THE GATEWAY ENGINEERS, INC.



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October 19, 2012 C-17750-2012

ALCOSAN 3300 Preble Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15233

ATT: Dan Lockard, P.E.

RE: Comments to the ALCOSAN Wet Weather Report Borough of Crafton

Dear Dan:

On behalf of the Borough of Crafton, we have reviewed the ALCOSAN Wet Weather Report and we have the following comments:

1. Section 1.3 Page 1-9 reads as follows – "This WWP addresses the elimination of sanitary sewer overflows and the control of combined sewer overflows from ALCOSAN's Conveyance and Treatment Systems, including overflow structures located at the points of connection with the municipal collection systems. The Plan does not directly address the elimination or control of overflows within the municipal collection systems. However it provides for the hydraulic capacity to accept additional wet weather flows from the municipalities which may be conveyed to the ALCOSAN Conveyance and Treatment System pursuant to municipal feasibility studies to be complete under separate compliance orders"

<u>Comment:</u> The affordability analysis indicates that not all projects can be completed under the Selected Plan, and therefore, not all connections from the municipal systems to the ALCOSAN system will be updated. How will additional flows sent to ALCOSAN be handled if the municipalities update their systems, but ALCOSAN does not? If C-22 and C-23 are not addressed until the future under the Selected Plan, how will the municipalities increased flows be addressed? Will additional overflows occur at these structures? Will the modified regulations allow flow to discharge freely during higher storms and at what level of storm are overflows expected to occur?

2. Section 10.8 Page 10-54 indicates that the tank at will be installed in Crafton Borough. The report reads "...Flows in excess of the RTB's 118 MGD treatment capacity will be shunted around the RTB without disinfection, discharging to Chartiers Creek through a new outfall which also conveys the RTB's treated effluent. Untreated overflows will occur no more than four times in the typical year."

<u>Comment:</u> How many times is it anticipated to discharge in a typical year? How will the odor and noise at the recreation facility in close proximity to the proposed site be

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controlled? Could this cause additional flooding to the recreation facility based on increased flow to the area? This proposed facility is close to recreational ball fields that may be adversely impacted by a wet weather treatment facility in such close proximity to the treatment tanks. How large is the footprint of this new facility?

3. Section 11 indicates throughout that Municipalities will start construction immediately following the approval of the Feasibility Plans.

<u>Comment:</u> If the municipalities complete their construction projects prior to ALCOSAN's projects, how will the additional flows be handled? If ALCOSAN's line cannot (due to not being constructed or not being part of the Recommended Plan) accept the flows, municipal flows could create new hydraulic issues to their systems or downstream municipalities.

- 4. We understand that the proposed alternatives in the Wet Weather Plan for ALCOSAN consist of installing a relief sewer roughly parallel to the existing sewer and installing a wet weather treatment facility on the property next to the ball fields.
- 5. We have reviewed the cost estimates and residential indicator of 2.5% and we do not see a major issue with this estimate. However, we will refine the cost estimates and user fee analysis under the Feasibility Study for Crafton and will evaluate alternative financing methods to reduce the cost to rate payers.

If you have any questions, or need further clarification, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely, THE GATEWAY ENGINEERS, INC.

Richard D. Minsterman, P.E. Borough Engineer

cc: Borough Council Bob Callen, Borough Manager Thomas Ayoob, Esq., Borough Solicitor

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