



Wakefield/MWRA Interconnection

Q&A for Interconnection

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**CDM
Smith**

What Can We Help With Today?

- Project Overview and Phases
- Interconnection Detail
- Project Schedule
- Review and Public Comment
- Q&A





Project Overview and Phases

Wakefield/MWRA Interconnection

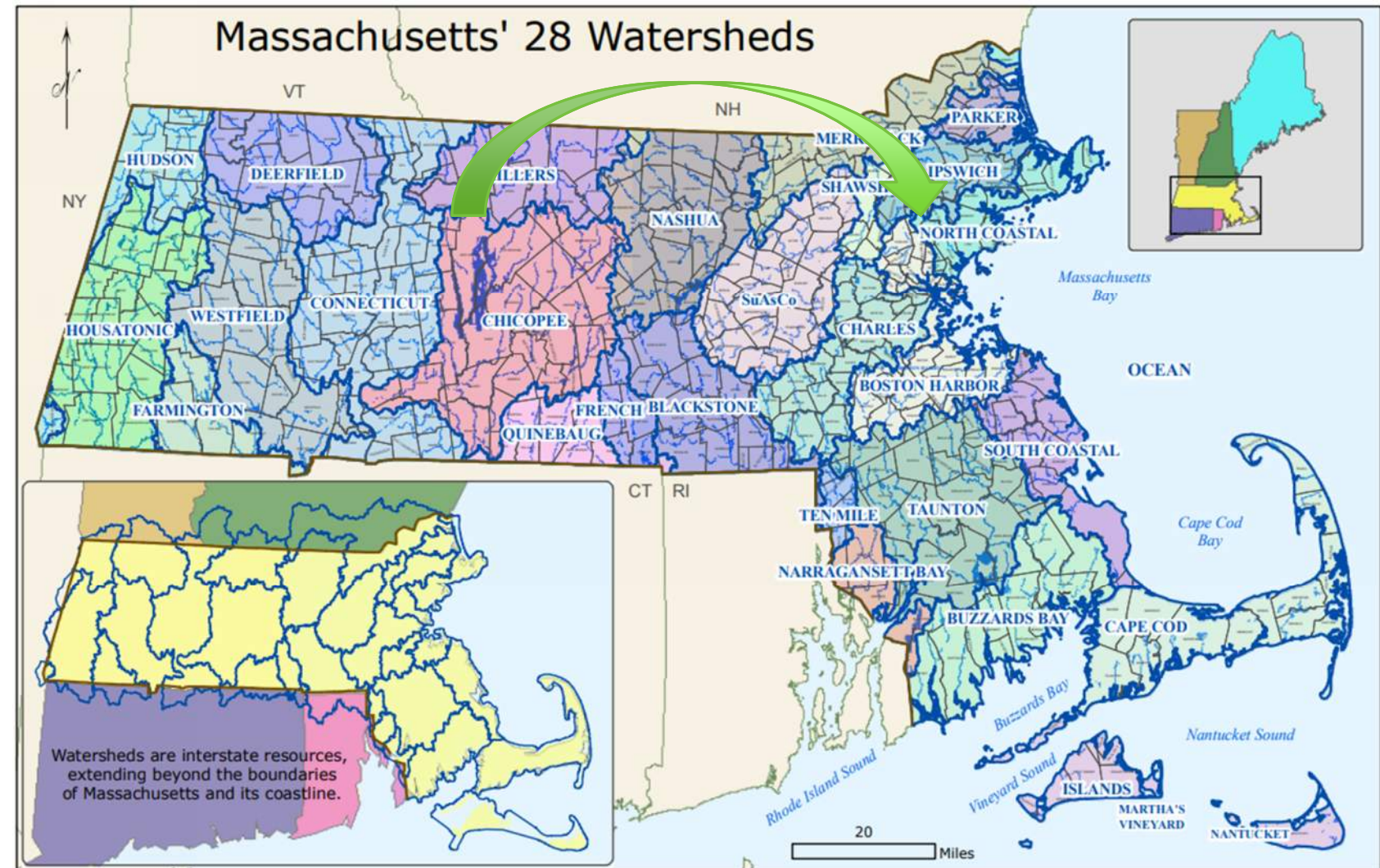
- Taking water from Wakefield/MWRA require two parallel projects:
 - Building the physical interconnection (“**Phase 1**”)
 - Completing the interbasin transfer process (“**Phase 2**”) and joining the MWRA

Two Questions:

1. What is an “interbasin transfer”?
2. How does one become an MWRA community?

Process for Interbasin Transfer Act (ITA)

