

LACKAWANNA RIVER BASIN SEWER AUTHORITY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JUNE 8, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority was held on Monday, June 8, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. in the Conference Room of the Authority, 145 Boulevard Avenue, Throop, Pennsylvania. Mr. Ruddy, Chairman, presided.

1-2 Salute to the Flag was followed by Roll Call, indicating the presence of the following:

Mr. Paul Ruddy
Mr. Joseph Brady
Mr. Peter Larioni
Mr. Alexander Chelik
Mr. Thomas Wascura
Mr. Joseph Chowanec
Mr. Eugene Prusinski
Mr. Andrew Hegedus

The Chair declared a Quorum present.

Also in attendance were the following: Atty. Paul Mazzoni, Solicitor; Atty. Rocco Valvano, Solicitor; Michael Matechak, Executive Director; Robert Davis, Plant Superintendent; and Melissa Cravath, Billing Director.

3. The Chair called for the Report of the Secretary. Mr. Laroni, Secretary gave the report stating that copies of the Minutes of the May 11, 2026 Meeting had been distributed to all Board Members and asked that the reading be dispensed with.

Mr. Hegedus made a motion to accept the May 11, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chowanec. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

Mr. Ruddy recognized a citizen in attendance wishing to address the Board. Mr. James Zefran, a resident of the Village of Browndale, Clinton Township requested to address the Board concerning protection of the Lackawanna River from potential impacts of the proposed Browndale Mountain Linde Data Center project, which would consist of twenty (20) data center buildings and two (2) natural gas-fired power plants. Mr. Zefran presented the Board with a signed petition containing approximately 500 signatures and read a statement expressing concerns they have with the project and suggestions they had for the Board going forward. Information presented by Mr. Zefran is attached to and incorporated into the

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 8, 2026

record of these minutes. Mr. Zefran requested a written response to the concerns presented within 30 days, prior to the next Clinton Township Zoning Hearing. The Board thanked Mr. Zefran for his presentation.

4. The Chair called for the Report of the Treasurer. Mr. Brady, Treasurer, presented the report as follows:
Schedules of Accounts Payable:

Operational Expenditures	\$269,729.76
Interim Expenditures	\$299,808.69
Capital Improvement Fund	\$820,692.63

Mr. Chelik made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Larioni seconded the motion. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

5. The Chair called for the Report of the Solicitor. Atty. Valvano stated that since the last meeting there have been various correspondence and communications regarding proposed data center projects in the LRBSA service area.

Atty. Valvano continues to work with Atty. Jim Shoemaker from Hourigan, Kluger & Quinn, who has been retained to help defend the Authority in a preferential transfer claim that was filed in bankruptcy court.

Mr. Prusinski made a motion to accept the Solicitor's report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brady. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

6. The Chair called for the Report of the Executive Director. Ms. Cravath, Billing Director, gave the Billing Office Report dated May 31, 2026. The estimated Accounts Receivable for the third month of the first quarter are \$2,389,169.01. The amount collected through the third month of the first quarter was \$2,495,892.89. This amount is over the estimated collections by \$106,723.88. May accounts sent to Portnoff Law Assoc. were fifty-five (55). Year-to-date accounts sent to Portnoff Law Assoc. are two hundred fifty-six (256). May liens filed by Portnoff Law Assoc. are zero (0). Year-to-date liens filed by Portnoff Law Assoc. are zero (0). May liens satisfied are seventeen (17). Year-to-date liens satisfied are one hundred forty (140).

The Montage Sewer District collections for the May 15, 2026 billing totaled \$94,406.19.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 8, 2026

Jefferson Township's April 2026 bill in the amount of \$99,825.00 for 1,333 EDU's was paid on May 4, 2026.

Scott Township's April 2026 bill in the amount of \$114,621.30 consisting of \$110,250.00 for 1,470 EDU's and \$4,371.30 for two (2) metered services was paid on May 18, 2026.

Credit card payments for the month of May were six hundred thirty-five (635).

Mr. Davis presented the Project Status Summary. Contract 24-3: Clinton WWTP Secondary Clarifier Replacement - Contract 24-3.1: General Construction - The precast concrete panels for the Clarifier #2 tank were assembled and the joints were grouted and sealed. Preparations are underway to fill the tank with water for leak testing. The steel mechanical clarifier components are being painted on site prior to installation.

