



Commonwealth of Virginia

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Stefanie K. Taillon
Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources

Michael S. Rolband, PE, PWD, PWS Emeritus
Director

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

To:

The Honorable Glenn Youngkin, Governor
Glenn.Youngkin@governor.virginia.gov

The Honorable L. Louise Lucas
Chair, Senate Committee on Finance and
Appropriations
senatorlucas@senate.virginia.gov

The Honorable Luke E. Torian
Chair, House Committee on Appropriations
DelLTorian@house.virginia.gov

The Honorable David L. Bulova
Vice-Chair, Chesapeake Bay Commission
DelDBulova@house.virginia.gov

The Honorable Robert S. Bloxom, Jr.
Member, Chesapeake Bay Commission
DelRBloxom@house.virginia.gov

The Honorable Richard H. Stuart
Member, Chesapeake Bay Commission
senatorstuart@senate.virginia.gov

The Honorable Stefanie K. Taillon
Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources
Stefanie.Taillon@governor.virginia.gov

The Honorable David W. Marsden
Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation
and Natural Resources
senatormarsden@senate.virginia.gov

The Honorable Alfonso H. Lopez
Chair, House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake
and Natural Resources
DelALopez@house.virginia.gov

The Honorable Alex Q. Askew
Member, Chesapeake Bay Commission
DelAAskew@house.virginia.gov

The Honorable Jeremy S. McPike
Member, Chesapeake Bay Commission
senatormcpike@senate.virginia.gov

From: Mike Rolband

Date: December 19, 2025

Subject: Alexandria Combined Sewer Overflow Outfall Progress Report (2025)

In accordance with the 2017 Virginia Acts of Assembly Chapters 826 and 827, the Department of Environmental Quality is transmitting the attached 2025 General Assembly Report for Virginia Pollution Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit VA0025160 from Alexandria Renew Enterprises (AlexRenew).

If you have any questions concerning this report or would like a hard copy of this report, please contact Brandon Bull, Director – Policy, at (804) 698-4092.



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October 20, 2025

via Electronic Mail

Richard Doucette
Director, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Northern Regional Office
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193-1453

Subject: 2025 General Assembly Report for Virginia Pollution Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit VA0025160 – RiverRenew Program, Alexandria, VA

Dear Mr. Doucette:

In accordance with Part V, Paragraph I.5 of the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit VA0025160, effective through June 30, 2026, AlexRenew is submitting this letter to report on the implementation status of the approved 2018 Long Term Control Plan Update (LTCPU), now branded as RiverRenew. Once operational, RiverRenew will prevent over 120 million gallons of combined sewage from polluting the Potomac River and its tributaries each year. AlexRenew is grateful for the continued support from the General Assembly and Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) as we implement this historic initiative.

RiverRenew has entered its final year of construction, with crews focused on meeting the statutory deadline of July 1, 2026. Since the last reporting period, AlexRenew has achieved several significant milestones on RiverRenew that bring us closer to cleaner waterways for our region. Among the most significant was the completion of the Hoofts Run Interceptor and Pendleton Street Diversion Facility (Outfall 019).

The completion of the Hoofts Run Interceptor established early control of combined sewer overflows from Outfall 022 prior to substantial completion, reducing the average frequency of events from 44 to four (4). Full control as outlined in the LTCPU will be realized when the wet weather pumping station comes online in 2026. The infrastructure initiative also included the construction of a new riparian buffer along Hoofts Run, installation of 4,000 native trees and shrubs within African American Heritage Park, enhanced public walking trails and boardwalk, and new wayfinding signage telling the story of Alexandria's rich African American history. In June, over 200 community members gathered to celebrate this achievement and the reopening of African American Heritage Park, marking the culmination of a multi-year effort to protect and restore this vital waterway.

At the Pendleton Street site, crews completed construction of the new diversion facility that will prevent millions of gallons of combined sewage from polluting the Potomac River each year. Built along Oronoco Bay and the Potomac River waterfront, the underground facility has been topped with a new public promenade. In October, AlexRenew hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the transformation of this area into a vibrant new space that will connect the community to a healthier Potomac River.

As major activities wrapped up at the construction sites adjacent to Outfalls, crews continued to make significant progress on the tunnel dewatering and wet weather pumping stations at AlexRenew's wastewater plant. The state-of-the-art pumps, manufactured by Flygt in Emmaboda, Sweden as well as the major mechanical, electrical, and plumbing equipment have been installed within the 12-story deep shaft and superstructure. Staff and crews remain focused on startup and commissioning of the system to meet the statutory deadline by July 1, 2026.

Consistent with prior reports to the General Assembly, this document primarily provides updates on the Tunnel System Project. It also includes a programmatic discussion of cost and funding, covering expenditures on the Tunnel System Project as well as the three (3) RiverRenew projects completed as of May 2021.

RiverRenew Tunnel System Project Progress

The Tunnel System Project is approaching 90 percent completion. Major milestones for each Project component are outlined in Table 1 and supported by Figure 1, which illustrates the work.