- Taking water from one basin to another
- Needs environmental review
- Massachusetts Environmental Protection Act “MEPA”
 - Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF)
 - Single Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)
- SEIR as Application for ITA
- Hearings
- Approval for ITA

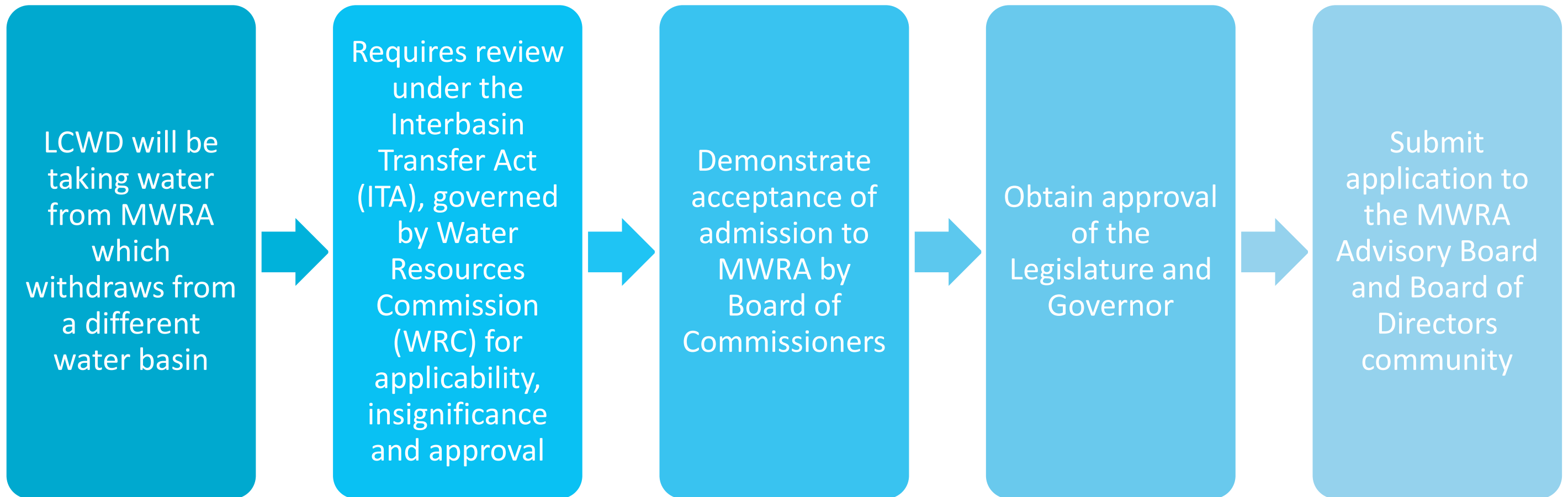


Chance for public comment!

