



Water Main Valve Repairs in Historic Areas Springfield, Illinois

City Water, Light and Power, “CWLP” located in Springfield, Illinois supplies domestic water for more than 44,000 residential and business customers. CWLP also provides retail water service to over 6,600 customers in areas surrounding the city. The population of CWLP’s total service territory is more than 155,000.

Springfield was established as the Capital of Illinois in 1837. Home to the state legislature, government facilities and supporting organizations, it is critical for the city’s municipal services to run smoothly and seamlessly. Abraham Lincoln resided in Springfield until he was sworn in as the country’s 16th president in 1861. Springfield is located in the middle of the state approximately 150 miles south of Chicago.

City Water Light and Power identified two problem valves, each more than 60 years old. The first valve, a 24”, located in a major intersection in the downtown area, had broken gears while in a 90% closed position. The second valve leaked considerably due to a cracked packing gland. This valve was coming off a transmission main one block from President Lincoln’s boyhood home.

Timing for the repair or replacement of each valve was critical. Street refurbishment was planned and could not be rescheduled.

City Water Light and Power chose Wachs Utility Services to rehabilitate the both valves. Rehabilitation was chosen over replacement to reduce service disruption to residents and local businesses in the historic area. Using highly skilled and experienced technicians, Wachs Utility Services rehabilitated both valves in one day avoiding any service disruptions.

CWLP rehabilitated two large valves for a fraction of replacement costs for one valve. Further, CWLP improved the hydraulics in the distribution system by correcting valve positioning and eliminating virtual dead ends. Economical valve repair fit their needs and Wachs Utility Services delivered.

The water division’s primary mission is to ensure that all utility customers have a safe and plentiful water supply.

