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October 31, 2023

Shaili Pfeiffer
Natural Resources Staff Specialist – Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Subject:

Updates to the July 2023 Post-Return Flow Root River Monitoring and Quality Assurance

Project Plan

Dear Shaili;

In preparation for the City's transition to Lake Michigan water, monitoring the Root River according to the above referenced post-diversion monitoring plan has started. We have communicated through phone conversation or email a few minor changes that are needed, and this letter is to formally document the changes to the plan. These changes do not impact the type, quantity, or quality of the data, instead the changes are of specific details within the plan needed to successfully implement it. The changes include the following:

- In Section 2 of the plan, the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene was identified as the laboratory used for water quality analyses. Overnight shipping of water samples was implemented in this plan because, in part, the e-coli test method has a maximum hold time of 24 hours. The first samples were processed within 24 hours, however after discussion with the lab there may be some uncertainty to consistently meeting the 24 hour maximum hold time. The Racine Health Department (RHD), who is also a state certified laboratory experienced in the same test method, has agreed to process these samples. The RHD is in close proximity to the field team and can process the samples within a short period of their delivery. The state lab will continue all other sampling, but the RHD will complete the e-coli tests.
- In Section 2.1.3.1 of the plan Dr. Mike Pauers was identified as the Fish Sampling Lead. Dr. Pauers informed the UW Parkside (UWP) Project Manager that he will no longer be available to support the project. After extensive review of local fish biologists with similar experience, Ryan Ennis from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) will be the Fish Sampling Lead for the November 2023 event. We are anticipating Mr. Ennis will continue into 2024 and beyond, but the contracting between UWP and USGS is not yet finalized.

We had also discussed the potential of moving the site C2 temperature probe further downstream to avoid conflicting with the electrofishing sampling reach. I would like to formally confirm that the location was *not* moved from that shown in the plan.

Thank you for continuing to support the City and allowing us to adaptively manage the Root River monitoring while meeting the diversion approval requirements. We will continue to inform you of potential changes as soon as we are able, and to work with you to formally document any changes.

If you have any further questions about these changes, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Daniel S Duchniak, P.E.

General Manager

CC: Zach Eisner, Clean Water Plant

Dr. John Skalbeck, UW Parkside

Brent Brown, Jacobs Engineering Group