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MAR 1 1 1997

March 4, 1997

Dept. of Environmental Mgmt.
Commissioner's Office
MAR 1 0 1997

Michael O'Connor, Commissioner,
Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management
100 N. Senate, Room 1301
P.O. Box 6015
Indianapolis, IN 46206

RE: PETITION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GNAW BONE REGIONAL SEWAGE DISTRICT

Dear Commissioner O'Connor:

Enclosed please find a copy of a petition for the establishment of a regional sewage district for the area in and around Gnaw Bone, Brown County, Indiana. This petition has been authorized by the Board of Commissioners of Brown County as evidenced by their signatures thereon.

I am enclosing several copies. Please cause this petition to be filed and return the file-marked copies to me in the enclosed stamped, self-addressed, envelope. I assume that your office will proceed on this matter pursuant to I.C. 13-26-2. Please direct all inquiries and correspondence in this matter to myself or to Ms. Renee McDermott, who is the Attorney for the Board of Commissioners of Brown County, Indiana.

If you need additional information or wish to discuss this matter with me for any reason, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

YOUNG AND YOUNG

Roger A. Young

RAY/tav

Enclosures

cc: Renee R. McDermott, County Attorney,
Brown County, Indiana

cc: MOC
Tim Method
Jon Tenley

STATE OF INDIANA )
) SS:
COUNTY OF BROWN )

**PETITION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL SEWAGE DISTRICT FOR UNINCORPORATED AREAS IN BROWN COUNTY, INDIANA, PURSUANT TO I.C. 13-26-2-3**

The Board of Commissioners of Brown County, Indiana, having been authorized by the County Council of Brown County, Indiana, on January 13, 1997, hereby petition the Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management of the State of Indiana, pursuant to I.C. 13-26-2-3, for the establishment of a regional sewage district, and in support thereof alleges and says as follows:

1. The proposed name of such District would be the Gnaw Bone Regional Sewage District.

2. The principal office for the District would be c/o MSP, Inc., 4510 E. SR 46, P.O. Box 916, Nashville, IN 47448.

3. The sanitary sewage needs of those residents and businesses now residing or located within such proposed District are currently being met with individual and private septic tank systems.

4. Throughout the area to be included within the District are numerous residents who have failing septic tank systems and, in some instances, no finger systems at all. Septic tank/finger system failures are primarily due to poor soil conditions and small lot sizes. The failing on-lot systems pose serious health hazards by contaminating area ditches and streams. The area has

a public water supply provided by Brown County Water and also has a large number of private wells.

5. Upon formation of the District, it is proposed to construct a wastewater collection system and a wastewater treatment plant.

6. The existing on-lot treatment systems cannot be adequately repaired and will cause health problems for the residents and businesses of the proposed District.

7. The current method of individual on-lot disposal of sanitary sewage is affecting and can affect detrimentally the water quality of the groundwater in the Gnaw Bone area and the surface water run-off quality in the Gnaw Bone drainage area.

8. The proposed Regional Sewage District is intended at this time to encompass the area described in Exhibit "A". The approximate boundary of the proposed District is shown in red on the attached Exhibit "A".

9. There is no outstanding indebtedness currently in the proposed District for the purpose of the construction of sanitary sewers.

10. The Petitioners recommend that the District's Board of Trustees, if formed, be selected by appointment by the Board of Commissioners of Brown County, Indiana, for ultimately staggered four (4) year terms, and shall consist of three (3) members with the following initial terms:

One (1) Member - Initial Term of Two (2) Years
One (1) Member - Initial Term of Three (3) Years
One (1) Member - Initial Term of Four (4) Years

11. Initial estimates for the cost of the proposed project are projected at One Million Three Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($1,377,500.00) and can be broken down as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Treatment Plant | $390,000.00 |
| Sewer Lines and Force Mains | $760,000.00 |
| Administrative Costs including engineering, legal and accounting | $227,500.00 |

12. Initial estimates for the cost of operations and maintenance and reserves required of such system once constructed, are projected to be Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000.00) annually, with an additional estimate of debt service and/or debt reserve of Twenty-One Thousand Dollars ($21,000.00) annually.

13. Anticipated funding of the project is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Brown County Matching Funds | $ 5,700.00 |
| Planning Grant from IDOC | $ 50,000.00 |
| Community Focus Fund Grant from IDOC | $500,000.00 |
| State Revolving Loan Fund | $701,800.00 |
| Accumulated County EDIT Tax | $120,000.00 |

It is anticipated that a connection fee of approximately Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars ($950.00) per connection will be required for initial users. The SRF loan will be paid by the monthly sewer bills.

14. User fees will be charged to the residents and businesses of the District in order to repay the amount of the

loans and to operate and maintain the system. The estimated monthly sewer bill per equivalent dwelling unit is approximately Twenty-Nine Dollars ($29.00). However, high volume users will pay according to water usage.

**WHEREFORE,** the Petitioners request that the Indiana Department of Environmental Management determine this petition to be sufficient pursuant to I.C. 13-26-2-4 and pursuant to I.C. 13-26-2-5 that said agency appoint a hearing officer, who shall then proceed to act upon this petition as required by law.

**DATED THIS** 3rd **DAY OF** March, **1997.**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BROWN COUNTY, INDIANA**

By: James Crane
**James Crane** President

By: James Gredy
**James Gredy** Member

By: Randall Snyder
**Randall Snyder** Member

ATTEST:

Kathi S. Smith
**Kathi Smith**, Auditor
Brown County, Indiana

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(317) 736-7117

MAY 23 1997

May 21, 1997

Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Attention: Mylene Huybers
100 North Senate Avenue
P.O Box 6015
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6015

RE: GNAW BONE REGIONAL SEWAGE DISTRICT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

WE, the members of the Township Advisory Board for Washington Township, Brown County, Indiana, do hereby consent to and authorize the filing of the attached Petition For The Establishment Of A Regional Sewage District For Unincorporated Areas In Brown County, Indiana, Pursuant To I.C. 13-26-2-3.

Yours truly,

TOWNSHIP ADVISORY BOARD,
WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP,
BROWN COUNTY, INDIANA

By: _____
Steve Gore

By: _____
Chester Roberts

By: _____
Robert Olmstead