Contract 24-3.2: Electrical Construction - The contractor is completing miscellaneous power and control wiring in the return sludge pump building.

Contract 24-3.3: HVAC Construction - HVAC equipment is being prepared for startup and testing.

Contract 25-3: Moosic Pump Station No. 2 Force Main Replacement - All gravity sewer and force main piping between the former Moosic treatment plant and the Moosic #2 pumping station, including the crossings of Springbrook Creek and the levee, are installed and tested. Bypass pumping around the pump station is scheduled to begin the week of June 8th. This will allow the replacement of the pump station interior piping and valves, and coating the pump station wet well to be completed.

Contract 25-4: Richmondale Pump Station Force Main Replacement - A Notice to Proceed was issued dated April 1, 2026. Work has not yet started.

Contract 26-3: Throop WWTP Utility Water Strainer Replacement - Authorization is requested to advertise bids. The project will replace the automatic strainer that filters treated effluent at the Throop plant, which is then pumped throughout the facility and used for various flushing and wash water purposes. The existing self-cleaning filter assembly is heavily corroded and is at the end of its useful service life.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 8, 2026

Mr. Chowanec made a motion to authorize bidding for Contact 26-3: Throop WWTP Utility Water Strainer Replacement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Larioni. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

Mr. Matechak informed the Board that in 2021 the Authority received notice of a Class Action suit against Blue Cross/Blue Shield to which we responded by filing a claim. Blue Cross/Blue Shield has been the LRBSA's health insurance provider for a number of years. The Authority received notice that a settlement had been reached in that Class Action suit for which we received a check in the amount of \$25,929.67.

Mr. Matechak reported that the auditor has completed his field work for the 2025 Audit. A draft of the audited financial statements is expected within the next two (2) weeks. Once a review of the draft is completed, the auditor will issue the final report. It is expected that the final audit will be available for distribution to the Board at the July meeting.

Mr. Matechak reviewed the Summary of accounts.

Mr. Chelik made a motion to accept the Executive Director's Report. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.

7. Reports from Committees: Nothing to report.

8. Old Business: Nothing to report.

9. New Business: Nothing to report.

10. Remarks from Citizens: Nothing to report.

11. A Motion to Adjourn was made by Mr. Larioni seconded by Mr. Brady. All Board Members voted unanimously to approve. Motion carried.


Peter Larioni, Secretary

SAVE BROWNDALÉ MOUNTAIN

A community coalition protecting the health, water, and rural character of Clinton Township and our neighboring towns.

The Sewer Authority Petition: What You Need to Know

What is this petition?

It is a formal request to the Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority (LRBSA), the public board that manages wastewater for our area. It asks the Board to put strong protections in place before it agrees to handle any wastewater from the proposed Browndale Mountain / Linde data center.

Who can sign it?

Any resident or ratepayer served by the LRBSA. That includes households in Forest City, Vandling, Richmondale, and Browndale (Clinton Township). If you receive a sewer bill from the LRBSA, you can sign.

This is different from the township meetings.

Clinton Township supervisor and planning commission meetings are for Clinton Township residents and taxpayers. The sewer authority is separate. Because Browndale Mountain sits on the county and township line, the LRBSA serves customers across more than one town and county. Your voice counts on this petition no matter which town or county you live in, as long as you are an LRBSA customer.

Why does the sewer authority matter here?

The project's own plans show it would send wastewater into the LRBSA system. The Board's decisions, including whether to accept that wastewater and who pays for it, affect every customer's service and bill.

What does the petition ask the Board to do?

1. **Do a full review, in public.** Require complete water, air, and environmental studies, reviewed by independent experts the Board chooses, with all documents public before any vote.
2. **No wastewater without proper permits.** Do not accept the project's industrial wastewater unless it holds a fully compliant industrial pretreatment permit and submits to ongoing monitoring.
3. **The project pays 100%.** Require in writing that the project owner, not local ratepayers, covers all costs, now and in the future.
4. **Require long-term financial guarantees.** Require bonds, escrow, and letters of credit so ratepayers are protected if the owner walks away or goes bankrupt.

What happens when I sign?

Your signature tells the Board that its own customers expect these protections. The more residents who sign, the harder it is to overlook. Signing costs nothing and does not commit you to anything further.

How do I sign?

Sign a paper petition sheet at a community meeting, or email us at stopbrowndaledatacenters@gmail.com to find the nearest signing location.

