



proudly serving West Milford, NJ

SCOPE OF SERVICES FOR WEST MILFORD



West Milford has eight water systems and six wastewater systems. The distribution system includes 26 miles of water mains, 20 miles of sewer mains 25 wells and seven pump stations. Meanwhile, Highlands has 19 water systems serving 3,620 connections, two wastewater systems serving 1,144 connections. Its distribution system includes 47 miles of water mains, 38 wells, and six pump stations.

Due to ever more stringent environmental compliance standards and the cost to ensure that the standards are met, the West Milford township mayor and council agreed to sell their water distribution and wastewater systems to a company that has the expertise and capital necessary to operate them going forward. On November 7, 2017, West Milford residents approved the sale of their utility to SUEZ.



POPULATION SERVED 1,727 water customers
1,496 wastewater customers

The purchase of the West Milford MUA has provided a boon to residents.

“This sale is truly the only solution to the product delivery issues, customer service deficiencies, economic burdens and environmental plights of the MUA throughout its 53-year history. There are zero downsides to our community and its residents,” former Mayor **BETTINA BIERI** told residents before the successful November 2017 referendum.



our commitment to serving the West Milford community

SUEZ is investing \$50 million over the next five years in the West Milford water and wastewater systems that are in serious disrepair. Each of their six wastewater systems has critical deficiencies – in fact, some are spilling sewage. New treatment plants will be built that will comply with all health and environmental regulations. Some of the buildings that house treatment equipment were so hazardous they had to be remediated before SUEZ employees could work in them. Four of the water systems have lead, copper and other health issues SUEZ is addressing. The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection worked closely with SUEZ as it prepared for the acquisition, reviewed the projects and the regulatory issues, and established timelines for the work that needs to be done to bring these systems up to date.

Following the necessary upgrades and remediation, a raft of other asset management, optimization, supervision

and regulatory tools will follow, raising the capabilities of both the West Milford and Highland operations. For example, a planning tool, and mobile workforce management app used in other SUEZ-owned properties, will be expanded to include the integrated West Milford and Highland operations.

Moreover, the sale allows the MUA to avoid bankruptcy, avoid \$8 million of additional taxpayer debt and fines, offset \$4 million of existing municipal debt using surplus sale proceeds, and ensure compliance with environmental regulations.

Having now received regulatory approval, SUEZ has begun our work to ensure that the West Milford systems are brought into compliance and costs to all township residents are minimized, ensuring the highest standards for customers, the environment and all West Milford residents.

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