



March 6, 2026

Trine Construction Corp.
1041 Trine Court Suite A.
St. Charles, Illinois, 60174

RE: Lead Service Line Replacement FY26
IEPA Loan Project Number: L177418 Village Acknowledgement

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of the Village of Homewood (Village), we received your letter of protest dated March 5, 2026 regarding the Village's Lead Service Line Replacement FY26 project (Project). The Project is a matter of public health for the residents of Homewood, and the Village cannot afford to do the Project without the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan. The SRF requirements to adhere to Illinois and Federal Law are stipulated in the Contract Drawings and by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The "Information for Bidders" states the following:

"The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 40 CFR Part 33 in the award and administration of contracts awarded under EPA financial assistance agreements. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract which may result in the termination of this contract or other legally available remedies. Each BIDDER is responsible for inspecting the site and for reading and being thoroughly familiar with the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS. The failure or omission of any BIDDER to do any of the foregoing shall in no way relieve any BIDDER from any obligation in respect to his BID."

Additionally, the "Advertisement for Bidders" states the following:

"This procurement is also subject to the loan recipient's policy regarding the increased use of disadvantaged business enterprises. The loan recipient's policy requires all bidders to undertake specified affirmative efforts at least sixteen (16) days prior to bid opening."

The above is also specified in the following IEPA document:

https://epa.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/epa/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving-fund/documents/plans-specs-review-checklist-and-front-end-docs_pwslp.pdf

The IEPA, in correspondence provided to Trine, confirmed that all of the above is correct, in particular the minimum 16-day Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) advertising requirement.

Trine has acknowledged their advertisement to DBEs was not published 16-days before Bid Opening due to administrative error. The IEPA has confirmed that Trine did not meet project bidding requirements and further verified that Trine's DBE advertisement from the bid dated December 2, 2025 is from a different bid and is not interchangeable with the project bid



February 23, 2026. The IEPA has further stated that the Village is at risk of losing the funding if Trine is awarded the project.

As a result of the items above, the Project will not be awarded to Trine.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul St. Aubyn, PE".

Paul St. Aubyn, PE
Project Manager

Cc: Napoleon Haney, Village of Homewood
Bryan Smith, IEPA