

RIWWA
Water Supply
Proposed Position Statement 2006

The Rhode Island Water Works Association recognizes that 60% of Rhode Island's citizens depend upon

1. one source of water, with one major reservoir that closely equals its safe yield.
2. one 80-year old treatment plant,
3. major transmission mains with reliability issues:
 - a 100 year-old 66" steel main and
 - a 35 year-old 102" concrete main that already has experienced one catastrophic failure along with other corrosion problems

The RIWWA further recognizes that currently

1. not all areas have sufficient water supplies to promote the economic well being of Rhode Island,
2. and many areas do not have adequate water supplies in the event of a long-term drought or major emergency.
3. there are insufficient groundwater supplies to meet these requirements

Therefore, the RIWWA recommends that a new major source(s) of supply must be constructed to provide backup capacity for the Scituate Reservoir and its related treatment and transmission components. In addition, the new source(s) must be able to provide sufficient additional capacity to ensure a healthy economy for the benefit of the citizens of Rhode Island.