



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## OFFICE OF DRINKING WATER

Richmond Field Office

Karen Shelton, MD  
State Health Commissioner

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SUBJECT: Louisa County  
Waterworks: Town of Mineral  
PWSID No: 2109525

May 9, 2025

Ms. Nicole Washington, Town Manager  
Town of Mineral  
PO Box 316  
Mineral, Virginia 23117

Re: Exceeding Waterworks Permitted Design Capacity- Clarifications

Dear Ms. Washington:

Per your conversation with Azhar Mirza, District Engineer, on May 7, 2025, the Town reports they did not receive the letter dated February 5, 2025, regarding potential issues with source capacity at the waterworks in a timely manner. Looking at email documentation, it does not appear that an email copy of the letter was sent on February 5, 2025. In addition, this Office has received similar feedback from other waterworks that mail sent through the postal service has arrived several weeks later. Based on this information, the previous date of February 5, 2025, which established when the Town needed to pause approval on water expansion projects, has been modified to March 7, 2025. March 7, 2025, was the date that email communication between this office and the Town clarified the pause on water expansion projects and is the first communication relating to the pause since the February 5, 2025, letter. Please see the modifications to the May 6, 2025, letter to include this revision in date.

We have received some questions about the pause of waterworks expansion and offer this letter to provide some additional clarifications on what is expected.

1. Projects approved prior to March 7, 2025, may be completed.
2. Existing connections may transfer to new tenants.
3. Modifications to existing connections may be conducted including additions to existing buildings.
4. Routine operations and maintenance activities such as: water meter replacement at existing

connections, water line repairs and replacement with similar sized piping (like for like), and water line flushing to maintain water quality may continue.

5. Construction of private wells to serve new construction are not included in the scope of the February 5, 2025, letter. Those wishing to construct private wells should consult the Town of Mineral for any applicable ordinances and Blue Ridge Health District for private well regulatory requirements. Cross connections between private wells and the municipal water supply must be avoided.
6. The pause on water system expansion does not require any increased water conservation efforts such as water restrictions.
7. The pause on water system expansion does not prohibit the use of municipal water for fire fighting activities.
8. The Town may resume services at existing connections that may have been connected to the water system and using water previously, but were temporarily stopped due to vacancy, billing issues, construction, etc.
9. The Town cannot approve projects after March 7, 2025, which may extend new water lines or otherwise expand the water system and increase water demands until additional source capacity is provided and evaluated. This includes the connection of new services after March 7, 2025.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Azhar Mirza, District Engineer, at 804-664-4404 or email at [Azhar.mirza@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:Azhar.mirza@vdh.virginia.gov).

Sincerely,



James Reynolds, PE  
Field Director  
Richmond Field Office

JR

cc: Ryan McKay, Health Director, Blue Ridge Health District  
Christian Goodwin, County Administrator- Louisa County  
John Grubbs, Louisa County Building Official  
Jarrett Talley, Capacity Development Supervisor, VDH-ODW