



Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District
700 West Liberty Street
Louisville Kentucky 40203-1911
502-540-6000
www.msdlouky.org

April 10, 2012

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Royal Avenue
Louisville, KY 40204

Subject: Integrated Overflow Abatement Plan
Public Input Meeting, January 24, 2012
Response to comments

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for taking the time to submit your questions and comments relative to the Integrated Overflow Abatement Plan at the January 2012 meeting.

Comment 1 – I look forward to follow-up on [REDACTED] comment on gathering information on how Boston has worked to eliminate their CSOs.

Response to Comment 1 – The letter to [REDACTED] describing the CSO elimination plan for the Boston area can be found on the website as listed at the end of this letter. In summary, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) plans to complete their CSO control program by the end of the year 2015. MWRA has been working on this CSO control program since 1994. Their 21-year implementation program is similar in size and duration to the overflow abatement program MSD currently has underway.

Comment 2 – I would like to follow up on [REDACTED] questions about the size and matchups of the different diameter trunk lines and what neighborhoods to best target the biggest bang for the buck with greenwater capture. Further explanation of the 11:1 ratio of greenwater capture vs graywater capture, and how these numbers are obtained would be helpful. And since it is so obvious that capturing rain water is essential, I would suggest that targeted neighborhood where it will be the most useful be looked at first for some methods of compliance for rain barrels, pavement, etc., that would ensure timely and overall capture.

Response to Comment 2 – MSD has prepared a detailed response to [REDACTED] questions that can be found at the website listed at the end of this letter. One thing to note is the 11:1 ratio of green to gray capture is highly site-specific. That ratio applies only to the CSO 130 watershed used to illustrate the point. Other watersheds with different sewer capacity thresholds and different subsurface geology will have ratios that may be higher or much lower than 11:1. Please see our response to Mr. Hixon for more details. MSD is reviewing



Beneficial Use of Louisville's Biosolids
www.louisvillegreen.com

Letter to [REDACTED]
April 10, 2012
Page 2 of 3

many areas to identify the best opportunities for green projects in various drainage areas including those contributing flow to the proposed I-64 & Grinstead Drive storage basin. You can expect to see some initial projects released for bid and under construction in coming months in this 2 square mile drainage area. To date, MSD has completed more than 60 green projects throughout the community – many in cooperation with partners such as the University of Louisville and Louisville Metro.

Comment 3 – Add some stronger incentives for those who wish to help but do not want to bear the cost alone while everyone would reap the benefits. Those who wish to do the right thing and say add rain barrels to their home or businesses, should not have to bear the monetary cost. Let's reward good public citizenship, and spread the cost over all those who benefit. This would have a ripple effect, and anyone not happy with someone else getting a rain barrel would be able to solve that by signing up to do their part also.

Response to Comment 3 – MSD agrees with the concept of incentives for those who want to be part of the solution. MSD has been subsidizing the distribution of rain barrels since April 2006. Since rain barrel construction and distribution is not part of MSD's core business, we have partnered with a local vocational group, Louisville Youthbuild to convert food-grade barrels into rain barrels. The process allows Youthbuild students to gain construction skills. MSD provides the barrels, parts, and adaptors for construction. To assist with sale and distribution of the barrels MSD has partnered with the Louisville Nature Center (LNC) to reserve, sell, and schedule pick up times. MSD has pilot downspout disconnection projects underway in several residential areas, studying the most effective incentive for removing roof runoff from the sewer system including rain barrels, rain gardens, and similar approaches. We expect these pilot projects to help guide future incentive program decision. In addition, the attached brochure outlines our green incentives program available to commercial and industrial customers within our service area. This program has proven itself highly effective in bringing both private and public partners into our green infrastructure program.

Comment 4 – On a related topic, I often see lawn sprinklers that are on daily timers, running during periods of rain. This is greatly adding to the problem and needs to be addressed. Some people even ask to be excused from MSD billing for this outdoor water usage, but perhaps the opposite approach of a tiered billing system where people who consume large volumes of water on lawns would be charged an even higher fee. This would be more equitable for their contributions to the regional problems.

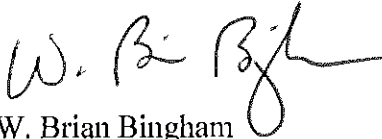
Response to Comment 4 – While watering lawns during rain is wasteful of water, MSD is not aware of any research to tie this practice to increased sewer flows. While intuition suggests there should be some impact, we have not observed any measurable flow increases. What is

Letter to [REDACTED]
April 10, 2012
Page 3 of 3

more significant is the use of washing machines and dishwashers during rain events. The sudden rush of water that empties a dishwasher can result in a sewer overflow if the sewers are already overloaded due to wet weather. MSD's public education program will be rolling out an initiative called "Know Where It Goes" to inform people on the consequences and opportunities presented by activities we all do every day. We hope this program will address some of the personal behaviors that impact sewer overflows in our community.

You will find responses to both [REDACTED] comments and [REDACTED] comments on our website at www.msdlouky.org/projectwin. This letter will also be posted to the website. Please feel free to contact us should you have any comments or questions.

Sincerely,



W. Brian Bingham
Regulatory Services Director

Attachment: e-mail, Green Incentives Brochure

Karie Portman - MSD IOAP Project Comments and questions

From: [REDACTED]
To: <commentsIOAP@msdlouky.org>
Date: 1/26/2012 8:33 PM
Subject: MSD IOAP Project Comments and questions

Thank you for having the 1/24/12 meeting and encouraging public comments. It was informative and allowed me to appreciate that much has been done and much needs to be done.

I look forward to follow up on [REDACTED] comments on gathering information on how Boston has worked to eliminate their CSO's.

I would like follow up on [REDACTED] questions about the size and match ups of the different diameter trunk lines, and what neighborhoods to best target the biggest bang for the buck with Greenwater capture.

Further explanation of the 11 to 1 ratio of greenwater capture vs graywater capture, and how these numbers are obtained would be helpful.

And since it is so obvious that capturing rain water is essential, I would suggest that targeted neighborhood where it will be the most useful be looked at first for some methods of compliance for rain barrels, pavement, etc., that would ensure timely and overall capture.

And some stronger incentives for those who wish to help but do not want to bear the cost alone while everyone would reap the benefits. Those who wish to do the right thing and say add rain barrels to their home or businesses, should not have to bear the monetary cost. Let's reward good public citizenship, and spread the cost over all those who benefit. This would have a ripple effect, and anyone not happy with someone else getting a rain barrel would be able to solve that by signing up to do their part also.

And on a related topic, I often see lawn sprinklers that are on daily timers, running during periods of rain. This is greatly adding to the problem and needs to be addressed. Some people even ask to be excused from MSD billing for this outdoor water usage, but perhaps the opposite approach of a tiered billing system where people who consume large volumes of water on lawns would be charged an even higher fee. This would be more equitable for their contributions to the regional problems.

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