Attachment 2

December 15, 2014

C. Elizabeth Cameron, P.E.
Director of Environmental Health
Tompkins County Health Department
55 Brown Road
Ithaca, NY 14850-1247

RE: Tompkins County Board of Health Revised Resolution # 12.1.25
Jay Street Well – Arsenic Exceeding Maximum Contaminant Level
Lee Road Reservoir – Unprotected Finished Water Reservoir

Dear Ms. Cameron,

With reference to the referenced Resolution dated August 26, 2014, and correspondence between the Tompkins County Health Department (TCHD) and the Village of Dryden and its engineer, MRB Group Engineering, Architecture and Surveying, P.C., dated December 12 and December 15, 2014, we are writing to formally request a revision to the Resolution, such that the Time Table of Compliance may be updated.

As you are aware, the Village and Town of Dryden have been cooperating on a study to evaluate the possibility of connecting to the Southern Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Water Commission (SCLIWC) public water system (PWS) to the Village of Dryden PWS via a potential water district in the Town. This alternative source of supply to the Village PWS was first discussed in the *Project Engineering Report (PER) for the Village of Dryden Public Water System Improvements* dated December 2012 (revised April 2013), and has the potential to alleviate the issue of arsenic contamination from the Jay Street Well. Note that the original PER was submitted in accordance with the original Resolution dated October 23, 2012, and further evaluation was necessary to provide sufficient technical and financial detail to compare this alternative with other alternatives, such as constructing a central treatment facility and exploring other groundwater sources. This evaluation required a detailed technical analysis by the Town and its engineer, TG Miller, P.C., to determine the feasibility of addressing water supply needs along the route of the proposed transmission main and other service areas within the proposed Town water district. Once this was complete, TG Miller was to forward its analysis to the Town, Village, MRB Group, SCLIWC and TCHD for comment, and to provide data for the Town and Village to use in negotiation of distributing the costs of capital improvements and operation and maintenance. This evaluation and negotiation was to be completed prior to finalization of the Map, Plan and Report (MPR) for the proposed water district.

A preliminary MPR was issued by TG Miller on August 5, 2014, and a draft report issued on October 15, 2014. There were numerous technical concerns that needed to be addressed, as the Town's infrastructure would also affect the design and placement of Village PWS components, including the design of the replacement water storage facilities (including disinfection byproduct formation mitigation systems) to address the issues at Lee Road Reservoir and Ferguson Road Tank, as well as addressing distribution system pressure issues in certain areas of the Village PWS. While the Village and the Town have had preliminary discussions, there has been insufficient time for both municipalities to adequately review the proposed cost shares to determine an equitable division of costs to their customers and potential customers. This information is critical to the completion of the MPR.

Concurrently, the Village has continued to explore the possibility of developing the well site at Dryden Lake in the Town of Dryden as a groundwater source to address both the arsenic issue and lack of supply redundancy as discussed in the original PER. This alternative is dependent upon obtaining approval from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to site a permanent groundwater extraction source on property owned by the State. The Village has undertaken negotiations with NYSDEC, which have taken longer than anticipated to determine the feasibility of this alternative. To date, the Village has had no official response that the use of this site is available; however, discussions with NYSDEC staff appear to indicate that it would be feasible. Since the MPR referenced above is nearing completion, the Village is working with MRB Group to prepare an estimate to compare the alternative to connect to the SCLIWC PWS with the cost of developing the Dryden Lake wells. Once the Village has had sufficient time to review the alternatives, the Village will determine a direction for addressing the issues identified in Resolution # 12.1.25, and a final PER will be submitted.

The Village is committed to resolving the outstanding public health issues in the best long-term interests of its customers, and we appreciate the assistance TCHD has provided and continues to provide. Given the above factors, we respectfully request that the Time Table of Compliance be modified as proposed in the attached document.

Yours sincerely,

James F. Zimmer
Mayor, Village of Dryden

Copies: Members of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dryden
Clement Chung and Bill Davis of the MRB Group