



Wastewater Grant Overview

Wastewater Collection System Evaluation Planning Project

Kahlen Group is the prime consultant on this project.

Grant award amount is \$499,970

Project includes the following tasks:

- GIS Database of Sewer Assets
- Manhole Survey & Assessment (PACE)
- CCTV Surveys [PACE & National Plant Services (CCTV contractor)]
- Field Data Collection
- Sewer Hydraulic Modeling
- Sewer System Master Plan
- Project Report
- Environmental Analysis
- Flow Monitoring Study (PACE)
- Construction Funding Application

PACE has completed the three tasks we were the subconsultant for. Our understanding is they are going to begin the Sewer Hydraulic Modeling followed by most of the remaining items. From our perspective, they are a long way from submitting a construction funding application, and not sure what kind of path forward to construction is. This might qualify for 100% grant to address a violation, but the funding agency might consider this a secondary priority and eligible for 50% grant.

If this project is unable to move forward with construction funding, this could be folded into a much larger septic-to-sewer project but might get some pushback from the funding agency if we cannot tie the I&I reduction and septic-to-sewer projects together.

NPDES Permit Compliance Project

PACE is the prime consultant on this project.

Grant award amount is \$554,089

Project includes the following tasks:

- Survey
- Geotechnical Investigation
- Project Engineering Report
- Environmental Documentation
- Permitting

- COO Compliance Reports
- Construction Grant Funding Application
- 80% Design Documents

PACE has completed the Project Engineering Report and draft Environmental documents. We will be moving forward to finalize the environmental documents and finish the construction grant funding application. This project will likely receive 100% grant funding for construction; however, the project won't be constructed till 2030-2031, which is several years after the MMP protections expire in February 2026. The District could pursue a Phase 1 improvement project with a low-interest loan, potentially from USDA RD. USDA RD provides loans at 2.5%-3.375% over 40 years, they do at times provide a grant component but it is usually between 10-20% of total project cost.

Phase 1

This phase 1 project would build a larger chlorine contact basin and remove the existing gas chlorine disinfection system and replace it with an on-site sodium hypochlorite generation facility which utilizes salt, water, and electricity to produce sodium hypochlorite in concentrations below the hazardous material level. If the District elects to not proceed with a low-interest loan, it does expose the District to increased fines from violations. These fines can be applied towards a compliance project but cannot be covered by a grant. Fines must be paid by District funds or a low-interest loan. If the District does not proceed with Phase 1, these improvements will then be completed as part of Phase 2.

Phase 2

Phase 2 would complete all the improvements to the WWTP per the Project Engineering Report with the intention of receiving 100% grant funding from Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Funding cap for projects addressing violations was recently proposed to be \$50M per project but is subject to available funds, and funding eligibility which changes from year to year.

I hope this is a good explanation of the two planning grants and their respective scope of work.

I did look up Plumas County ordinances and Section 6-6.04 states "Every building or structure where persons reside, congregate or are employed which is within 200 feet of an approved public sanitary sewer, provided right-of-way can be obtained, **shall be connected to the public sanitary sewer and all private sewage disposal facilities shall be abandoned.** This requirement shall not apply until the manager of the public sanitary sewer certifies that adequate capacity exists to serve the building or structure." Based on this, if Chester was to extend sewer mains in south Chester, people would be required to connect to the sewer system per County Ordinance. If the District does pursue a septic-to-sewer project, this will help get it implemented. Easier said than done though.

From: Bonnie Mullaney <bmullaney@chesterpud.org>

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 11:28 AM

To: Paul Reuter <preuter@paceengineering.us>; Curtis Paget <cpaget@paceengineering.us>; Allan Homme <ahomme@chesterpud.org>

Subject: Recap of todays meeting

Some people who received this message don't often get email from bmullaney@chesterpud.org. [Learn why this is important](#)
Thanks so much for meeting with me! This is my new work email address.

Recap:

- 2 planning grants currently. One is with Kahlen Group that Pace is assisting with.
- Pace is submitting a construction grant.
- The treatment plant will not be upgraded in time if we are waiting for a grant to be done before the protections from the violation expire at the end of 2026. CPUD options are to get a 3 mil loan to do that phase of the project immediately or face violation fines. The fine is \$3000 per violation per week in violation. So per week is the maximum amount that CPUD can be fined and their are 2 Tests that pose a risk of violation. According to the history of our treatment plant violations, the cost from 2020 to 2023 in fines would have been about \$174,000. Bonnie is going to look into the best option.
- The new method of sanitation will be on site generated chlorine with a salt generator.
- Water grants are something that can be looked into but we likely wont be a priority.
- Curtis is going to talk with Gurleen to see if the collections construction grant will be 100% or 50% funded
- Curtis is checking with Plumas county to see if they have an ordinance requiring all homes within a certain distance to a treatment plant to connect
- Curtis is going to send Bonnie a diagram displaying the phases of the different grants being worked on currently
- Curtis is going to schedule a monthly meeting.
- The grant to incorporate the section of homes that are on septic would include the full cost to customers so they would not have to pay anything other than a monthly bill.

Please add anything I missed and feel free to forward this to anyone needing to be included.
Thank you so much!

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