

A Critically Threatened Water Supply

Since its commissioning in 1917, the Batavia Water Treatment Plant (WTP) has experienced a gradual decline in efficiency and capacity. Today, many of its vital components teeter on the brink of failure, threatening to disrupt the water supply to the entire county at any moment.

Further complicating matters is that the Batavia WTP relies on groundwater wells and an aquifer with unpredictable water levels. Additionally, heavy rain and runoff into the nearby Tonawanda Creek result in heightened turbidity levels, impeding filtration and exacerbating operational challenges. This strain is further compounded by an unforeseen surge in water demand, driven by collaborations with major local food processes like HP Hood and Oatka Milk.







City of Batavia Water Treatment Plant

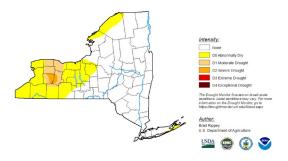


Securing Support

While \$31.75 M has been acquired through various channels, the remaining financial need of \$169.25 M for phases 3 and 4 presents a significant obstacle. This amount surpasses the capacity of both Genesee County and its residents, emphasizing the urgency of external funding sources to unlock the project's full potential.

A State of Emergency

In addition to existing challenges, the severe drought conditions experienced by the southeastern portion of Genesee County, including the Town of Bethany, in 2023, exacerbated the need for reliable water sources.



NYS Drought Monitor (droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

Approximately 100 residences and two dairy farms faced dire circumstances, leaving residents without essential water services for everyday tasks such as cooking, showering, and laundry and dairy facilities resorting to hauling 60,000 gallons of water daily to sustain livestock.

The severity of the drought led Bethany to declare a State of Emergency in December 2023, highlighting the region's urgent need for sustainable water infrastructure solutions.

Fluid Solutions

Communities should never wonder what will come out of their faucet. By addressing the Batavia WTP's vulnerabilities, the project strengthens the county's water infrastructure, ensuring a reliable water supply and mitigating concerns about quality and capacity. Furthermore, it supports local industries, creates jobs, cultivates a skilled workforce and drives economic growth.

Equity is also central to the project, ensuring fair access to safe water through collaboration with the Monroe County Water Authority (MCWA) and attracting investment for regional stability.