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November 27, 2018

Board Members  
c/o Gary Westbrook, Manager  
Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District  
310 E. Avenue C  
Milano, Texas 76556

Re: Request for Assistance  
Replacement of Public Supply Water Well  
2019-2020 CDBG Grant Application  
Cooks Point WSC

Dear Board Members:

This letter is in reference to a request on behalf of Cooks Point WSC (CPWSC) for assistance in funding a new water well. CPWSC has made a request to Burleson County to sponsor them for a Texas Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). It is likely that if the project is funded, additional funds will be needed because of the proposed cost of the well.

CPWSC is currently supplying their ~30 customers with a 4" PVC well that was constructed in 1974. It was discovered during their last well pump replacement that there is an obstruction in the casing that will not allow the pump to be lowered any deeper. The well was videoed by POSGCD personnel on November 16, 2018. It appears that a previous pump overheated and damaged the casing at ~137 ft. It was also determined that the well is ~1,250 ft. in depth and the screen consists of saw cut slots at 6" intervals. The well likely does not meet current Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) rules. Since this is CPWSC's sole water source, the age and longevity of this well is a concern. CPWSC's customers could be without water if the casing deteriorates further or breaches, if aquifer levels decline to below the obstruction (static water level was ~105 ft.) and the pump cannot be lowered, or if issues develop with the screen or other well components fail. Due to the size and construction of the well, it is not able to be relined or repaired.

As mentioned previously, CPWSC has been in communication with Burleson County about the possibility of sponsoring them for a CDBG. CPWSC performed the required household surveying to determine if the community met the income requirements of the grant. The result of the surveys showed that the percentage of low-to-moderate income households in the community exceeds the minimum requirement needed to qualify for grant funding, making CPWSC eligible to be sponsored for the grant.

If the grant is received, it will provide ~\$200,000 in construction funds. We are currently revising our cost estimate for construction of a new well from the last POSGCD groundwater conservation grant that CPWSC applied for. This revised cost estimate needs to be updated because of new depth information learned from the video, increased construction costs since the last estimate, and increased steel costs due to recent tariffs. It is expected however, that the cost of a new water well will exceed the construction funds available, possibly by a



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\$100,000 or more depending on the depth of the well needed. CPWSC has stated that they are unable to provide the remaining monies needed to complete the project. Having only ~30 connections makes it extremely difficult to fund large construction projects. Additional grant funding will be needed.

Burleson County will make a decision at their next Commissioner's Court meeting on December 10, 2018, as to how to proceed with their CDBG application, i.e. whether to sponsor CPWSC or to apply for a project of their own. In order for CPWSC to commit to being sponsored for the well project, they must commit to being able to supply any additional funds beyond the grant needed to complete the project. CDBG applications are due to the Texas Department of Agriculture on February 7, 2019, and there is much work needed to be done to complete the application.

CPWSC is requesting assistance from POSGCD to complete the well project if it is funded by the CDBG program in order to continue to serve the residents of the Cooks Point Community.

Please let me know if you need any additional information. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Amy S. Hennard'.

Amy S. Hennard, PG, PE  
Project Manager  
Municipal and District Services

ASH/ebr

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