Joining the MWRA



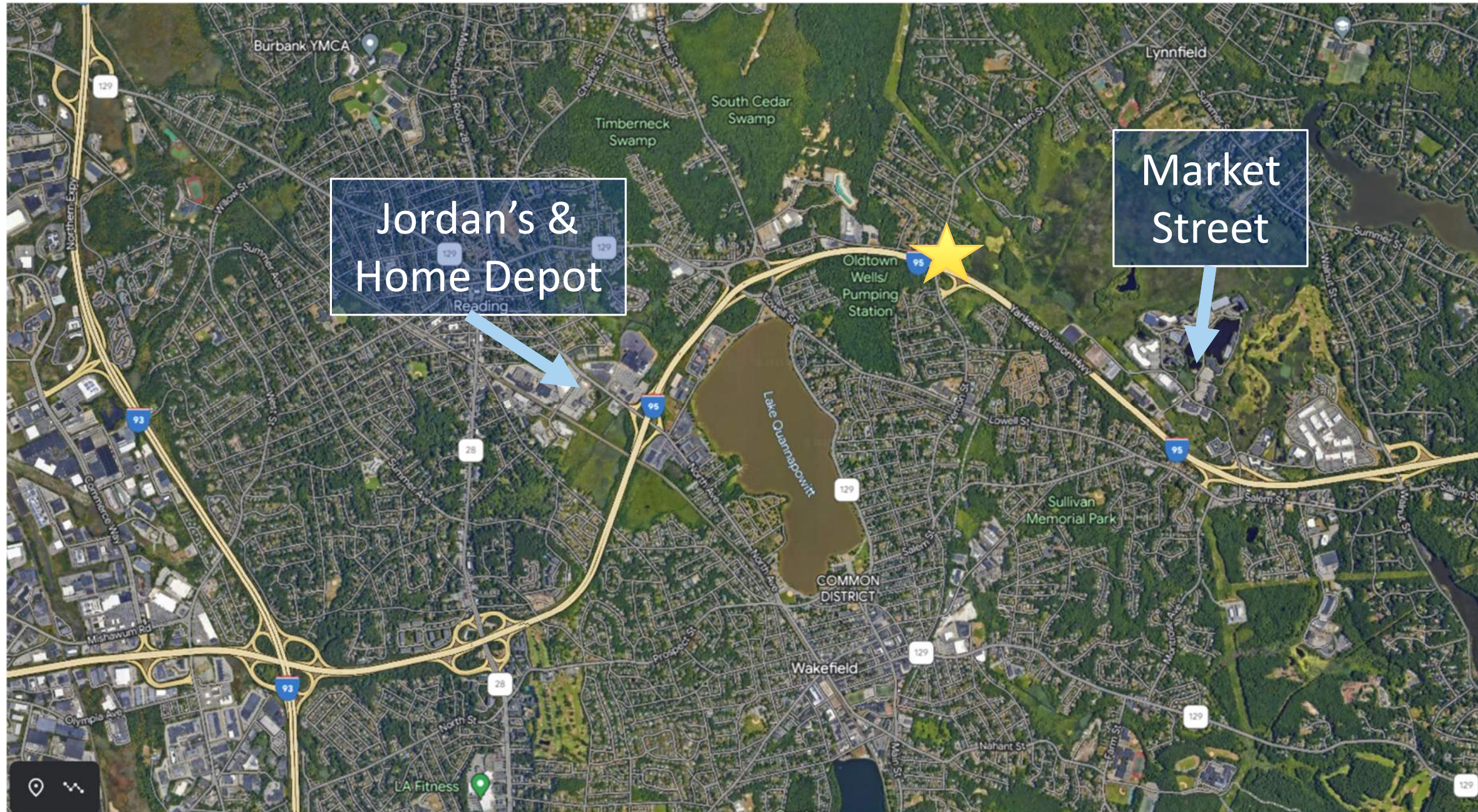
What is the process?



