



For Immediate Release: December 12, 2014

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Champlain Receives \$13.4 Million in Grant & No-Interest Loan for Water Distribution Upgrades for Village, Town Residents

The New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) today approved a \$2 million grant and an \$11.4 million interest-free financing for upgrades to the water distribution system in the town and village of Champlain.

With construction expected to begin early next year, the project will involve the installation of new storage tanks in the Town of Champlain, the replacement of existing distribution mains and the installation of new distribution mains within the Town and Village of Champlain.

“The Environmental Facilities Corporation is pleased to have been able to assist the Town and Village of Champlain in providing its residents with safe, high quality water at an affordable cost,” said EFC President and CEO Matthew J. Driscoll. “Through New York’s Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, municipalities throughout New York State are taking important steps to improve drinking water quality and protect public health for generations to come.”

New water mains will also be installed to serve existing residential and commercial facilities, which are currently served from private wells. In addition, the village’s water treatment system will be upgraded to include water softening equipment.

“The cost of infrastructure to ensure clean drinking is a necessary expense,” said Senator Betty Little. “That said, it can be very difficult for communities, particularly small ones like the town and village of Champlain, to find the resources to make this kind of investment. This combined grant and loan made available through EFC is very much needed and I join the community in expressing gratitude to Matthew Driscoll and the EFC Board of Directors for approving this funding.”

“Under Governor Cuomo’s stewardship, New York has made tremendous progress in ensuring that New York State communities have the safest drinking water in the nation,” said Joe Martens, commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and chairman of EFC’s Board of Directors. “Through this funding program, communities around the state are saving millions of dollars in financing costs, while protecting their precious drinking water supplies.”

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Assemblywoman Janet L. Duprey said, “I am pleased that Governor Cuomo and Matthew Driscoll, President and CEO of the Environmental Facilities Corporation, are providing the \$2 million grant and \$11.4 million interest-free loan to assure clean drinking water for the Village and Town of Champlain residents and businesses. Our small communities can’t afford the costs of large infrastructure improvements so grants and loans such as these are a huge benefit to the local taxpayers.”

These improvements will allow the town to comply with the Surface Water Treatment Rule, while improving drinking water quality and system dependability for the residents of the Town and Village of Champlain.

The Village of Champlain currently provides water to both municipalities. Both the Town and Village of Champlain utilize distribution systems that have reached or exceeded their useful life, leading to areas of low pressure and a high percentage of unaccounted water.

Funding for the Champlain project will come from New York’s Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, which is jointly administered by EFC and the New York State Department of Health (DOH).

EFC is the arm of Governor Cuomo’s administration that provides low-cost financing to assist local governments afford major improvements to wastewater and drinking water infrastructure.

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