

**From:** [Kamman, Neil](#)  
**To:** [Bristol Town Administrator](#)  
**Cc:** [Batchelder, Jason](#); [Monks, Padraic](#); [Pembrook, Heather](#); [Moore, Julie](#); [cbray@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:cbray@leg.state.vt.us); [Amy Sheldon](#); [Blatt, Eric](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Town of Bristol letter expressing frustration and seeking help to break through DWSRF loan delays  
**Date:** Thursday, February 22, 2024 5:00:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [Letter Moore re Bristol DWSRF loans delay 2024-02-21.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

---

Good Day Valerie,

We've not met yet, and I am the Director of the Water Investment Division at DEC. I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter to Secretary Moore yesterday and provide an initial response.

Firstly, please understand that the delay in issuing Bristol's loan is absolutely regrettable and is not in any way reflective of the goals our Division holds to support municipalities. Like you, the Division fully supports the need to capitalize on a record infusion of federal infrastructure financing capacity. In your shoes, I would view the timeline you have experienced just as unacceptably as you do. As your letter alludes, the Division began to experience the bow wave of applications generated by this federal infusion of funds well before we were able to upsize staff to accommodate it, and also during a period of complete staff turnover in the drinking water revolving loan program. Our project developers have faced mounting numbers of applications, yet at this time we are now in a position to dig out. While I can tell you "we are working on it," I also understand the inadequacy of such a response.

I have consulted my colleagues including Mr. Monks and we will commit to providing additional information on the timeline of your loan by COB Monday. I am confident we can make sure that Bristol's loan is administered just as soon as is practicable.

As your letter also noted, Bristol has more work in the queue. In WID, we have a number of process improvement efforts underway to ensure that we can avoid situations like this in the future. As you approach the financing of the next project, please note that your experience will smoother and more transparent.

Relatedly, as a Vergennes resident, I can attest to seeing Bristol's efforts in action nearly every day that I drive thru. Bristol should be commended for taking proactive steps to upgrade your ~1905 water system components. There are towns in Vermont that still have pipes laid during the administration of President Lincoln.

I am available to discuss this matter further, but please look to hear back from us early next week.

Respectfully,

-----  
Neil C. Kamman, Director, Water Investment Division (*he/his*)  
Department of Environmental Conservation

1 National Life Dr., Main 2  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3522  
802 490-6137 | 802 828 1550 (LL), [neil.kamman@vermont.gov](mailto:neil.kamman@vermont.gov)  
<https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment>



The Department of Environmental Conservation supports telework, and there are times when I may be working from another office location. I am available to connect by phone and email. I am also available to connect in-person upon request.

---

**From:** Bristol Town Administrator <[townadmin@bristolvt.org](mailto:townadmin@bristolvt.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 21, 2024 3:00 PM  
**To:** Moore, Julie <[Julie.Moore@vermont.gov](mailto:Julie.Moore@vermont.gov)>  
**Cc:** Batchelder, Jason <[Jason.Batchelder@vermont.gov](mailto:Jason.Batchelder@vermont.gov)>; Pembroke, Heather <[Heather.Pembroke@vermont.gov](mailto:Heather.Pembroke@vermont.gov)>; Monks, Padraic <[Padraic.Monks@vermont.gov](mailto:Padraic.Monks@vermont.gov)>; Christopher Bray <[cbray@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:cbray@leg.state.vt.us)>; Amy Sheldon <[asheldon@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:asheldon@leg.state.vt.us)>  
**Subject:** Town of Bristol letter expressing frustration and seeking help to break through DWSRF loan delays  
**Importance:** High

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [townadmin@bristolvt.org](mailto:townadmin@bristolvt.org). [Learn why this is important](#)

**EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.**

Dear Secretary Moore,

Please find attached a letter from me expressing the Town of Bristol's frustration and concern with the long delays in receiving the Step II and Step III loan agreements through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund we are relying on to pay for the c. 1905 waterline replacement project completed last year and we are seeking assistance from you and your team to break through the logjam.

Please let me/us know if you need any other information.

Thank you for your attention to this situation,

--Valerie

Valerie Capels, Town Administrator  
Town of Bristol  
1 South Street  
P.O. Box 249  
Bristol, VT 05443

P: (802) 453-2410 Ext. 1

F: (802) 453-5188

E: [townadmin@bristolvt.org](mailto:townadmin@bristolvt.org)

W: [www.bristolvt.org](http://www.bristolvt.org)

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/bristolvt/>

IG: <https://www.instagram.com/townofbristolvt/>

Please note this email message, along with any response or reply, may be considered a public record subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Law (1 V.S.A. §§ 315-320).