

Date: May 13, 2026 Subject: Engineering Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday May 12, 2026
To: Board of Directors From: Engineering Committee and
Arthur G. Simonian, Executive Director 

**Engineering Committee
Tuesday, May 12, 2026
Meeting Minutes**

The Engineering Committee met Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at the District Offices, 245 Main Street, Cromwell, Connecticut and remotely.

Chairman, Mr. John Dunham (remote at 5:40 p.m.) called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Present were, Committee Members –Phil Pessina (remote left at 5:30 p.m.), Nick Stevens (remote) and Liam Mitchell. There was a quorum. Also, present from the Mottabassett District were Executive Director – Arthur Simonian, District Engineer – Michelle Ryan (remote) and Joe Laliberte from CDM Smith. Board Members Bonnie Anderson and Don Naples were absent.

The May 12, 2026 Engineering Committee Meeting was held to discuss:

1) Odor Control Assessment Update:

a. Rollup Door:

Mr. Simonian explained that the new roll up door is working well. He was out in the plant today and checked the door. It closes automatically

b. Middletown Pump Station Forced Main Chemical Dosing Evaluation:

CDM Smith developed an H₂S testing/monitoring plan that we are reviewing. The meters are all installed. The meters measure H₂S dissolved and converts to vapor phase. The meters have 2 probes that are immersed in the wastewater and headspace convert the concentration to vapor or liquid phase. The testing/monitoring will evaluate various dosing levels and assess plant H₂S background levels without Bioxide treatment at the force main from pump station.

c. H₂S Monitoring and Peroxide Pilot Test at Headworks and Detritors:

The pilot test for peroxide dosing at the head of the plant/headworks to assess effectiveness of peroxide dosing is effective in the headworks will take place in late June or July after item b above.

2) Pump Building Odor Control and Ventilation Assessment:

Mr. Simonian explained the general area and process at the headworks; the bar rack, raw sewage pumps and wet-wells. For odor control, under the Nitrogen Upgrade a carbon system was installed. We would like to

now evaluate the air circulation, air exchanges, moisture and air flow at the headworks and evaluate H₂S in these areas. We also want to evaluate an enclosure for a rags grinding system that will reduce the influent rags to a compact form so that disposal can be made with municipal waste instead of landfilling.

Mr. Laliberte explained the proposal and added that a comprehensive review of the electrical system, mechanicals, and expansion for the screenings and rags will be evaluated. The HVAC assessment, odors and moisture intrusion in the building are important to mitigate odors. Mr. Laliberte clarified that this proposal is for a comprehensive study with a recommendation of improvements and not a design. He also clarified billable rates.

MOTION: The Engineering Committee approves a contract with CDM Smith, Inc., of Boston, MA, for an assessment for Pump Building Odor Control and Ventilation, not to exceed, in the amount of \$107,845.00 utilizing the on-call consulting contract.

Mr. Mitchell moved, Mr. Pessina seconded, and the Committee approved unanimously.

3) Dewatering Building Chemical Odor Treatment System Replacement:

Art explained that the study recommended to replace the chemical odor system in the basement of the dewatering building. The proposal is for the design of the replacement of this wet scrubber. The **XYLEM vendor** was recommended to replace this chemical treatment system.

The design encompasses all the major disciplines: electrical, mechanical, existing ducts, airflow, etc.

The District will investigate pre-purchasing the materials and will request construction prices from a few experienced plant contractors. No bid documents will be developed. During construction there will be construction administration. CDM Smith will provide 360 hours of inspection as part of the construction administration

MOTION: The Engineering Committee approves a contract with CDM Smith, Inc., of Boston, MA for the engineering design and construct admin services related to the replacement of the existing 3,000 CFM OCS-2124 chemical wet scrubber serving the Sludge Disposal & Dewatering Building basement, in an amount not to exceed of \$230,000.00 utilizing the on-call consultant contract.

Mr. Mitchell moved, Mr. Stevens seconded, and the Committee approved unanimously.

4) Clean Water Funding Availability for Resiliency, WPCP Odor Control Upgrade, Aeration Tank Upgrade, Trunk Sewer Interceptor Lining Project, and related State Funding:

Mr. Simonian explained the program and funding. For \$1 million to \$1.5 million projects, the program is worth looking at. He explained that we put in for several projects for aeration and resiliency. Mr. Laliberte also explained that he put in an application to get the District on the list that shows that we are eligible for funding.

The District would use the money for some odor control projects and aeration projects that qualify 20% grant and also for loans. Mr. Simonian explained that for larger projects its worth applying for funding but not for smaller cost projects. This is just informative at this point. No action required.

5) Scentroid Odor Monitoring System:

Mr. Simonian answered a question that was raised on FOI. He said that the data obtained by this system iwould be FOI-able.

Michelle explained a reference that she called. A plant that has been using the same system for 4 years.

Mr. Stevens and Mr. Mitchell had some questions that Mr. Simonian answered.

Mr. Dunham said to put this on hold until all the members are available to better make a decision on this item. Mr. Simonian agreed to table this item.

6) Incinerator Violations Consent Order (EXECUTIVE SESSION):

Mr. Simonian explained that we responded to CTDEEP with a letter. He showed the letter and the consent order on the screen, and went over the information with the committee. He explained several of the items on the consent order, and recommended several final revisions that they will be making to the final CO. The final CO will be presented to the Board at the next Board meeting

7) Odor Control and 2026 Projects List & Website:

Mr. Simonian explained the updates on the website and showed the information on the website on the screen. He spoke with the Mayor of Cromwell and informed the Committee that the Mayor requested that he provide them with an update on the project. Mr. Simonian and Mr. Dunham pointed out that all the information is on our website that they can access for updates.

8) NPDES Permit Renewal Status:

Mr. Simonian explained that a call was held with CDM Smith on a proposal for the plant study. He will call CTDEEP to let them know that we will be using our On-Call consultant for time-saving purposes. The QBS process will take longer than 9 months to get a consultant on-board and that the District already utilized the QBS process to get our On-Call consultants on-board.

9) Other related business and staff-updates

Adjournment

moved, no second necessary, due to lack of quorum after 5:30 p.m. to adjourn at 5:59 pm.