

Paul Cruvellier, B.Sc, MD, CM, CCFP
122 Poor Farm Rd
Alburgh, Vermont
05440

Re : Town Water, SAFD2

To whom it may concern,

The potential for us to get town water here in South Alburgh comes with a sense of relief. We have lived in 2 homes on Poor Farm Road, the first of which we rented where the water came from a well and was purified through a complex reverse osmosis chemical process that required industrial quantities of bleach so that the stench of the chlorine barely predominated over the sulfur odors from the well. The system leaked chlorine at one point and the clean up process definitely had me inhaling toxic chlorine fumes. We were happy to move to our present home on PFR which is supplied by lake water which at least only has a smell in early fall when the blue green algae bloom arrives. Two issues here: one is the toxic quantity of blue green algae coloring the water and rendering it a health hazard to the point of causing skin irritation and rashes and eye irritation when showering. The hazard of someone drinking the water accidentally ignoring warnings is ever present and the feel of the water when the algae is present attests to its external toxicity so we can imagine what it can do to your insides. The second is the unreliable nature of the water supply as we are at the mercy of an intake system that can easily fail especially as it did last January where our intake pump failed with a house full of people and the plumber had caught the flu so no service. We were left to boil snow and use the tub water that fortunately the bather had not drained for a water supply to flush toilets. Not only was it unpleasant for all present, the situation was clearly not conducive to cleanliness and hygiene. We shut down and left for water that would be both clean and available. This letter is written in the hope that we can have a clean and reliable water supply for health and cleanliness. The attention of the board members to this is appreciated.

Sincerely,

P Cruvellier

From: Andrew Meehan
92 Poor Farm Road
Alburgh, Vermont 05440
Cell # (802) 299-8143

Date: November 9, 2018.
To: South Alburgh Fire District # 2.
1 North Street, Suite 2
c/o Village of Alburgh
Alburgh, VT 05440
Subject: Water quality - HELP!!!

Dear Board Members,

I have been hearing about town water coming to our street for a long time. I know you guys have been working on it but I'm really concerned its not happening FAST ENOUGH. The current situation is very difficult. We draw water from Lake Champlain. In the winter (ice) and under certain conditions, the filtered water we draw is acceptable for most uses such as washing, bathing but never drinking. This summer was paticularly tough. Low water levels (no rain) and high alge counts made it just about impossible. Just GROSS - there were times when I took my young daughter across the bay to my Parents home to take a bath. They live in North Hero & have town water. The Lake level is still very low and we are concerned about supply through this winter. This is NOT a healthy situation.

My landlord offered to have potable water delivered but, due to affordability, we have chosen to purchase/procure our supply. Most people on the street have similar stories to tell. The Lake, although an easy & plenitiful water supply is just not acceptable. People we've talked to that have deep wells all have high sulfer levels. Their water absolutely STINKS. Treating it adds cost (filter, chemicals etc) and even after trying to improve quality, they get mixed results. We've heard of other people using water from shallow wells but that presents other risks and hazzards (run off, contamination, runs dry etc).

We really like Vermont & just love living in Alburgh, next to Lake Champlain. That being said, it NOT a cheap place to live. I drive a long way to find work (construction) can not afford to spend hundreds of dollars per month on just water.

PLEASE do everything possible to get AFFORDABLE town water to our street ASAP.
Thanks.

Sincerely,



Andrew Meehan

----- Forwarded message -----
From: Judith Hartl <judyhartl@aol.com>

Date: Sat, Nov 17, 2018 at 11:28 AM

Subject: Water issue in South Alburgh\

To: <safd2committee@gmail.com>

Thanks for the info sent earlier this week.

We are at the south end of Cedarvale Estates Rd # 105.

We draw water from the lake and then filter it this way in the kitchen.

[Here's how it looked Sept 1, 2018.](#)

Judy and Palmer Hartl

Sent from my iPhone



To whom it may concern,

At our primary residence of 7453 US Route 2, South Alburgh, Vermont we utilize a dug well. The only water problems we have encountered is this summer the well went dry for a month. When the water went low it resulted in a positive test result of bacteria in the water. However as of now the bacteria problem has been resolved. We also have hard water that requires a water softener.

