



Claresholm

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting: March 24, 2025

2025/2026 Water for Life (W4L) Existing Regional Water Treatment Plant Transmission Line Piping Upgrades

BACKGROUND:

The Town of Claresholm Water Treatment System is a regional system supplying potable water to the Town of Claresholm, Hamlet of Granum, Claresholm Airport Industrial Subdivision and rural customers in the MD of Willow Creek. The Claresholm Regional Water Treatment Plant is located on 8th Street West on the southwest side of the Town of Claresholm, Alberta and was constructed in 2008 and was a renovation and expansion of the preexisting South Water Treatment Plant which was constructed in 1990. Due to the advanced age of some existing piping and critical nature of the piping connections to the regional system and potable water distribution system, the Town of Claresholm is looking to replace the treated water transmission main piping within the treated water reservoir extending to the existing piping beneath 8th Street. MPE has been asked to investigate and provide a cost estimate for the replacement of the treated water piping exiting the WTP through the treated water reservoir and the underground transmission mains within the local WTP site.

PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK:

The Claresholm Water Treatment System utilizes a 2,269 m³ treated water reservoir. Within the reservoir are two transfer pumps with a 200 mm carbon steel header which transitions to 250 mm and is routed through the treated water reservoir, exiting the WTP through the exterior wall. This transmission pipeline relays water to the Highway Pump Station and does not include distribution connections. The pump station transmission piping is original to the 1990 construction but was extended to the 2008 expanded transfer pump system and header. Also, within the reservoir are five high lift distribution pumps. From the distribution pump header is a connection to the 1990 distribution transmission line. This distribution transmission line is a 250 mm line and is also routed through the treated water reservoir and exits the WTP through the exterior wall. From the reservoir outside wall, the steel piping connects to parallel underground transmission mains. These PVC transmission lines also date to the original plant construction in 1990 and are recommended for replacement along with the steel piping. We have outlined the sections that are recommended for replacement, extending to the underground piping beneath 8th Street as previously mentioned. The Town has noticed pinhole leaking and has concerns with the state of the exterior buried lines. The Town has experienced failures in piping and underground connections from the same time of original construction. As such, the piping is considered to be at or beyond the end of its expected useful life, and it is strongly recommended for the piping to be replaced. Here is a summary of work involved:

- Diving investigation of piping and dewatering of treated water reservoir,
- Demolition of existing carbon steel piping within reservoir,
- Hydrovac and excavation of existing buried Carbon Steel, PVC piping connections,
- Replacement of carbon steel piping with new stainless-steel piping,
- Replacement of existing PVC piping with new PVC piping,
- reservoir valves and fittings; and
- associated reclamation site works.

COSTS/SOURCE OF FUNDING:

The cost of the replacement of piping within the treated water reservoir of the WTP is \$670,000.00. Based on the municipal population of 4,127, MPE has calculated that the potential cost-share arrangement would be 49.23% provincial grant (\$329,841) / 50.77% municipal contribution (\$340,159) cost-share arrangement.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Administration is recommending to proceed with the project in 2026 if funding is secured.

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS:

Moved by Councillor _____ that the Town of Claresholm support the submission of a 2025/26 Water for Life – Existing Regional Water Systems program grant application in support of the Regional Water Treatment Plant Transmission Line Piping Upgrades project and is prepared to manage the grant project and related compliance requirements.

PREPARED BY: Brad Burns Utility Services Manager

APPROVED BY: Abe Tinney, CAO

DATE: November 19, 2025