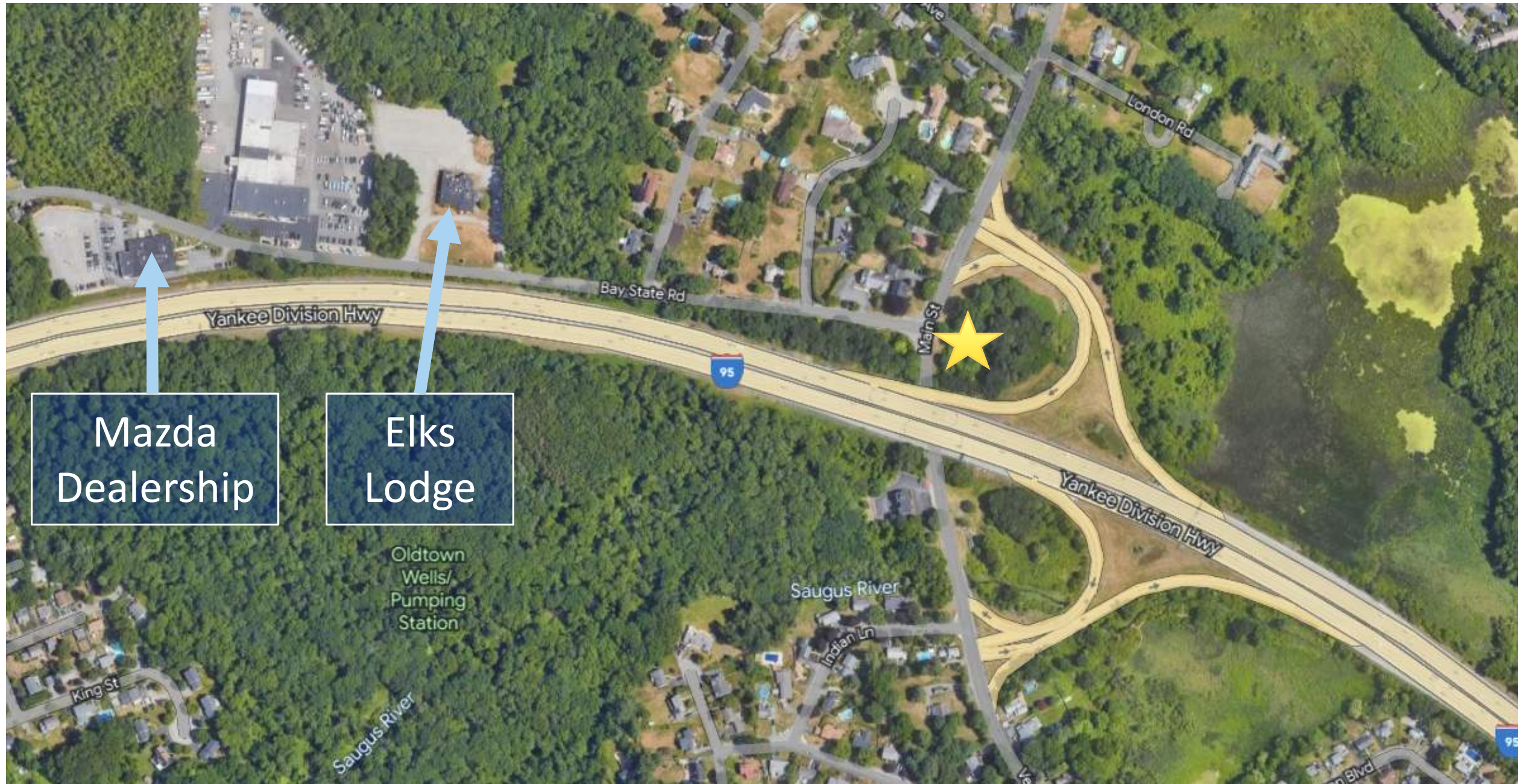


Interconnection Detail

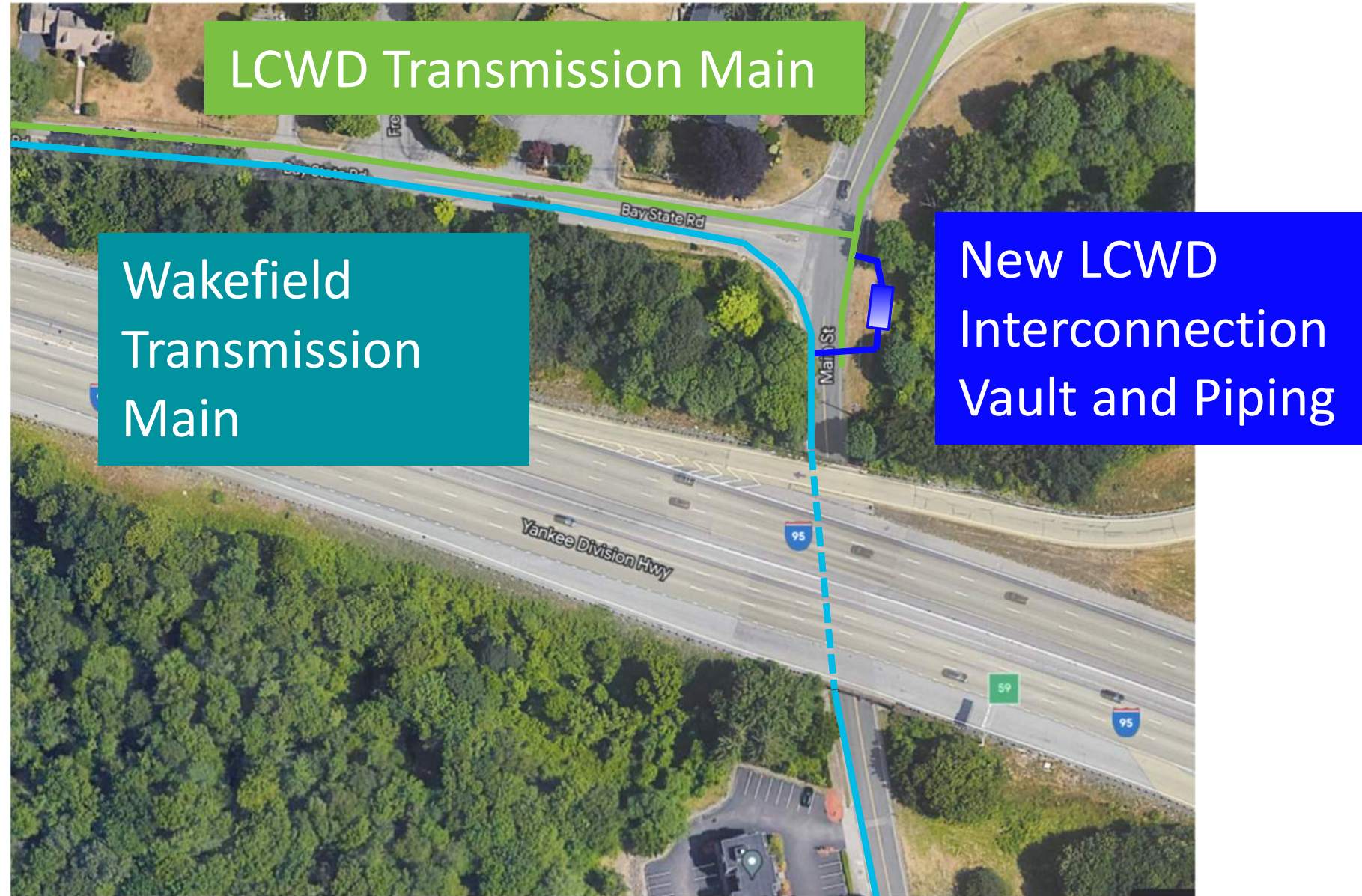
Wakefield/MWRA Interconnection - Location



