

**Answers**  
FROM PAGE A4

where that number's coming from. Why was such a high number requested?

**Bjorn:** I know what we're going to consume, and that is maximum 125 thousand gallons. And that's not every day, it's going to vary. On dry days, where we don't do any rain-water harvesting, as we call it, then we might, then the process requires up to 125,000 gallons a day. But that will not be average daily consumption. The 500,000 gallons is the capacity planned for the pipeline, including what other consumers might need in the future at the site once it is fully developed.

**Cook:** How much water would the plant be discharging do you think per day into the public sewer?

**Andersen:** As far as I remember its 25,000 gallons.

**Boi:** No, 20,000.

**Cook:** So, somewhere in there. Charles Town Utility Board officials said they heard 40,000 a day.

**Andersen:** I think the official one that is being put out right now is 27,000. But our expectation is that we're under 20,000 gallons.

**Cook:** And then some of that water is going to be treated on-site to take out what, exactly? What's going to be happening; how is it going to be treated before it gets discharged into the sewer system?

**Andersen:** If you look at what water we're discharging, there's nothing from the manufacturing process that leaves the plant. So the water going into the sewer is the normal water from toilets, from the sink, from the bath and from the kitchen. So, normal household sanitary wastewater.

We also have a softening plant because we use soft water to cool down our process equipment. If we don't — the water is quite hard, so there's a lot of lime in it — so if we don't de-scale it as it's called, de-mineralize it, it will scale up our process equipment very fast because we use cooling above 65 degrees C. I don't know what it is in fahrenheit, but I'm sure you can check. Then you build up lime and destroy the process equipment, same as you do when you boil it in a kettle at home, you also build up lime.



ROBERT SNYDER

**Rockwool's Bjorn Rici Andersen said being a good corporate citizen is important. "We take our environmental footprint very seriously. We take sustainability very seriously. We are not a company that puts profit first, we are a company with high ethics, values and we are in it for the long run."**

So we take the minerals and salts out of the water. We take the minerals out of the water by a filtrating process called reverse osmosis, as well as a desalination plant. What happens when you do that, of course, you take out all the minerals out of the water. And that has to be discharged again.

And then what you do, is you back flush. I'm talking in commoner terms now. You back flush the filter, to clean it so you don't clog them up. That back flush is what goes into the sewer. So it is the same as drinking water, just with a higher concentration of the minerals and salts, which was in the water in the first place.

**Cook:** Would Rockwool be prepared if it didn't obtain the sewer, public utilities such as sewer, gas, or water — could they still operate the plant without those? In other words, maybe build a sewer treatment plant on site or something of that nature?

**Andersen:** First of all, you need to have the utilities committed in order to get the building permit. But in principle, yes. In principle, we could operate the plant with gas delivered in tanks. We could operate by taking the sewage out of a septic tank if we have one that is big enough, or take it away by tankers if you allow us to do that. It is very hypothetical for us. At the end of the day you need to have the community utilities and the plant utilities to get the building permit. Actually, we could build our own well. I mean there's plenty of water under the ground, but why would we do that? Why would we not work with the utility companies to create value in the local area and improve the infrastructure, be part of so-

ciety. That's just living on our own small island. To me that makes no sense. We want to be an intimate part of the environment but should we be forced to do so that is one option we will be doing, of course.

**Cook:** Have you discussed or explored the issue of the opioid crisis in the area and whether that may impact your ability to man the plant, and are you going to be doing drug screening of the employees?

**Andersen:** We are going to do what we are allowed to do according to the labor laws of West Virginia. If there are issues, problems, we'll have to deal with it as any other responsible employer would have to do. We are operating a big plant. We cannot have people that are intoxicated inside. If it is allowed to do screenings in order to help people, then we will do that. We do that in other plants in the world. In Eastern Europe, there can be quite a big alcohol problem, so there we do random alcohol checks, according to the law. And that means when I visit that plant, I also risk to be pulled down. It's done fully randomly. Before we started, we had a lot of discussions with various stakeholders if we would be able to recruit the skilled people we need. And the conclusion was that it would be possible, but, of course, we would be competing with the likes of Proctor and Gamble and the cement factory and others. What's important for us is that if we discover any of our employees have issues, we normally also take the responsibility to try and help them. We don't just dump people in the street.

