



February 23, 2005
W-P Project No. 7035G

Mr. Chuck Applebee
Wastewater Superintendent
City of Gardiner
6 Church Street
Gardiner, Maine 04345

Subject: WWTF Staffing

Dear Chuck:

Following up on the discussion about the WWTF staffing needs at the Wastewater Advisory Committee meeting last week, I have reviewed the staffing analysis performed a few years ago by DEP. As you know, they calculated the need for 5.13 operators at the WWTF, keeping in mind that this does not include the new CSO facilities at the plant, nor does it account for the increased complexity of the plant after the upgrade is completed.

I have also checked the manpower requirements in EPA's manual entitled "Estimating Costs and Manpower Requirements for Conventional Wastewater Treatment Facilities." This source recommended a staff of 7.15 for a facility similar in size and complexity to Gardiner's. It should be noted that the manpower needs associated with your new facilities (primary clarifier, primary sludge, CSO pump station) are approximately 1.67 people, according to the EPA manual. Adding this to DEP's 5.13 operators above yields a revised DEP value of 6.80 for total staffing, including the new facilities, which is comparable to the EPA value of 7.15.

Based on the consistency of these two sources, as well as my own experience, I can comfortably say that your facility is not overstaffed at the current (or soon to be) 5 full-time staff members. In fact, a staff of 6 could probably be justified, and would still be below both the DEP and the EPA recommendations.

Hopefully, this information will help you and the Advisory Committee members to be satisfied that a staff of 5 is definitely not more than is needed to operate and maintain the Gardiner WWTF. Please let me know if you or any Committee member has any questions or would like any additional information.

Very truly yours,
WRIGHT-PIERCE

Victor S. Krea, P.E.
Project Manager