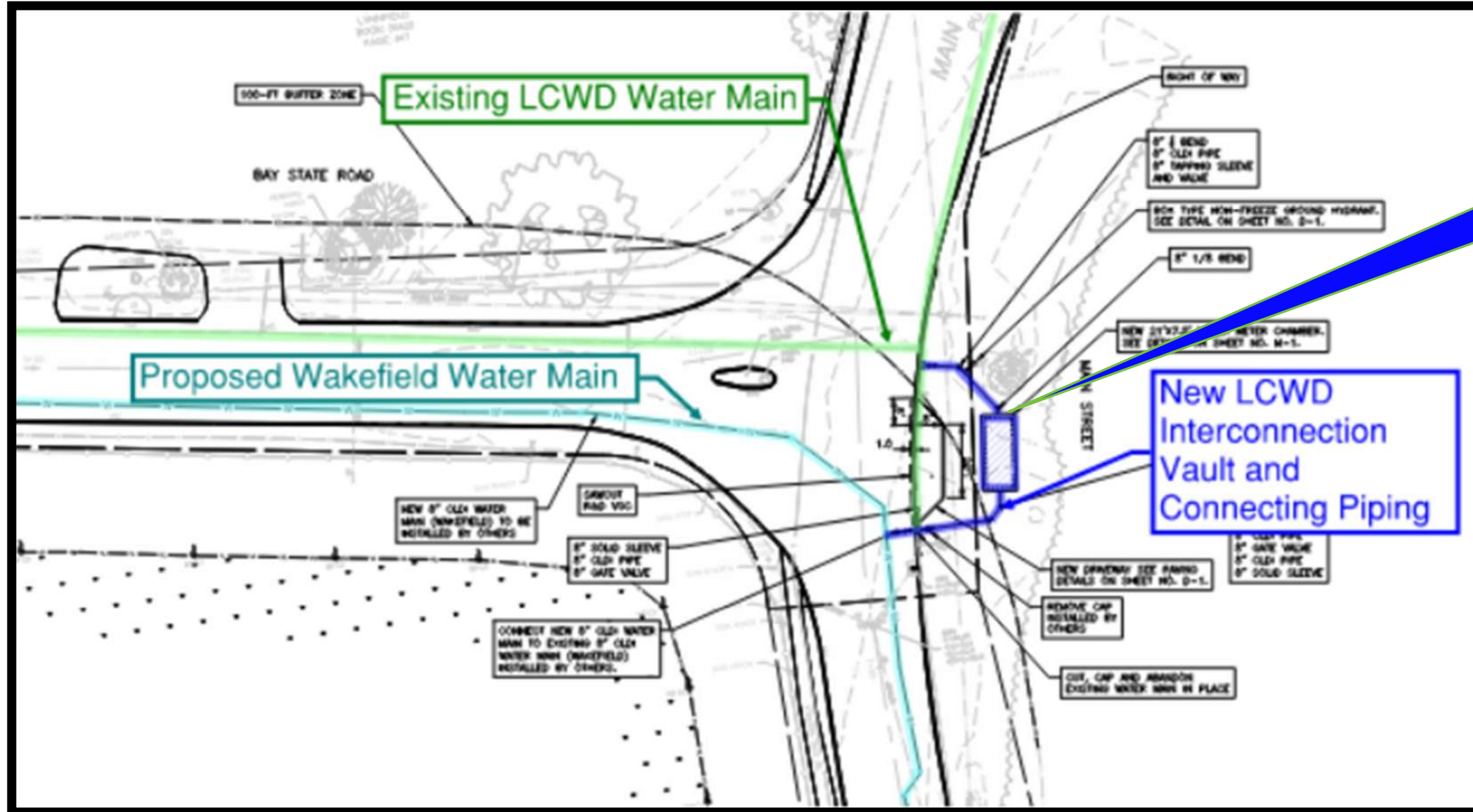
Wakefield/MWRA Interconnection - Location