The Bigger Picture: The Proposed Browndale Mountain Data Center

A developer, Linde Corporation, has proposed a 682-acre industrial data center campus on Browndale Mountain, on the line between Clinton Township (Wayne County) and neighboring communities. The plan calls for twenty windowless buildings (about 118,000 square feet each), two on-site gas-fired power plants, and up to about 940,000 gallons of water per day, roughly the daily water use of 1,000 homes. On June 3, 2026, the Clinton Township Planning Commission found the application incomplete and sent it back. The proposal is not gone, which is exactly why staying involved matters.

Environmental concerns

- Clearing of roughly 520 acres of forest on a mountain whose runoff reaches Exceptional Value waterways and a state-protected stretch of the Lackawanna River.
- Heavy water use and wastewater discharge near sensitive wetlands and waterways.
- Constant noise from cooling systems and power generation in a quiet rural area.
- Air emissions from the on-site gas power plants.

Communities living near data centers elsewhere have reported impacts such as lost or contaminated well water, persistent noise, and strain on local utilities.

Financial risk

- Large projects like this can shift costs onto existing utility customers and taxpayers if protections are not locked in first.
- Long-term concerns about property values next to a round-the-clock industrial site.
- This is why the petition's **"project pays 100%"** protection matters. It keeps these costs off your bill.

We have legal representation

Save Browndale Mountain has retained an attorney to represent the citizens of Clinton Township and surrounding communities.

Upcoming Clinton Township meetings to attend

Clinton Township Meeting	Date & Time
Board of Supervisors	Wed, June 10, 7:00 PM
Planning Commission	Wed, July 1, 7:00 PM
Board of Supervisors	Wed, July 8, 7:00 PM

Location: Clinton Township Municipal Building, 1799 White Oak Drive, Forest City, PA 18421.

The mailing address says Forest City, but the building is located in Aldenville, about a 10-minute drive from downtown Forest City.

How you can help

- Attend the Clinton Township meetings above and sign the sewer-authority petition.
- Donate to the coalition's legal and expert fund:
 - **GoFundMe:** gofund.me/a318ec480
 - **Bank:** First National Bank, 521 Main St., Forest City, PA 18421. Account: SAVE BROWDALE MOUNTAIN
 - **Zelle:** through your bank's app, to "Natalie Kulick"
 - **Cash or check:** accepted at meetings or at any First National Bank location
- Stay informed: email stopbrowndaledatacenters@gmail.com to join the mailing list.

Donations fund legal counsel, environmental experts, and planning professionals.



Wayne County Special Protection Watersheds

Prepared by
The Wayne County Department of Planning
(570) 253-5970 ext. 4060 <http://www.co.wayne.pa.us/?pageid=38>
Derek F. Williams, 2010

Each watershed depicted herein has been coded to match DEP's water quality descriptions within each watershed. In certain instances, portions of some watersheds were found to contain waters of varying quality. In these cases a watershed will have more than one water quality designation. Varying quality watershed examples in Wayne County include the Lackawanna River and the Starrucca Creek Watersheds.

Watersheds containing High Quality (HQ) and Exceptional Value (EV) Waters are considered Special Protection Waters by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Special Protection Waters are those that meet the water chemistry standards and the biological assessment qualifiers of Chapter 93 of the Pennsylvania Code Title 25, Sections 93.4b(a) [for High Quality Waters] and 93.4b(b) [for Exceptional Value Waters].

Wayne County Watershed Areas by Category

Percentages do not add to 100.00% due to rounding.

Non-Special Protection Waters:

28,381.49 acres or
5.91% of Wayne County

Special Protection Waters:

451,910.97 acres or
94.10% of Wayne County

High Quality (HQ) Waters:

429,646.29 acres or
89.46% of Wayne County

Exceptional Value (EV) Waters:

22,264.68 acres or
4.64% of Wayne County

Note: The Main Stem Lackawanna River, running through Wayne County, is designated as having High Quality (HQ) Waters while the unnamed tributaries to the Lackawanna River in that area of the County have varied water quality designations.

Note: The West Branch and Main Stem Delaware Rivers, bordering Wayne County, are not designated as Special Protection Waters while all unnamed, Wayne County tributaries to both rivers are designated as having High Quality (HQ) Waters.

Data Source: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, 2010 & Wayne County Department of Planning, 2010.



