

Whitley County Regional Water & Sewer District 220 W Van Buren St. Suite 101 Columbia City, IN 46725 Telephone: (260) 438-0213

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Date: June 12th, 2017

FOLLOW-UP COMMUNITY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: Discussion and presentation of wastewater treatment solutions for residents in the Community of Dunfee area

This letter is a follow-up to the letter sent to you on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017, regarding a community meeting with the Whitley County Regional Water & Sewer District (Whitley RSD). We apologize that the letter sent to you on June 9<sup>th</sup> did not include a meeting time. Below is a duplicate of that letter sent to you, with the **meeting time of 6pm** included.

The recently formed Whitley RSD, with the support of the Whitley County Department of Health (DOH), has reviewed septic records on the homes and septic systems in your area. This research revealed that, unfortunately, several of the homes in the Dunfee area have septic systems that are not on file with the Department of Health (DOH) or are operating a filter bed septic system, which is no longer in compliance with Indiana Health Code.

The Whitley RSD will serve as the primary sanitary sewer provider for homes and businesses in the unincorporated areas of Whitley County. We have launched a proactive planning and prevention initiative to reduce the number of failed or failing septic systems and therefore serious public health and environmental concerns in Whitley County. Our goal is to make proactive planning and prevention of these challenges a team effort between Whitley RSD and the treatment service providers such as Aqua Indiana, Inc. We understand that every home and household situation can be different, which is why we need to hear from residents in a public forum.

The Whitley RSD has scheduled a community meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 at 6PM at Aqua Indiana, Inc. located at 14421 Illinois Road Fort Wayne, IN 46814 to present additional information and discuss options including how the Whitley RSD could partner with Aqua Indiana, Inc. to find a cost effective sanitary sewer solution option.

Note that feasibility research, investigation and design efforts for public sewer installations take time and planning of at least one year. Planning ahead and addressing these matters now will most certainly prevent future issues and community health risks as the signs of failed systems are discovered by you or your neighbors.

Please plan to attend this important meeting in which we will present the following information for discussion:

- What is an RSD and how do they support cost effective sanitary sewer solutions?
- Research findings and current status of your community's onsite systems
- Risks and requirements for property owners with failed onsite sewage systems
- Various options for individual and community wastewater solutions
- Community discussion on resolution options
- Petition for cost study

This meeting is informational and will be open discussion format in which we will answer all community questions and/or concerns. Your contribution and support is very important to the ongoing health of your community. If you have any questions regarding this meeting or the Whitley RSD, please feel free to contact me by email at lana@bcs-management.com. We look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

Lana Beregszazi, BCS Management, Inc. Managing Director Whitley County Regional Water and Sewer District

cc: Whitley County Health Department
The Board of Commissioners of Whitley County
Thomas Nitza, The Secant Group, LLC