Wakefield/MWRA Interconnection - Location



MWRA/Wakefield Interconnection Design



21-ft x 7.5-ft vault

MWRA/Wakefield Interconnection Design

- Excavation for the vault and trench for piping
- Short duration construction (2-3 months)
- Replacement of single tree to be removed
- Erosion and sediment controls



MWRA/Wakefield Interconnection Design

- Minimal impact:
 - Not an Area of Critical Environmental Concern,
 - No rare species,
 - No historical/archeological resources
 - No Outstanding Water Resource within ½ mile
 - No soils concern
 - Not within a river corridor for Wild and Scenic Reiver



MWRA/Wakefield Interconnection Design

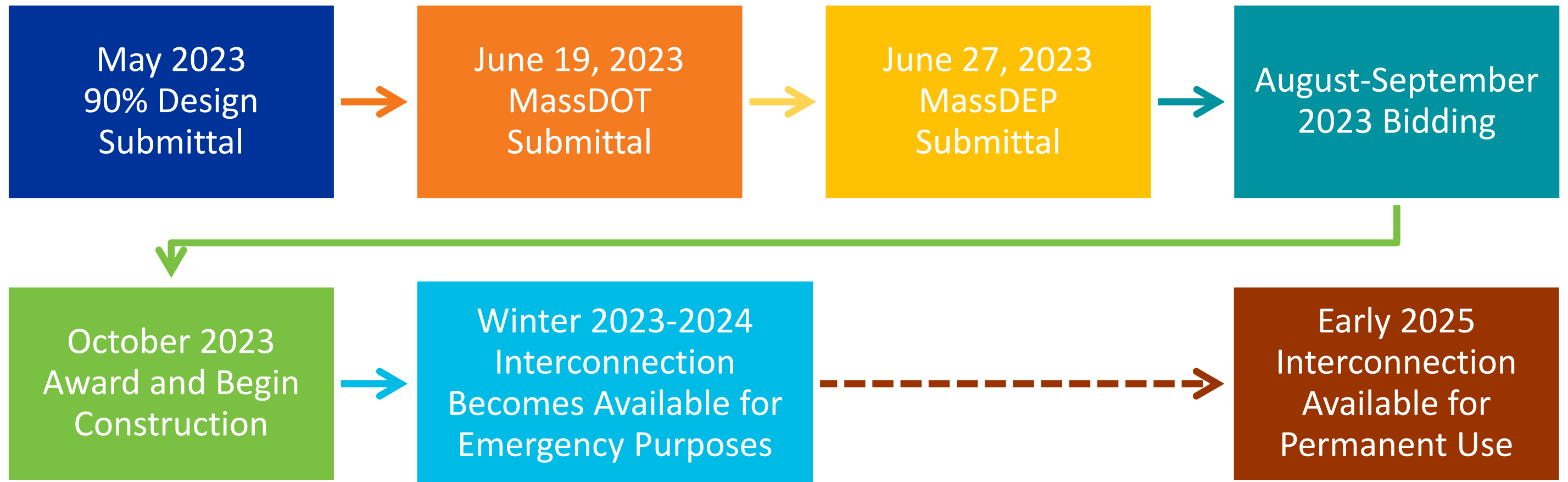
- Minimize in-road construction (majority in the shoulder)
- After completion, only see pull-out for LCWD truck and pedestal cabinet
- Flow by gravity – no pumping/motors





