course of action for their constituency. Each decision may be contingent on some additional study or negotiating specific terms of the consolidation agreement.

The schedule approved by DEQ and the EPA requires each governing body to make a decision by February 2014. If the decision is to move forward with complete or partial consolidation, an additional year is built into the schedule to work out the details and enter into a binding agreement.

Mr. Ted Henifin, HRSD General Manager, will brief the Commission on this effort.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

No action needed.