Due to having a large family, it is important to us that the water option we choose is not just convenient and as hassle free as possible but to be cost effective. Currently the approximate monthly cost for our water system is \$40 a month thanks to the need for a water softener.

Thank you for your time.

Very Respectfully,

Erin Leon

7453 US Route 2
South Alburgh, VT 05440

Erin.leon1989@yahoo.com

To: So Alburgh Fire District #2


From: Kevin & Laurie Olsen
47 Poor Farm Rd
Alburgh, VT

We would be interested in hooking up
to Town water.

Although our well water was considered
safe to drink, it also was recommended we
would need to be following testing on a
monthly basis. That alone is rather
difficult. We do have a chlorine system
but we get methane gas popping from
the sinks & showers quite often.

The water also not good for drinking.
Taste is terrible. We bring all our
drinking water in. By the way, the
dog only gets bottled as well.

Thank you

Kevin & Laurie Olsen


From: Patty Helfrich

E-Mail: helfrichpatty@gmail.com

Address: 72A Poor Farm Road
Alburgh, VT 05440

I have a drilled well. It has the inherent problems of a well which has sulphur gas. Beyond the obvious problem of smell if left untreated it has other drawbacks as well. The gas even after treatment damages appliances such as stoves and fridges. The cost of treatment and regular maintenance is high. If anything goes wrong that cost has to also be factored in.

Many with shallow, dug wells face the same problems. I do not drink the water from the well as I fear there may be bacteria, etc in the water that might be harmful. Few wells in this area pass an inspection. Many around me draw from the lake. Again there is cost of treatment and maintaining a system. Freezing pipes going into the lake can be a real problem in winter months.

I feel the danger of people using and drinking water from untested sources could cause major health issues. I hope grant money will be made available to South Alburg Water (SAFD2) to help fund continuing progress in their goal to make water available to those within the designated district.

94 Poor Farm Road
Alburgh, VT 05440

South Alburgh Fire District #2
1 North Street, Suite 2
Alburgh, VT 05440

Subject: Municipal Water Service on Poor Farm Road

Dear Board Members,

I am a property owner at 94 Poor Farm Road. The house is occupied year round and currently is served with water that is pumped from Lake Champlain. While this source of water has always been available, over the last decade the quality has plummeted, making the water impossible to be made potable:

1. The lake turbidity, and particularly the late summer algae blooms, make filters and purification systems impossible to keep functioning.
2. Zebra mussels are prevalent and we have found them in our water filter housing. They are in the piping and often cover the pump screens. They will eventually make pumping water from the lake impossible.
3. It is not practical to make the lake water potable – it is really only good for flushing toilets.

This is a serious health and safety problem. With these water quality problems, water for drinking and cooking must be hauled in. This is not a practical long term solution.

I know that some residents on Poor Farm Road have dug shallow wells so they could stop relying on the lake water. This year many ran dry, and there are issues with shallow wells basically providing untreated surface water. Drilled wells in the area are mostly contaminated with sulfur.

We need affordable municipal water on Poor Farm Road. This is not just a nice to have. It is needed to address a very real health and safety problem.

I know that the Fire District has been working on this for some time. I have been very supportive of the effort and for some years now have counted on this happening to address the water problem that most home owners on Poor Farm Road are experiencing.

Please redouble your efforts to provide one of the basic necessities to Poor Farm Road residents – clean potable water.

Sincerely,



Ted Bloomhardt
Email: tbloomhardt@gmail.com
Cell 802-238-9652

Hi Folks.

Thanks for keeping this project alive!

We live at 124 Poor Farm Rd, having purchased the property in 2012, and being just crazy about the area. In order to get a C/O for this property as a year round residence, we were required to have a well water system installed, to the tune of \$5000.

With the well company rep present, the water was tested, tasted, and then immediately turned off, as the hydrogen sulfide levels were so high, you couldn't even run the water, let alone drink it.

So we went right back on lake water. Can't drink it or cook with it, but otherwise it's ok. Until mid Summer when the water levels drop and it turns green.

Anyway, I'm probably not telling you something you don't already know.

We fully support the effort to get city water here, as will our neighbors at 122, 123, and 125 Poor Farm! Keep up the good work! And thank you Tony Speranza!