Figure 1. Tunnel System Project location map and components

Table 1. Major Tunnel System Project milestones since the last reporting period (October 11, 2024)

| Project Component | Proposed Facilities | Major 2025 Milestones | Construction % Complete |
|-------------------|--|--|-------------------------|
| Waterfront Tunnel | 2.2-mile-long, 12-foot-diameter tunnel constructed by tunnel boring machine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A – completed in 2024 and ready for service | 100 |
| AlexRenew | 65- and 35-foot-diameter Pumping and Screening shafts (respectively); diversion chamber; 20 and 180 MGD pumping stations; superstructure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shaft structural concrete completed Pumps and major process piping, HVAC, mechanical, and electrical systems installed within shafts Superstructure concrete/masonry walls and floors completed up to the second story (building is 4 stories) | 75 |
| Pendleton Street | 35-foot-diameter shaft; diversion chamber; overflow structure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed and ready for service | 100 |
| Royal Street | 35-foot-diameter shaft; diversion chamber | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal concrete shaft hydraulic structures completed Concrete work associated with the approach channel completed | 90 |
| Hooffs Run | 0.5-mile-long, 6-foot-diameter sewer interceptor; diversion chamber | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interceptor completed and placed into service, diversion facility complete | 100 |

RiverRenew Tunnel System Project Schedule

A general schedule showing original and projected dates for each project component is illustrated in Figure 2. This schedule reflects legislation that was passed during the 2024 Virginia General Assembly session to extend the project's statutory deadline by one year to July 1, 2026. The project is on track to be operational by the statutory deadline.

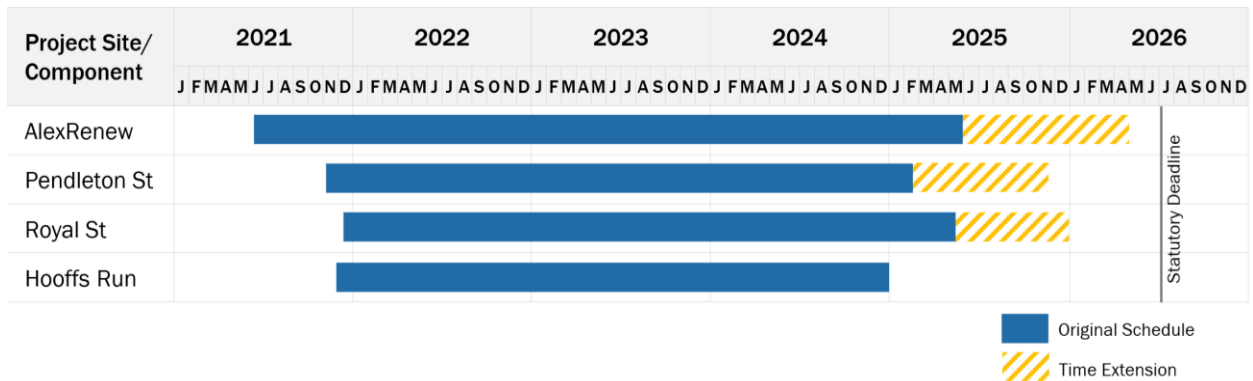


Figure 2. Generalized schedule for the Tunnel System Project

RiverRenew Program Cost and Funding

AlexRenew has invested nearly \$550 million in the RiverRenew capital program to-date, which includes \$375 million expended on the Tunnel Project alone. So far, the program has invested over \$275 million into the Commonwealth, supporting 250 local firms that provide a wide range of employment opportunities throughout the region.

The RiverRenew capital program is financed through a \$185 million loan through the Virginia Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund (VCWRLF), a \$321 million loan through EPA's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA), and \$140 million in state grants. The VCWRLF loan was expended in June 2023 and the state grants were fully expended in August 2025. The remaining program funding is solely through the WIFIA loan, which is approximately 50 percent spent.

To repay the loans procured to fund RiverRenew, AlexRenew implemented a series of rate increases starting in 2018. In July 2025, AlexRenew adopted its fourth two-year rate increase to provide the funding necessary for AlexRenew's debt payments for RiverRenew. In total, average rates for a residential customer have increased by over 55 percent. While the grant funding received from the Commonwealth helped to lower rate increases, Alexandria customers are still experiencing rate shock due to the significant program expenditure coupled with the aggressive schedule imposed by the Commonwealth.

Community Outreach and Engagement

AlexRenew continues to prioritize community outreach by proactively communicating construction activities, providing unique pathways to understanding complex technical components, sharing major milestones, and educating all Alexandrians about the largest infrastructure project in our city's history.

