DJFC Matrix – Devens Status Quo: Utilities

Devens operates as a Municipal Utility that provides potable water, sanitary sewer, electricity, and natural gas services to Devens. As a regional enterprise zone, and in accordance with Chapter 498, Devens provide shared regional services where available/feasible. This includes the Towns of Ayer, Harvard, and Shirley, as well as state facilities such as MCI Shirley, and the Army National Guard, and Federal facilities such as the Army, Federal Bureau of Prisons, and Shriver Job Corps.

Water:

- Devens is permitted by MassDEP for groundwater withdrawals of up to 4.8 mgpd (~3.6 max for safe yields)
- Devens provides emergency water back-up to the Town of Ayer.
- Town of Harvard is currently in the process of constructing a water connection to Devens for a segment of Harvard (current Intermunicipal Agreement with Harvard 100,00 gpd)
- MCI Shirley – 150,000 gpd - temporary supply while they explore future options due to PFAS issues
- Grove Pond – Off-line (~1million gpd potential) but expensive treatment and infrastructure to get back on-line
- MassDevelopment contracts with Veolia to operate the treatment system and infrastructure.

Sewer:

- Devens has its own wastewater treatment facility that is currently permitted by MassDEP to treat 4.65 mgpd (currently usage is around 1.5-1.6mgpd).
- There is a total of 2.65mgpd allotments to Towns of Ayer and Shirley and MCI Shirley (regional service agreements)
- MassDevelopment contracts with Veolia to operate the treatment system and infrastructure.

Electric:

- 5 substations service Devens. ISO New England is the system operator and National Grid owns the transmissions lines that supply our substations.
- One substation planned for expansion in 2030 to increase regional capacity, including Devens.
- Devens distribution system (from substations to customers) is very well maintained.
- Devens currently uses approximately 35 MW (daily peak).
- Devens regulations require all new electric utilities to be underground.
- Currently 30% of Devens energy comes from renewables (~12 MW from solar on Devens).
- Littleton Light and Electric holds the operation and maintenance contract for Devens Utilities

Gas:

- Tennessee gas pipeline supplies to National Grid and National Grid supplies Devens via two “take” stations that distribute gas throughout Devens .
- National Grid operates and maintains the gas system for Devens for Devens Utilities.
- The distribution system is well maintained.

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