Sincerely, Charles and Missy Mackin

"Charles Mackin" cmackvt@gmail.com

From: kphartl <kphartl@aol.com>

Date: Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 1:59 PM

Subject: Re: Proposed Municipal Water- Route 2

To: <safd2committee@gmail.com>

Dear Committee.

We live on cedar vale road at the end and would love to have town water. This summer as your newsletter says was a mess at the end of the summer. Even before that the low lake level was somewhat problematic. I hope that this effort gets funded.

Palmer Hartl
105 Cedarvale Estates Road
South Alburgh. 05440

Mr. Speranza,

As discussed, I am providing a description of the current water situation at my year-round residence at 8 Point of Tongue, as well some thoughts regarding planning for town water to be brought to South Alburgh, including Point of Tongue.

I purchased my home in June, 2017. I obtain water from a deep well on the property. Water treatment includes chlorination for sulphur, charcoal filtration and water softening. The water test at the time of purchase indicated that the water was safe to drink. Excessive sulphur and methane are now present in the well water and have continued to be present in my water for over a year. This sulphur and methane contamination required increased chlorination and will require additional treatment to remove methane in a safe manner. I purchase drinking water.

You discussed water plans for the South Alburgh area. I would certainly be interested in obtaining town water at a reasonable price. My concerns include the timing of the project and how water would be delivered to Point of Tongue given the ledge that is exposed or close to the surface throughout Point of Tongue and its impact on construction of water lines.

Thanks for providing information about the South Alburgh water planning.

Tom Jacobsen

From: "Hotmail" <familyboat@fairpoint.net>
Date: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 5:18 PM
To: <safd2committe@gmail.com>
Subject: Town water, Please

To whom it may concern,

This is Dale Brown of 24 Point of Tongue in Alburgh. I am a resident at the afore mentioned residence but spend some of my winter months in Florida. As far as the water at Point of Tongue, we are very interested in having town water connected to our home. The well that we have is a typical Vermont sulfur well. We spend inordinate amounts of money on a treatment system and the water still in not what we would like to drink. So we also have to pay to have water delivered to our home. As far as health, I have a heart condition and it is also necessary to add salt to the water which is not what is best for my condition. My wife does not drink our well water at all. And we have never considered the lake as a source of drinking water because of the cost and reliability.

So, if the town is going to run a water line down our road, we are definitely hooking up.

Thank you, Dale and Ann Brown

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized representation of the names Dale and Ann Brown. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Another voice of support...

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Bob Carpenter <progressivebob@yahoo.com>

Date: Mon, Nov 19, 2018 at 1:20 PM

Subject: Re: Proposed Municipal Water- Route 2

To: South Alburgh Fire District No. 2 <safd2committee@gmail.com>

Thanks for the news letter. We have two properties at 2 and 6 Poor Farm Road. We have a drilled well but due to the sulfur and other contaminants are not able to cook with or drink the water. My children won't even shower when they visit. The 2 Poor Farm Road property is a 4 unit apartment complex and I have a hard time keeping tenants due to the water conditions. Our primary residence is in Randolph VT and we can't make the meeting tonight but best of luck moving the project forward. We would definitely hook up both properties if given the option.

Best Regards,

Bob Carpenter

Another water reply....

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Paula Holsinger <pholskier@aol.com>

Date: Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 9:35 AM

Subject: Water

To: <safd2committee@gmail.com>

My home is at 86 poor farm Rd in Alburgh . I have a well to supply my water. I have a water softener, chlorine injection and two filters. The water has always had a sulfur smell and contains a black sediment.

We need real water !

Sincerely Fred Holsinger

Sent from my iPad

From: Richard Nebbett <rnebbett@yahoo.com>
Date: Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 10:55 AM
Subject: Re: Proposed Municipal Water- Route 2
To: South Alburgh Fire District No. 2 <safd2committee@gmail.com>

Thank you for your mail concerning the future municipal water source in Alburgh. Although I would love a water source at Carrigon Heights, I realize it takes time to install all the required infrastructure. I will always be interested in getting water to the property when it is available. Thanks for all your continued good work and wonderful staff members. Always a pleasure to visit the office in Alburgh.

Kindest regards,
Richard Nebbett.