Schedule

Interconnection Schedule

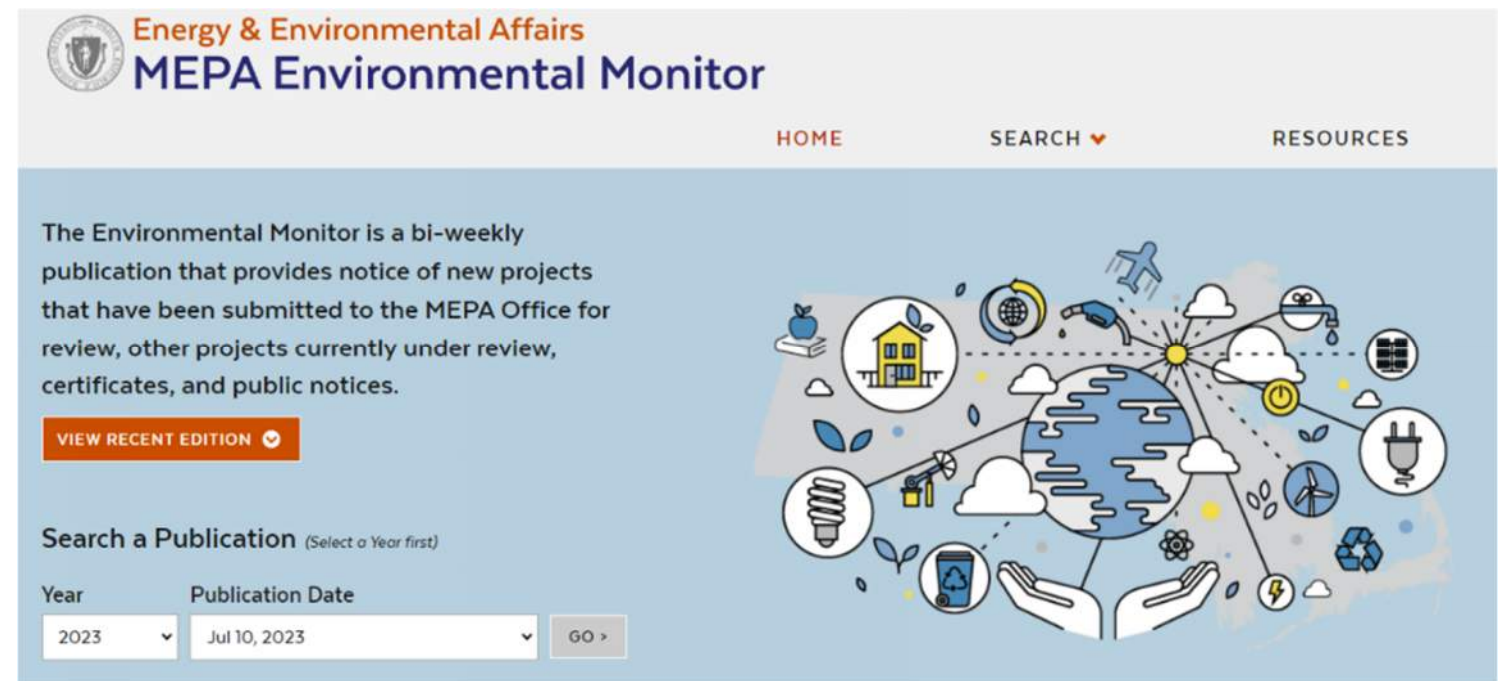




Review and Public Comment

Interconnection and Public Comment

- MEPA Process
 - Publish projects in the Environmental Monitor
 - 30 days for public comment
 - Then MEPA provides their comments/ruling



The screenshot displays the homepage of the MEPA Environmental Monitor. At the top left is the logo for Energy & Environmental Affairs, featuring a circular emblem with a shield and the text "Energy & Environmental Affairs" above "MEPA Environmental Monitor". To the right of the logo are navigation links for "HOME", "SEARCH" (with a dropdown arrow), and "RESOURCES".

The main content area on the left contains a descriptive paragraph: "The Environmental Monitor is a bi-weekly publication that provides notice of new projects that have been submitted to the MEPA Office for review, other projects currently under review, certificates, and public notices." Below this text is a red button labeled "VIEW RECENT EDITION" with a circular arrow icon.

Below the button is a search section titled "Search a Publication" with the instruction "(Select a Year first)". It includes two dropdown menus: "Year" (set to "2023") and "Publication Date" (set to "Jul 10, 2023"), followed by a "GO" button with a right-pointing arrow.

On the right side of the page is a large, colorful illustration. It features a central globe with various environmental icons connected to it by lines. The icons include a house, a tree, a recycling symbol, a lightbulb, a water drop, a wind turbine, a solar panel, a plug, a recycling symbol, a hand holding a globe, a leaf, a cloud, a sun, a water tap, a recycling symbol, a lightbulb, a house, a tree, a recycling symbol, a lightbulb, a water drop, a wind turbine, a solar panel, a plug, a recycling symbol, a hand holding a globe, a leaf, a cloud, a sun, a water tap, a recycling symbol, a lightbulb, a house, a tree, a recycling symbol, a lightbulb, a water drop, a wind turbine, a solar panel, a plug, a recycling symbol, a hand holding a globe, a leaf, a cloud, a sun, a water tap, a recycling symbol.