Throughout 2025, AlexRenew leveraged email newsletters, social media, flyers, digital and traditional signage, and in-person events to ensure residents remained up to date on construction progress. As crews reached major project milestones, AlexRenew welcomed community members to celebrate, ask questions, and learn more about RiverRenew. Hooffs Run Dedication Day and the Grand Opening of the Pendleton Street Promenade (noted above) marked two important opportunities for crews and staff to engage with residents and highlight restoration efforts and the benefits of the new infrastructure. In addition, AlexRenew welcomed over 140 community members for tours of its wastewater treatment plant, where it provided additional information about the superstructure and pumping station that will be used to lift flows from the Waterfront Tunnel. Each of these events allowed AlexRenew to better connect with the community and share valuable details about its critical environmental initiative.

To reach its youngest community members, AlexRenew leverages characters and children's books that tell the RiverRenew story in a simple yet meaningful way. In February, AlexRenew released its third book in a series of five, *Moxie's Magical Tunnel Tour*. The story shares how the tunnel operates and how it will benefit the community and its waterways for future generations. AlexRenew partnered with Alexandria Public Schools to distribute free copies of the book series to elementary school libraries. In addition, AlexRenew staff visited local schools to read the stories to second and third grade students.

In December 2024, as construction activity at external sites moved closer to completion and the risk of local disruptions to the Alexandria community lessened, the RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory

Group (SAG) and the City Council-AlexRenew Board Workgroup (CBWG) were formally concluded. These groups have provided invaluable feedback and acted as community liaison to the Alexandria community, making the RiverRenew program stronger. AlexRenew is thankful for their many efforts and diligent work and maintains ongoing open communication with former group members.

Closing

As we approach the final stages of this transformative initiative, AlexRenew remains mission-driven in our commitment to delivering cleaner waterways, resilient infrastructure, and lasting environmental benefits for the Alexandria community. We look forward to completing the RiverRenew program on schedule and continuing to serve as stewards of public health and environmental progress across the region.

AlexRenew is thankful for the Commonwealth's continued support as we build a brighter future for our waterways. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact me directly at (703) 785-8037 or justin.carl@alexrenew.com.

Sincerely,



Justin Carl
AlexRenew General Manager and CEO

Cc: Sarah Sivers, Water Permits and Planning Manager
Susan Mackert, Environmental Specialist II, Senior II, VDEQ
Caitlin Feehan, AlexRenew Chief Administrative Officer
Preston Bryant, McGuireWoods Consulting
Ryan Payne, RiverRenew Program Manager

Encl.: RiverRenew Tunnel Project Update Flyer

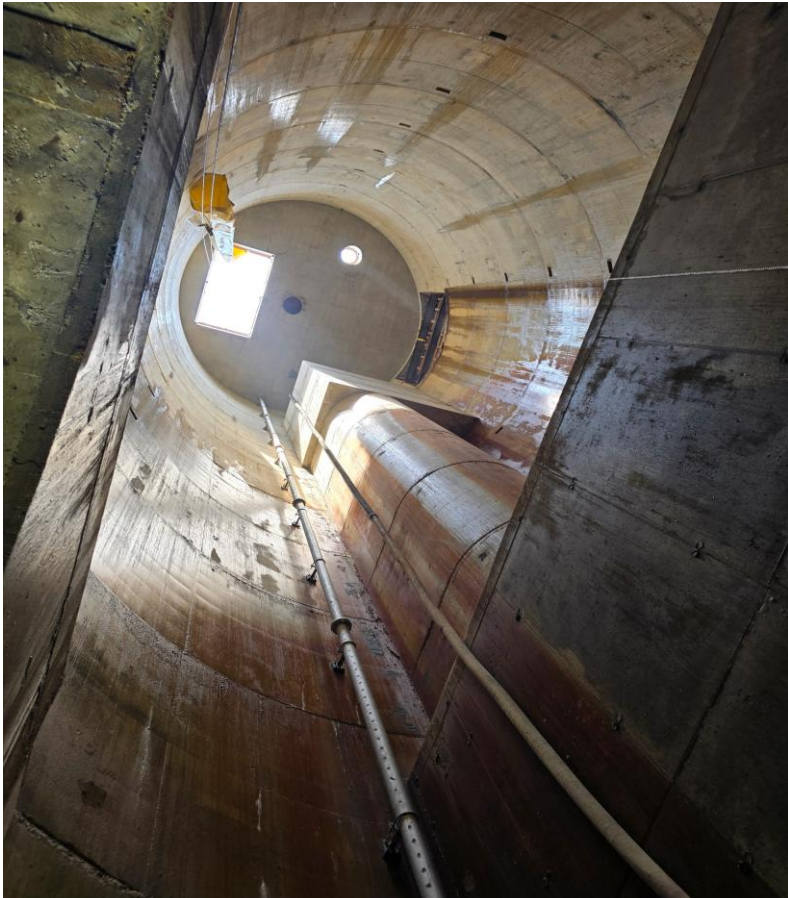
Alexandria CSO Project Update

October 2025




AlexRenew

Learn More at [RiverRenew.com](https://www.RiverRenew.com)



Crews continue to make significant progress as we enter the final year of Alexandria's CSO project

