



# TOWN OF ULYSSES

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November 25, 2014

## **Progress Report from Town of Ulysses for Water District 3 chlorination by-products.**

### **September 25**

Meet with Tompkins County Department of Health to review Hunt Engineer, Tim Steed's modeling and analysis of the water system showing the age of the water over time and the options to reduce TTHM contamination to under the 80 ug/l threshold.

### **October 6**

Meet with Water District 3 representatives from the Water District Commission to explain and discuss options for correcting TTHM violations. More testing sites are recommended so water testing sites are expanded to 9 sites throughout the district with 2 being within the Ithaca limits.

### **October 8**

Due to a communication snag, only 5 of the 9 sites were tested on 10/8. Locations and test results are in the attached excel file.

### **October 28**

Hold Town Board meeting where engineer Tim Steed presents his findings to the entire Town Board and numerous residents living within the water district. The public was encouraged to join the discussion of the options and by the end, the majority (or possibly the entire) room agreed that the most cost effective choice for the time being would be the installation of a mixer/aerator in the water tank on VanDoren Road.

### **November 12**

At the next meeting of the Town Board on November 12, Board Members discussed the merits and demerits of the various solutions.

### **November 17**

Another notice was sent to all WD3 customers (attached).

### **November 25**

The following resolution will be introduced to the Town Board for approval or not.

### **REMEDICATION OF CHLORINATION BY-PRODUCTS TOWN OF ULYSSES WATER DISTRICT 3**

*WHEREAS it is a violation of Subpart 5-1.52 of the New York State Sanitary Code to exceed the Maximum Contaminant Level of 80 ug/l (micrograms/liter) of total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) in a municipal water system; and*

*WHEREAS the yearly average of water tests for total trihalomethanes at the designated testing location in Town of Ulysses Water District 3 has consistently exceeded the limit since August 2013; and*

*WHEREAS on June 27, 2014 the Tompkins County Board of Health passed a resolution ordering the Town of Ulysses to submit an engineering report and plan by January 15, 2015 indicating how the annual maximum contaminant level will be reduced to under 80 ug/l; and*

*WHEREAS this plan must be implemented and operational by September 15, 2015; and*

*WHEREAS Tim Steed, from Hunt Engineers, provided a model of the age of water in Water District 3 which relates to the level of TTHMs in the system, and analyzed the effectiveness and cost of many remediation options including:*

- Operational changes such as flushing, varying the water tank levels, and reducing the chlorine levels*
- Installation of a water tank mixer*
- Installation of a mixer/aerator for the water tank*
- Reducing the diameter of water mains*
- Adding charcoal filters either at each point of use or at the point of entry to the system*
- Connecting to the Village of Trumansburg well water supply*
- Modifying the tank inlet to increase the flow through the water tank including a new inlet pipe on Iradell Rd or a separate inlet pipe on VanDoren Rd. and*

*WHEREAS in Mr. Steed's conclusions he recommends the installation of a tank treatment (i.e. aerator/mixer) to address the immediate Board of Health violation, and in the long term, the town should begin discussions with the Village of Trumansburg to connect with their system which is closer to Ulysses WD3 and drawn from a well which tends to have much lower TTHMs; and*

*WHEREAS Mr. Steed's model indicated that because the water district was overbuilt to provide the Village of Trumansburg with a second source of water, the water tank is by-passed altogether during times of low water usage, but he feels enough aerated water will enter the system to reduce the TTHMs to under the 80 ug/l threshold even in the most remote ends of the water system.*

***THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Ulysses Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor, Water District Operator and Engineer for the Town to move forward on bids to find the most appropriate mixer/aerator system to install in the water tank on Van Doren Road with the goal of reducing the overall TTHMs within the Ulysses Water District 3; and further*

***RESOLVED** that the Town Supervisor, Water District Operator and Engineer for the Town will present the contract for the system to the Town Board for final approval.*

Elizabeth Thomas  
Ulysses Town Supervisor

