

Background

The Community Services Department issued an RFQ to identify a consultant who could help the City of Dover evaluate the potential of reestablishing a former public water supply well at Willand Pond. The project could potentially augment the City's water supply capacity and provide control of water levels in Willand Pond that has resulted from changes that have occurred during the last 20 years.

The RFQ requested that qualified firms structure their proposals such that the work tasks are phased and if it became apparent at any point the project was not feasible the work would be terminated.

Eight proposals were received and five consultants were interviewed. Emery and Garrett Groundwater Inc (EGGI) was selected for the project. EGGI identified five phases with multiple tasks within each phase. A purchase order was issued in September to Emery Garrett to perform Phase I, a preliminary assessment of all the available information, and Phase II, the preparation of a computer model of the aquifer.

Emery and Garrett made a detailed presentation in April at a City Council workshop explaining what has been learned to date and defining the details of next steps to be taken. As explained in the workshop, the completion of the initial task of Phase III determined that the condition and utility of the abandoned former supply well is good. A successful step test of the well enables the use of the existing well for the next phase of the project, a long term pump test. We have met with NHDES and are preparing the necessary information to receive permission to move ahead. The long term pump test will provide important information regarding the aquifers response to pumping that would be used in the computer model. The model would then predict how much water would be able to be supplied, and how that rate of pumping would influence the pond level.

The long term pump test includes the installation and monitoring of existing and proposed new monitoring wells, water quality sampling, and reporting of the data collected. The installation of a discharge line will be undertaken by the City for the pump test which will be available for continued pumping of the well after the test to lower the water table and pond levels. The pump test will begin in late May to early June.