



# HALEY WARD

ENGINEERING | ENVIRONMENTAL | SURVEYING

FORMERLY:  CES INC

May 6, 2021

Mr. Doug Small Director  
Department of Public Works  
20 Ponderosa Road  
Ashland, MA 01721

## Re: Independence Lane Booster Station ZBA update information

Dear Mr. Small

We are writing this letter as a follow up to our site meeting on April 28, 2021 to discuss comments from several residents concerning the proposed Independence Lane booster station project.

The comments were regarding the aesthetics of the proposed pump station, specifically what measures would be implemented to minimize the visual impact of the station, along with the noise impact from the generator.

As discussed at the site, Town of Ashland has agreed to implement measures to address the aesthetics concerns discussed at the site visit including the following.

1. Install shrubs along the south and east side of the site to provide a natural blind for the pump station.
  - a. On the east side the shrubs will be installed on the existing berm to provide additional height to the new shrubs.
  - b. The Town of Ashland will be responsible for the landscaping at the site.
  - c. The Town agrees that when the station and generator are installed, they will review the site lines and lay out the proposed shrub locations. At that time, residents can have input into the locations and possibly the type of shrubs.
  - d. As of this letter the proposed shrub would be a low maintenance spruce "white conica" or evergreen shrub.

Ashland DPW | 5.2.2021 | ASH-317 | Page 1



63 Great Road, Suite 200, Maynard, MA 01754  
T: 978.648.6025 | [HALEYWARD.COM](http://HALEYWARD.COM)



2. The station is installed with a colored metal siding that is designed for residential neighborhoods. The residents were concerned with the actual look of the siding and whether it will fit into the neighborhood.
  - a. The Town agrees to install the vinyl siding after the station is installed at the site. Otherwise, a change to vinyl at the factory will delay the delivery date.
  
3. The other concern discussed at the site visit was the noise level produced by the proposed generator. We have reviewed the generator submittal and they report a noise level of 73 decibel (dB) at a distance of 23 feet. Decibel level provides an indication of the pressure or forcefulness a sound makes. To give an indication of the proposed generators 73 dB level, a normal conversation can be in the range of 60 - 70 dB. The proposed shrubs will provide additional sound deadening.
  - a. The Town can set the approximate twenty (20) minute generator exercise time to occur every Tuesday at 11:00am. This time can be adjusted if this becomes an issue with local residences.

We hope this information addresses residents' concerns. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office or the Ashland DPW.

Sincerely,  
CES, Inc.

Gregory J. Eldridge, P.E.  
Vice President Senior Project Manager

Cc: Dan Mauer Ashland DPW

P:\MA\Jobs\3010101 Ashland\317 Independence Lane Booster\Letters\317-028 Booster station ZBA considerations.docx