



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health

Office of Engineering
Phone: (302) 741-8640
Fax: (302) 741-8631

October 2, 2020

Mr. Greg Coury
Tidewater Utilities, Inc.
1100 South Little Creek Road
Dover, DE 19901

Re: Beacon Elementary School 1 Million Gallon Tank

Dear Mr. Coury:

The Division of Public Health Office of Engineering strongly supports increasing the water storage capacity in Tidewater Utilities, Inc. Rehoboth District, PWS ID#0000991 at the Beacon Elementary School location. Storage of potable water is critical to the efficient operation of a water distribution system. Storage tanks serve 2 major functions; they provide storage volume and they provide pressure to the distribution system. An elevated storage tank at this location will provide both.

An elevated storage tank allows the use of constant flow in the distribution system that is critical for domestic, commercial, and industrial applications as well as for fire protection. Well pumps that fill the storage tanks are operated by controls which start and stop as the water level in the tank rises and falls throughout the day. When water demands are high, the well pumps may have a hard time keeping up with the demand. When demands are low, the well pumps have excess capacity to refill the tank for the next high demand period. Adequate storage will extend the life of well pumps and provide operation and maintenance cost savings.

Elevated storage tanks help maintain the water pressure in the distribution system which is critical to public health and safety by developing the necessary feet of head (height of water above ground) to force water through the system. Constant pressure decreases the potential for backflow conditions which could contaminate drinking water.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (302) 741-8646 with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William J. Milliken, Jr.".

William J. Milliken, Jr.
Engineer III
Office of Engineering