Municipal Boundaries



Water Bodies



Water Courses



Delaware/Susquehanna Basin Boundary



Watershed Boundaries

Special Protection Water Watersheds



High Quality (HQ) Waters



Exceptional Value (EV) Waters

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)'s eMapPA (<http://www.emappa.dep.state.pa.us/emappa/viewer.htm>) Application and Chapter 93 of the Pennsylvania Code Title 25 (Environmental Protection) were used to designate Wayne County's watersheds in this cartographic representation.

This map should not be used for site specific watershed designations. A registered professional surveyor or another professional versed in watershed delineation should be consulted prior to such designations. In addition, the DEP's eMapPA Application and the Environmental Protection regulations of the Pennsylvania Code, as mentioned above, would be valuable resources in the site specific evaluation of water quality. All watershed designations are subject to the water quality evaluations of the Department of Environmental Protection.

Thompson
Wetlands
(EV)

Clinton



0 1 2 4 6
Miles

Protect the Lackawanna River & Our Community

Resident Petition to the Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority Board, Clinton Township, Wayne County, Pennsylvania

The proposed Browndale Mountain / Linde Data Center Project ("Project") threatens to discharge unprecedented wastewater volumes into or near an Exceptional Value (EV) Lackawanna River—Pennsylvania's highest level of water quality protection. As residents and ratepayers served by the Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority ("LRBSA"), we call on the Board to adopt the following safeguards before taking any action related to this Project.

1. Require Full Act 537 Review and Public Transparency

Before approving any Act 537 Sewage Facilities Planning Module or amendment for the Project, the Board must require comprehensive hydrologic, chemical, air, and biological impact analyses of all proposed wastewater flows; independent third-party technical review selected and directed by LRBSA, not the Project owner; full public access to all studies, modeling, and draft submissions before any Board vote; and clear demonstration that the Project will not degrade the EV-rated segment of the Lackawanna River, consistent with 25 Pa. Code Chapter 93 antidegradation requirements.

2. No Wastewater Acceptance Without a Compliant Industrial Pretreatment Permit

As a Publicly Owned Treatment Works ("POTW"), LRBSA is legally obligated under Section 307 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1317) and the General Pretreatment Regulations (40 C.F.R. Part 403) to prevent pass-through and interference from industrial users. The Board must reject any proposal to accept, treat, or convey Project wastewater unless and until the Project obtains a fully compliant Industrial Pretreatment Permit with enforceable categorical and local limits for all pollutants of concern, submits to continuous self-monitoring and periodic compliance sampling by LRBSA, and demonstrates that its discharge will not harm the POTW, create hazardous conditions, or degrade the EV reach of the Lackawanna River.

3. Adopt a Binding "Project Pays 100%" Financial Responsibility Policy

Existing and future LRBSA customers **must not ever** subsidize this Project. To insulate LRBSA ratepayers from subsidy risk, the Board must adopt a binding resolution requiring that all present and future costs associated with the Project—including capital upgrades, operational expenses, permit compliance or applications, monitoring and sampling, facility expansion or rerating, emergency response, and decommissioning or remediation—be borne solely and perpetually by the Project owner and its successors, with no cost allocation to existing or future residential or commercial ratepayers under any circumstance.

4. Require Robust, Long-Term Financial Security

To ensure that LRBSA and its ratepayers remain whole if the Project owner defaults, abandons, or becomes insolvent, the Board must require escrow accounts funded at levels sufficient to cover projected worst-case liabilities; irrevocable standby letters of credit from creditworthy financial institutions; performance and environmental surety bonds; and any additional financial assurance instruments the Board's independent advisors deem necessary. These instruments must remain in place for the full operational life of the Project and through any post-closure monitoring period.

Our Expectation

We expect the LRBSA Board to continue to fulfill its fiduciary and regulatory duties by protecting the Lackawanna River—including its Exceptional Value waters—from degradation; safeguarding the capacity and operational integrity of the POTW; defending the financial interests of the communities and ratepayers it serves; and ensuring that no private industrial project externalizes environmental or financial risk onto the public.

We, the undersigned residents or ratepayers within the LRBSA service area, respectfully demand that the Board adopt these protections before considering any permit, agreement, planning module, or other action related to the Browndale Mountain / Linde Data Center Project.

