




Lakeside Association Low-Pressure Sewer (LPS)

Project Public Information

2023

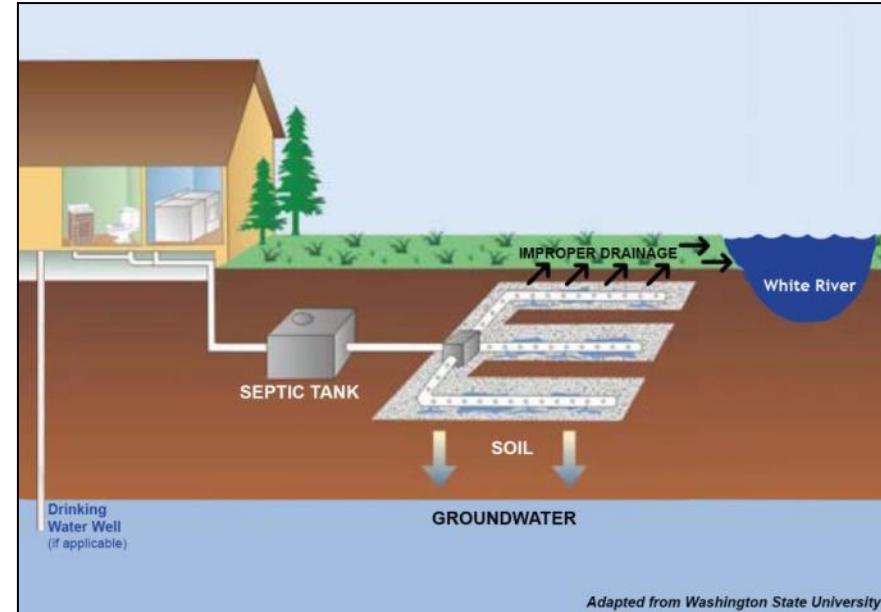


Why Low-Pressure Sewer?

- The Problem:
 - Currently thousands of homes in Indianapolis are served by private septic systems
 - Septic systems are effective wastewater disposal systems, when used in the correct environment and maintained; however, they pose a health and environmental risk when they fail or are not maintained properly
 - Indianapolis' soil is primarily a dense, non-porous clay that can become oversaturated easily, which can restrict a septic system's ability to drain properly in smaller lots (i.e. < 1 acre)

Why Low-Pressure Sewer?

- The Problem:
 - When septic systems fail, sewage works its way to the surface and begins to pool, creating a public health hazard
 - When sewage pools, private drinking water wells are at a higher risk for contamination
 - When it rains, the raw sewage pool is then able to run off into the streams and ditches throughout the neighborhood, thus polluting large areas very quickly



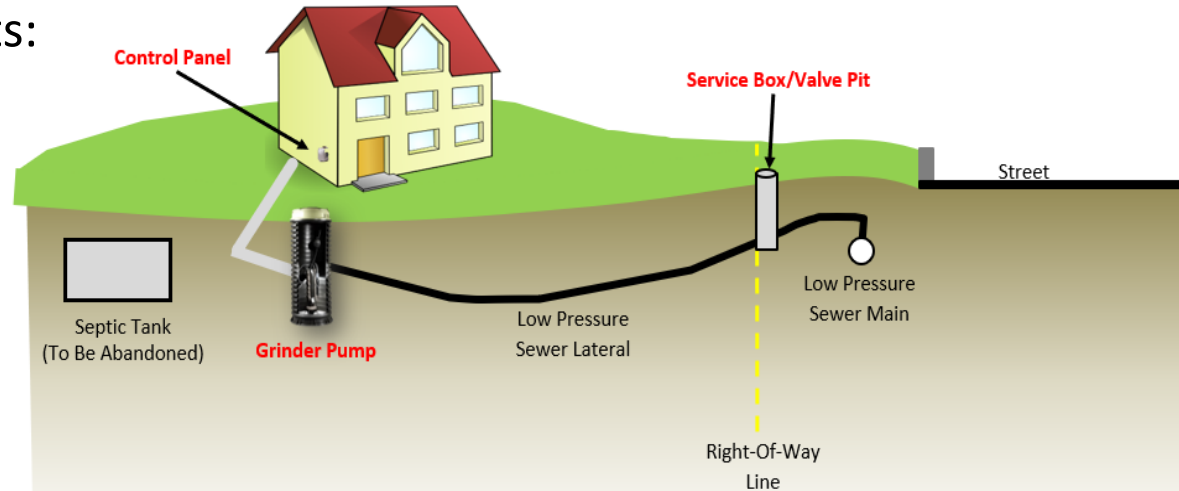
Why Low-Pressure Sewer?

