

CAMDEN-WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 405
Camden-Wyoming, DE 19934
Tel.: (302) 697-6372 Fax: (302) 697-2735
www.cswa.com

June 30, 2016

An Open Letter to the Customers of Camden-Wyoming Sewer & Water Authority

Subject: Discolored water

Dear Customers:

During the past several years, the Authority has been tracking incidents of brown water experienced by some of the Authority customers. Many original parts of the Authority's water distribution system is more than one half of a century old and accumulated rust in the old pipes are sometimes dislodged and mixed with the water causing brown water. Currently the Authority's customers are served by two wells drawing water from the Piney Point and the Cheswold aquifers at North and South West streets in the Town of Camden, respectively. The current configuration of the Authority's water distribution system does not lend itself to the flushing of fire hydrants for the purpose of controlling brown water.

With the increased residential and commercial land development south of the Town of Camden, after extensive consideration, the Authority decided to develop a new source water well and an elevated water storage tank to balance the sources of water to serve these new developments and reduce dependence on the two existing wells in the older sections of the water distribution system. The Authority's Capacity Development Project, consisting of a new 400-foot deep Piney Point well and a one-million gallon elevated water storage tank at 3680 Upper King Road, projected to cost in excess of \$2 Million, will provide a new source of water to serve Barclay Farms, Newell's Creek, Tidbury Crossing, and the commercial land developments in the southern part of the Town of Camden.

The construction of the Piney Point well as well as the one-million gallon water storage tank commenced in September of 2015 and have been nearly completed. On April 18, 2016, however, the Town of Camden issued a stop work order for the project because of a legal matter.

Upon completion of the Authority's Capacity Development Project, measures such as fire hydrant flushing, could be implemented to control the occurrence of brown water in the developments in the southern portion of the Town of Camden, such as Barclay Farms and Newell's Creek.

The Authority understands its customers' frustration with this issue and regrets any inconvenience caused by brown water. We thank you for your patience and understanding while we work together with the Town of Camden to resolve the legal stumbling block that has stopped the progress of the Capacity Development Project. Kindly be advised that your drinking water meets Federal and State standards under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). For more information about the quality of your drinking water, please review the Authority's 2016 Consumer Confidence Report at www.cswa.com/2016CCR.pdf

Very truly yours,



Michael Quinn, Chairperson

Cc: The Honorable Lyndon Yearick, State Representative, 34th District
The Honorable Brian Bushweller, State Senator, 17th District
The Honorable Justin King, Mayor of the Town of Camden
The Honorable Dale Rife, Mayor of the Town of Wyoming
Administrations of the Towns of Camden and Wyoming