2

COMMUNITY FACT SHEET

Proposed Data Center & Gas Power Plant — Wastewater to the Clinton Township Plant

Prepared for the Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority Board of Directors | Submitted by LRBSA ratepayers and petition signatories | June 2026

THE ASK

The Board should decline to execute any sewer connection agreement for this project until three conditions are met: **(1)** the developer obtains a federal Industrial Pretreatment Permit; **(2)** PA DEP completes and approves a Chapter 94 capacity analysis; and **(3)** PA DEP confirms the connection complies with the antidegradation rules protecting the Lackawanna River.

The proposal at a glance

Proposed project	20-building data center campus + 2-building natural gas power plant
Location	Clinton Township, Wayne County, Pennsylvania
Projected sewer discharge (peak)	50,000 gallons/day — 40,000 from the data center + 10,000 from the gas plant
Receiving plant	Clinton Township Wastewater Treatment Plant — 0.7 MGD, permitted for domestic sewage only
Downstream of Clinton plant	LRBSA 21-mile interceptor → Archbald & Throop treatment plants → Lackawanna River
Communities the plant serves	Vandling Borough, Forest City Borough, Village of Browndale, Village of Richmondale
Plant funding source	2024 Consolidated Appropriations Act federal grant — residential beneficiaries named

Why this matters to the Board

1. The discharge is industrial. The Clinton plant treats household sewage.

The 0.7 MGD plant is an extended-aeration activated-sludge system built to treat domestic sewage from four small residential communities. The main discharge source — data center cooling-tower blowdown — carries biocides, phosphate- and zinc-based scale and corrosion inhibitors, high total dissolved solids, and elevated temperature. The plant's secondary clarifiers cannot remove these.

The issue is not volume — 50,000 GPD is roughly 7% of rated capacity — it is that the plant is not designed, permitted, or equipped to treat industrial process wastewater. Federal law (40 CFR Part 403) bars a public treatment plant from accepting industrial process wastewater unless the user holds an Industrial Pretreatment Permit. No such application is on file.

2. Federal grant dollars were directed to ratepayers, not to an industrial user.

The plant is undergoing federally funded upgrades under the 2024 Consolidated Appropriations Act to replace its secondary clarifiers and build a return-sludge pump building. The stated purpose is to handle wet-weather flows and prevent sewer overflows for named residential beneficiaries. **Wet-weather surge capacity and continuous industrial base load are different engineering problems.** Using congressionally directed, residential-purpose capacity to serve a private industrial discharger raises grant-compliance questions the Board should put to EPA in writing before any connection is executed.

3. **The Lackawanna River carries the state's highest water-quality protection.**

Nearly 18 miles of the river is designated Class A Wild Trout or Trophy Trout water, and a reach carries Pennsylvania's Exceptional Value designation under 25 Pa. Code § 93. For Exceptional Value waters, existing water quality **must be maintained — an absolute standard with no economic-justification exception**. Because LRBSA operates the interceptor and the downstream Archbald and Throop plants that discharge toward the river, an industrial connection that degrades these waters puts the Board's own NPDES permits at risk.

Actions
Actions we ask the Board to take

1. **Decline any connection agreement** until the pretreatment permit, an approved Chapter 94 capacity analysis, and DEP antidegradation confirmation are all in place.
2. **Commission an independent Chapter 94 capacity and industrial-compatibility study**, at the developer's expense, covering effluent quality and NPDES permit risk — not volume alone.
3. **File formal written objections with PA DEP** on any NPDES permit application for this project.
4. **Ask EPA's grants office, in writing**, whether industrial use of grant-funded capacity is consistent with the grant's residential purpose — before any connection.
5. **Request a mandatory DEP public hearing** on any new discharge to Exceptional Value waters; the Board has standing under 25 Pa. Code § 93.4c.
6. **Adopt connection regulations** requiring Board approval, independent effluent characterization, and a compliance bond for new industrial connections above a defined flow threshold.

Our request tonight *is to enter these facts & requests,*

AA Enter this fact sheet and the attached ~~petition~~ into the official record of this meeting, and provide a written response to the community within 30 days. *AS*

Lastly
⑦ We ask for a complete study by The PA Department of Environmental Protection, with a complete study of the Northern Lackawanna River & All Tributaries that use HQ & EV waters.
⑧ Review by The US Army Corps of Engineers.

Can you
9 Recind the will serve letter?