- The Solution:
 - Low-Pressure Sewers (LPS) are intended to improve water quality by connecting neighborhoods currently served by septic systems to the sewer system
 - This program helps support achievement of Citizens' federally mandated [Consent Decree](#)

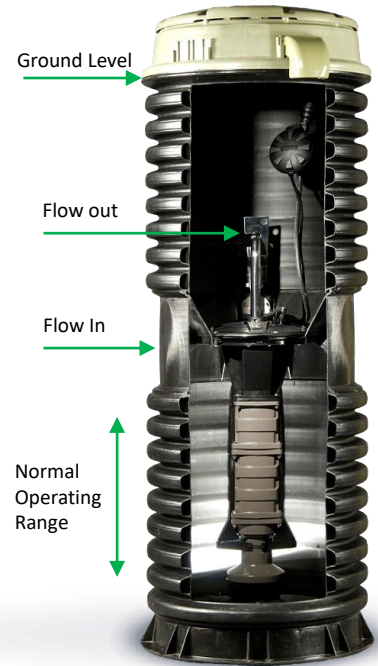


What is a Low-Pressure Sewer?

- Sewer that uses a pump at each connection to force wastewater through small diameter pipes
- Three major components:
 - Grinder Pump
 - Control Panel
 - Service Box/Valve Pit



Grinder Pump



Pictured above: E/One Grinder Pump Section View

- Pump provides the pressure needed for the low-pressure sewer to function
- Pump is housed inside a large basin with 70 gallons of storage capacity
 - E/One grinder pumps will be used
 - Pump is like an industrial garbage disposal intended for sewage. Do NOT flush or put anything else down the drain
- Pump is controlled by the Control Panel
- Sump pumps cannot be connected, per Section 201.03 of the [Sanitary Sewer Standards](#), and must be separated by property owner prior to grinder pump installation

Control Panel



Pictured above: Control Panel with Generator Receptacle

- Tells the pump when to turn on, turn off, and if there are problems
 - Visual and Audio alarm if pump issue occurs
- Runs on electricity
 - Grinder pump will not run during power outage without secondary power
 - Generator receptacle included on each control panel
 - Most water-producing appliances will not be powered, thus not producing additional water. Used water will be stored in the tank until power is restored.
 - Requires property to have a minimum 100-amp main electrical panel with room for a 30-amp double breaker
 - 240-volt wire is included with grinder pump

Pictured below: Installed Control Panel





Pictured above: Service Box/Valve Pit Lid

Pictured below: Inside of Service Box/Valve Pit



Ball valve and check valve

Service Box/Valve Pit

- Installed on the right-of-way line
- Houses a shut off valve and check valve
- Looks very similar to a water meter pit
- Provides a visual marker for the separation line for ownership and responsibility once the system is installed
 - Property Ownership and Responsibility: Service Box to the house
 - Citizens Energy Group Ownership and Responsibility: Service Box to the sewer main

Low Pressure Sewer Overview



- Property owners are responsible for operating and maintaining all components from the service box to the house once installed
- Grinder pump is equivalent to a major appliance, like an air conditioner or furnace
 - Will require service calls over time and eventual replacement
 - Comes with a three-year warranty

Am I Required to Connect?

- Homeowners are not required to connect if septic tanks are in healthy and functional condition. However, if a septic tank fails and a permit cannot be obtained for a replacement, homeowners will then be required to connect.
- The benefit of connecting now is cost sharing with the Indiana Finance Authority – it will cost more to connect later if not included during this project.

Am I Required to Connect?

Citizens Energy Group (Citizens)

- Constructs sewers and oversees the Installation Program and Enrollment Agreement
- Does **not** have the authority to require property owners to connect to the sewer; however, Citizens does provide a financial incentive to participate now, rather than waiting on the Marion County Health Department (MCHD) to enforce the connection
 - **If a property owner does not enroll by the dates listed in the Enrollment Agreement, that property owner will be responsible for connecting the properties themselves independently** when the MCHD enforces the connection
 - Connecting independently involves paying the \$2,739 Connection and Permit Fee in lump sum, hiring a licensed contractor, abandoning the existing septic system, installing and purchasing your own grinder pump, control panel, and any necessary materials (valve pit, lateral, etc.) that comply with [Citizens' Sanitary Standards](#)
 - In total, property owners can expect to pay anywhere from \$9,000 to \$15,000+ with no monthly payment plans available through Citizens when connecting independently

How to Enroll

- Sign Enrollment Agreement*
 - **All deeded owners must sign**
 - Allows access to property/house for defined scope of work with a right-of-entry
 - Commits property owner to connect to the sewer system
- Fill out the property questionnaire to the best of your ability
- Return using the Business Reply envelope provided in your packet OR email the forms to the project manager (email listed on last slide)

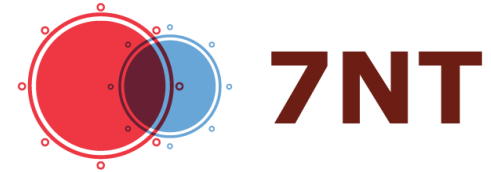
* **Must enroll by dates listed in the Enrollment Agreement. Additional charges and ineligibility may apply after that date.**

