



HOUSATONIC WATER WORKS COMPANY
SINCE 1897

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Housatonic Water Works Receives Additional \$250,000 Grant for Manganese Removal Project

Housatonic Water Works Company is pleased to announce that it has received an additional \$250,000 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) to support construction of the Company's manganese removal system at Long Pond.

This funding supplements prior grant assistance awarded under the Commonwealth's Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) Program, bringing the total EC-SDC grant award to \$600,000.

The grant funds will be used toward the new Greensand Filtration System, which is currently under construction and is scheduled to be in service by June 1, 2026. The system is designed to remove manganese from the water.

"We appreciate the continued support from the Commonwealth," said James Mercer, Treasurer of the Company. "This additional funding reduces the financial burden on our ratepayers while helping us complete a critical infrastructure improvement for the community. The Company continues to actively pursue additional funding opportunities that may further benefit our customers and offset project costs. Unfortunately, as a privately owned utility, we are not eligible for many of the substantial grant and low-interest financing programs that are available to municipal water systems. As a result, more than \$1 million of this \$1.6+ million project must be financed through conventional borrowing. That reality places our ratepayers at a distinct disadvantage in the overall funding pool compared to municipally owned systems..

The manganese removal project is one of the most significant water quality upgrades in the Company's recent history. Once operational, the Greensand Filtration System will ensure long-term compliance with state standards and enhance overall system reliability.

Housatonic Water Works remains committed to delivering safe, dependable drinking water and pursuing all available funding opportunities to minimize the impact of infrastructure investments on customers.