Interconnection and Public Comment

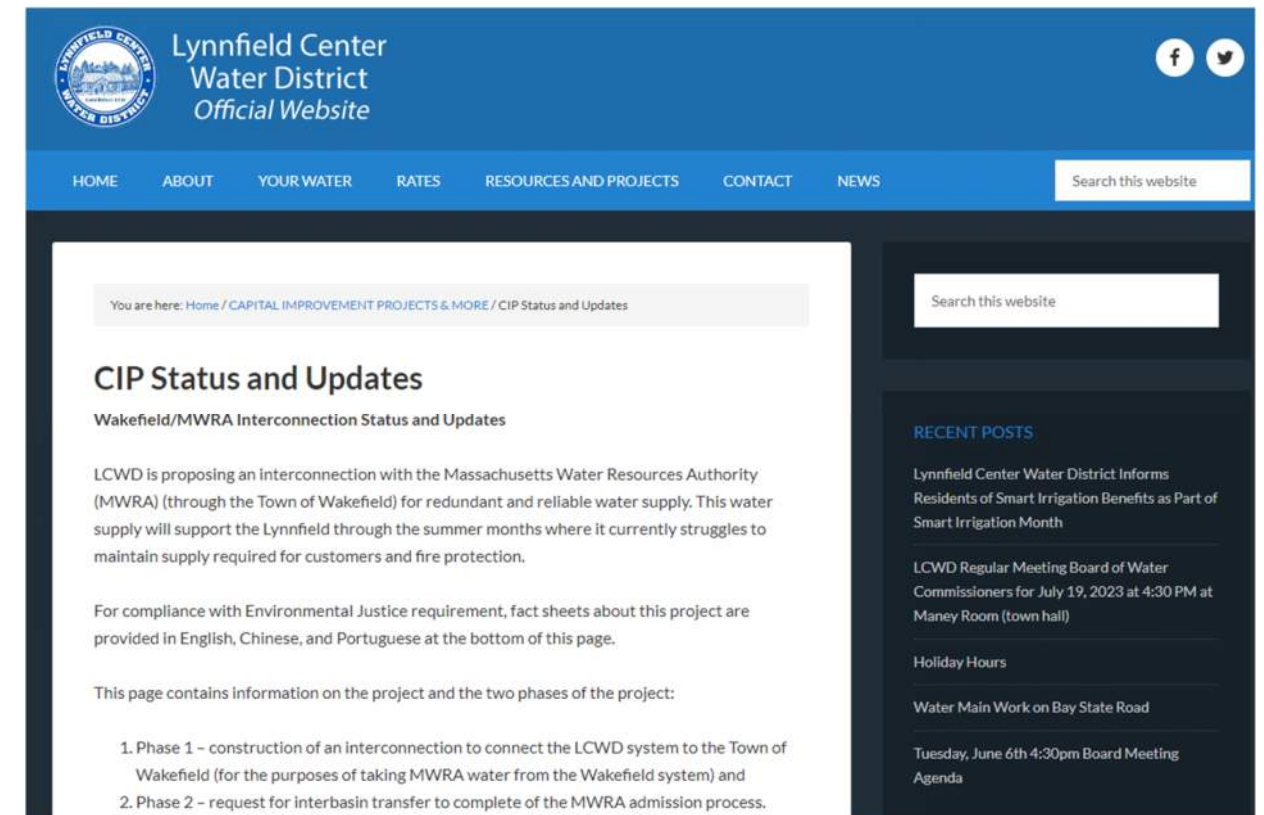
- Interconnection Project and MEPA
 - Two project phases:
 - **Phase 1** – construction of an interconnection to connect the LCWD system to the Town of Wakefield (for the purposes of taking MWRA water from the Wakefield system) and
 - **Phase 2** – request for interbasin transfer to complete of the MWRA admission process.
 - Interconnection is critical to LCWD to provide redundant emergency water supply (which can be accomplished with **Phase 1** alone).

Interconnection and Public Comment

- Interconnection Project and MEPA (continued)
 - Special Review Procedure requested along with information on **Phase 1**, currently in public comment period (closes July 23, 2023)
 - Request is to have approval of the interconnection construction (**Phase 1**) independent of the interbasin transfer of water (**Phase 2**).
 - **Phase 2** (ITA) information to be submitted the end of July for the August 9, 2023 Environmental Monitor
- Communication with Environmental Justice Reference List - two emails with project information sent to in project impact area (5-mile radius)

Interconnection and Public Comment

- Website link for more information:
lcwd.us/capital-improvement-projects-and-more/cip-status-and-updates/
- Questions or comments on the filing can be sent to mepa@mass.gov
- Q&A today – information will be provided to MEPA as part of the project documentation/review





Q&A



Follow Up Actions

Next Steps

- CDM Smith to provide Q&A to MEPA from today's meeting
- Encourage additional public comment
- Proceed with final design for interconnection