Additional Costs

- After connection you will receive a monthly Citizens bill (Rates can be found at: www.CitizensEnergyGroup.com/My-Home/Rates-Regulatory-Notices)
- Any plumbing or electrical modification is the responsibility of the property owner

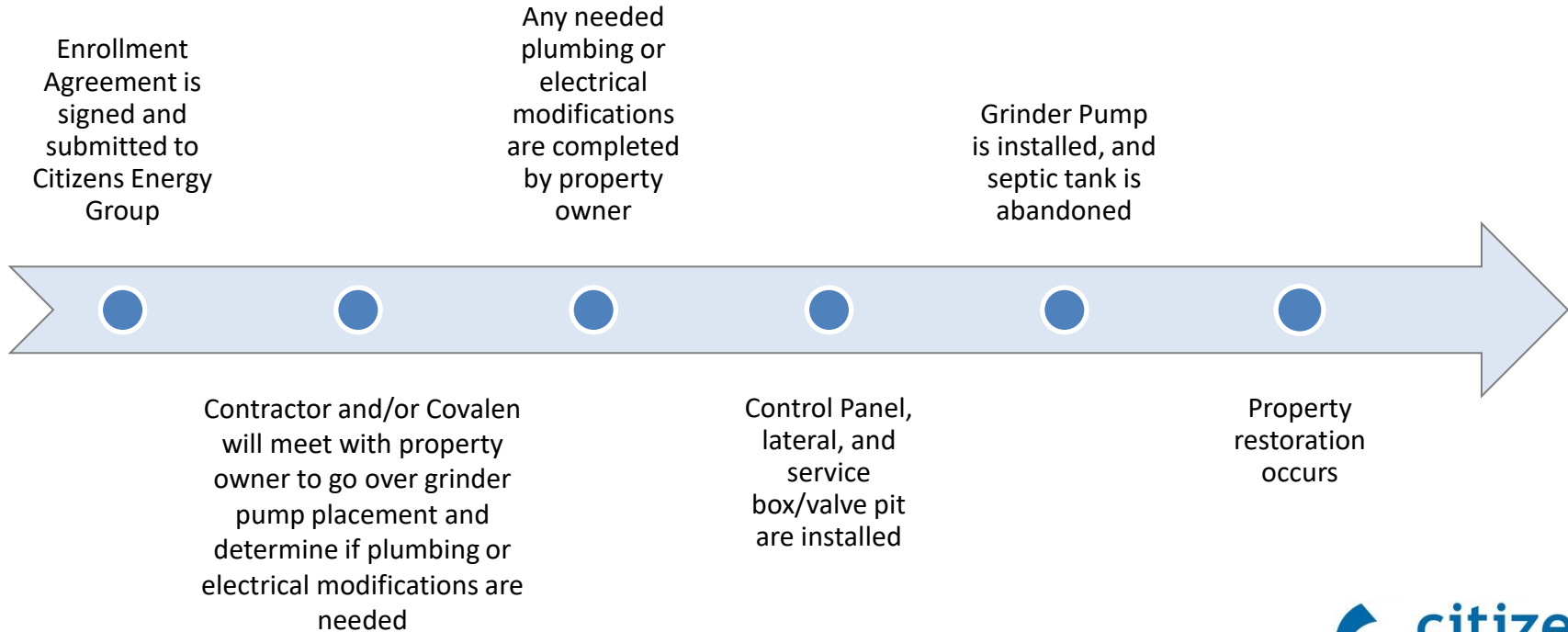
Lakeside Association LPS Project Information

- Design/Build Team
 - TSW Utility Solutions, Inc.
 - 7NT Engineering, Inc.
- Anticipated Schedule
 - Spring 2023
- Estimated Project Cost
 - \$2,000,000



General Project Timeline

(from property owner's perspective)



Project Stages



- During construction
 - Contractor will notify property owners in advance of any work taking place on private property
 - Roads will be open and passable
 - Property owners will be notified of any road closures by signage
 - This will be an active construction site, so please keep safety in mind

Project Stages

- During Restoration
 - Dirt, seed, and straw will be applied
 - Please water the restored area (if rain is not in the forecast) to encourage seed germination
 - The three-year warranty applies to restoration
 - If settlement occurs, please contact Citizens Energy Group
 - Restoration is typically the longest lasting and most difficult phase of the project; please be patient with Mother Nature

Next Steps

- Please review all documents provided within your packet
- Read and complete the Enrollment Agreement and Questionnaire if you would like to enroll in the project
 - Return using the Business Reply envelope provided in your packet OR email the forms to a project manager (email listed on last slide)

For additional questions, please reach out to:

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This presentation and other project documentation
can be found online at: :

[www.CitizensEnergyGroup.com/lakeside-
association-lps](http://www.CitizensEnergyGroup.com/lakeside-association-lps)

