

Michigan State Office
Community Programs

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November 10, 2021

Michael Ridley
Tuscarora Township
3546 S Straits Highway
Indian River, MI 49749

SUBJECT: Tuscarora Township Phase 1 Sewer Expansion Project
USDA Review of the Preliminary Engineering Report
Prepared by: Performance Engineers, Inc.

Dear Mr. Ridley,

We have completed our initial review of the preliminary engineering report for the above-mentioned project. The preliminary engineering report is acceptable, no further information is required. This project is subject to the American Iron and Steel requirements set forth in Rural Development's appropriation language of May 5, 2017.

AMERICAN IRON & STEEL COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Section 746 of Title VII of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 (Division A – Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 2017) and subsequent statutes mandating domestic preference applies an American Iron and Steel requirement to this project.

All parties are required to comply with these requirements and to ensure that all iron and steel products used in this project must be produced in the United States. The term "iron and steel products" means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials.

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We have also attached Michigan Guide 3, Attachment 1, for your use when you and your consultant engineer prepare specification books and bidding documents. We can provide your engineer with Michigan Guide 3 EJCD, "Blue Cover" Guide and RUS Bulletin 1780- 26, to provide guidance for preparing the EJCD contract documents, which are required, at your engineer's request.

USDA Rural Development expects that all forms or bulletins used in the specification books and contract documents will not be modified beyond filling in the blanks and will not be retyped. This applies to all hard copy forms and bulletins and those downloaded from the Internet:

(<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/englis/index.htm>).

If the consultant proposes any changes as the contract documents are developed, they must be clearly marked **(bolded)** or set apart from the text of the form or bulletin and brought to the attention of the owner and the agency during the review of the draft documents.

We look forward to working with you and your engineer to proceed in an efficient and orderly manner.

Please continue to work with Blake Smith, of our Traverse City area office in completing all remaining requirements.

Sincerely,

Andrew H. Granskog, P.E.
State Engineer
Attachments

cc: Blake Smith, Area Specialist – Traverse City A/O (by email)
Performance Engineers, Inc. – Aaron E. Nordman, PE (by email)