



January 10, 2023

Kevin Krulik, PE, PS, AICP
Lebanon City Engineer
Engineering Department
401 S. Meridian St. 2nd Floor
Lebanon, IN 46052

**RE: The Cedars @ Lebanon Business Park – Tyre Road and John Shaw
PVC C900 DR 14 Conditional Basis**

Dear Mr. Krulik,

This letter serves to provide justification for the conditional use basis of PVC C900 DR 14 in lieu of Ductile Iron for water mains, which is the Lebanon City Standard, on the above referenced project.

In performing initial design and contractor vetting, both HWC Engineering and RealtyLink, the developer of this project, have found it very difficult to find suitable pricing and sufficient lead times for acquiring ductile iron material for the construction of the water main.

Many issues can be attributed to industry challenges. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic caused widespread staffing shortages in all aspects of manufacturing and shipment of DI pipe. The pandemic increased the focus on the importance of clean, accessible drinking water. Much of the available COVID relief money was earmarked by states for infrastructure improvements that included several billion dollars in water and wastewater infrastructure rehabilitation. As of 2022, construction projects were in full swing, which has led to a significant demand for ductile iron pipe. Manufacturers of ductile iron have been unable to meet the surge in demand, which has driven up lead times to obtain materials and costs associated with manufacturing and shipping.

As a result, we are seeing lead times for ductile iron that are not conducive to the construction schedule and would cause delays in performing the necessary work to complete this project on time. We would like to request a conditional use basis of PVC C900 DR 14 for this project. All pipe, fittings, valves, and other materials will be in accordance with Lebanon City Standards. If you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Ryan A. Robinson, P.E.
Project Manager