West End Trunk Line Microtunnel Project  
Coatesville, PA

PROJECT OVERVIEW AND CHALLENGES

To increase capacity and replace an aging sewer pipeline through the Arclermittal Steel facility in Coatesville, PA, Pennsylvania American Water needed to construct a new 30" gravity sewer that would not pass down the plant's main thoroughfare. Bradshaw Construction was contracted to build the trenchless portion this new line parallel to Valley Road. The 1,017' long tunnel was constructed in a single drive as the tunnel depths, up to 55', as well as work zone and no-blasting restrictions limited the ability to install any more than the launch and recovery shafts. Those liner plate shafts, up to 30' deep, were excavated through the limestone by only hammering the rock. Bradshaw then installed the 59" diameter steel casing and then 30" PVC as the final carrier pipe for the sewer pipeline. The gravity sewer was completed well within the alignment tolerances, ready to be incorporated into the sewer system.