

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

680 Peverly Hill Road Portsmouth, NH 03801 (603 427-1530 FAX (603) 427-1539

September 2, 2021

Town of Madbury Mark Avery Planning Board Chair 13 Town Hall Road Madbury, NH 03823

RE: Construction Project: Madbury Wells Upgrade at the Portsmouth Water Treatment Facility, 60 Freshet Road

Dear Mr. Avery:

The City of Portsmouth NH – Water Division is planning to upgrade the Water Treatment Facility located at 60 Freshet Road in Madbury NH with the construction of a well building for Madbury Wells 4r & 5, and improvements to existing well buildings #2, #3, #4. These upgrades are necessary to connect replacement wells #4r and #5 to the water system. These wells were approved by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for use in 2015 and 2018. Well 4r is a replacement of the existing Well 4 which will be abandoned as part of this project. Well 5 is a new well that serves for redundancy in the Madbury Wellfield.

Although this project does not substantially change the use of the property, the City is submitting plans and specifications in conformance with RSA 674:54. As you know that statute is triggered when the use is a substantial change, which this project is not. We understand however that the Planning Board wishes to hold a public hearing for purposes of receiving public comment and providing a vehicle for its own comments on the project. City staff will be happy to accommodate and describe the work at a Planning Board meeting. As you know, comments even under RSA 674:54 are non-binding.

This project is a critical upgrade that cannot be delayed. Bids for construction have been received and the City is currently in the process of awarding the project. Consequently, the City is

prepared to review any comments once they are received but the work will commence as soon as possible.

Feel free to call me directly at (603) 520-0622.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Albert Pratt, P.E., Water Supply Operations Manager

(603) 520-0622

anpratt@cityofportsmouth.com

cc: Eric Fiegenbaum, Town of Madbury Administrator

Brian Goetz, Deputy Director of Portsmouth Public Works

Terry Desmarais, Portsmouth City Engineer

Suzanne Woodland, Portsmouth Deputy City Attorney

Lynnette Carney, Underwood Engineers, Inc.