**Snyder:** Are you in contact

with the economic development people who helped to recruit Rockwool to the area? The sense I'm getting is, you folks are here responding to this on your own, but the people that helped to bring you here, I'm not hearing as much from them, and I wonder if they're still working with you.

**Andersen:** We have on purpose not initiated contacts to discuss these issues with government elected officials. They have to do their job, and we have to do our job. I think what they're doing is the right thing, and I'm happy with the support that they're giving us on a continuous basis in inviting us into the council meetings, allowing us to do our presentations, allowing us to answer the questions of both the concerns the citizens might have, as well as the concerns that they have. And I prefer that, so I'm absolutely satisfied with that process. I'm also absolutely satisfied with the fact that they take the responsibility they do in being sure we get that opportunity.

**Cook:** But wouldn't DEP officials have more credibility in the public's eyes to explain their permitting process and their pollution levels that are permitted, for them to step in and explain it rather than put you on the spot to explain?

**Andersen:** But I don't feel that anybody's putting us on the spot, except the citizens, and that's OK. I don't feel that the politicians are putting us on the spot. If you look at Sen. Manchin's letter, I thought that was a very balanced letter, asking some very specific, good questions, and I really liked the quote: "You know, everybody's

(See **ANSWERS** Page A12)

**'Pique'** FROM PAGE A2

gal ads are running in the Spirit on certain days and in The Journal on certain days.

It's about meeting the legal requirement set by the state, Onoszko said, "as opposed to something practical. It's demonstrably unpractical to rely on print journalism."

Compton then says that had the Rockwool legal notice that ran in the Spirit in November been printed instead in The Journal's legal section, "I guarantee you probably there's a better chance of somebody somewhere noticing that versus a paper printed four times a month."

Compton went on to say

he wouldn't have agreed to have the Rockwool legal notice run the week of Thanksgiving.

Snyder pointed out that the Spirit has a seven-day shelf life, unlike a daily paper which is replaced with a new edition every morning.

"Rockwool opponents have said they missed the notice because it ran during a busy period around Thanksgiving," he said. "If the county had run the notice in The Journal, it would have been out for just one day during that busy week."

"It would be confusing," Noland says. "People aren't going to know what paper to look in for what. It's hard enough to get [the public] to look at one [newspaper]."

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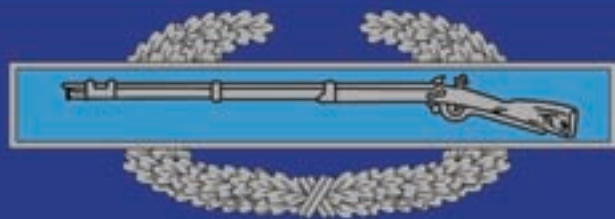
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**for Delegate**

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John exhibited the same level of dedication during his service in the Legislature. He fought for teachers, cooks, custodians, bus drivers, taxi drivers, police officers, nurses, pipefitters, plumbers, carpenters, mechanics, office workers, farmers, small business owners and for workers in every other imaginable occupation that lead everyday lives. John Doyle will fight for us all again.

West Virginia's environmental laws are too weak (ex: **ROCKWOOL**). John will fight to make them **STRONGER**.

Our teachers, school service workers and state employees are paid **VERY POORLY**. John will see that they are paid **FAIRLY**.

John Doyle believes that **AFFORDABLE EDUCATION** is the key to an improved economy that works for us all. He has a **RECORD TO PROVE IT**.

Authorized by Doyle for Delegate, Rod Snyder, Treasurer.