

WATERTOWN YACHT CLUB

POST OFFICE BOX 137
425 CHARLES RIVER ROAD • WATERTOWN, MA 02471-0137
INCORPORATED - 1942
www.watertownyachtclub.org

RB

February 6, 2009

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Ian A. Bowles, Secretary
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge St, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Attn: MEPA Office

Re: Request for Advisory Opinion
Watertown Yacht Club
425 Charles River Rd. Watertown, MA

RECEIVED
FEB 9 - 2009
MEPA

Dear Secretary Bowles:

On behalf of the Watertown Yacht Club, I am requesting an advisory opinion pursuant to 310 CMR 11.01 (6), concerning MEPA jurisdiction over site work proposed on property permitted by the DCR to the WYC on the Charles River in Watertown. The question relates to the definition of "Replacement Project" in Section 11.02 of the regulations and clarification as to whether WYC's replacement of a marine railway, installed in, and in continuous use from, 1958 exceeds MEPA review thresholds.

The project will remove the rails and crossties of the old railway and replace them "in place" with a pre-fabricated set of tracks consisting of two 40-foot sections welded together on shore and emplaced by crane. The total area impacted will be approximately 960 sq. ft. of which approximately 120 sq. ft. will be on the sloped embankment and the remainder underwater.

There are no known endangered species in the work site. The entire site and the area of the railway is described in DEP File # 321-55 opened when the Club installed an above ground gas tank in 1997. A sketch from that project showing the site and railway is attached.

A Notice of Intent will be filed with the Watertown Conservation Commission and the DEP, and will trigger a Chapter 91 license application, both of which will require extensive public review.

I am hoping that the above information will demonstrate that our project has no impact on the environment and falls below the threshold for an Environmental Notification Form.

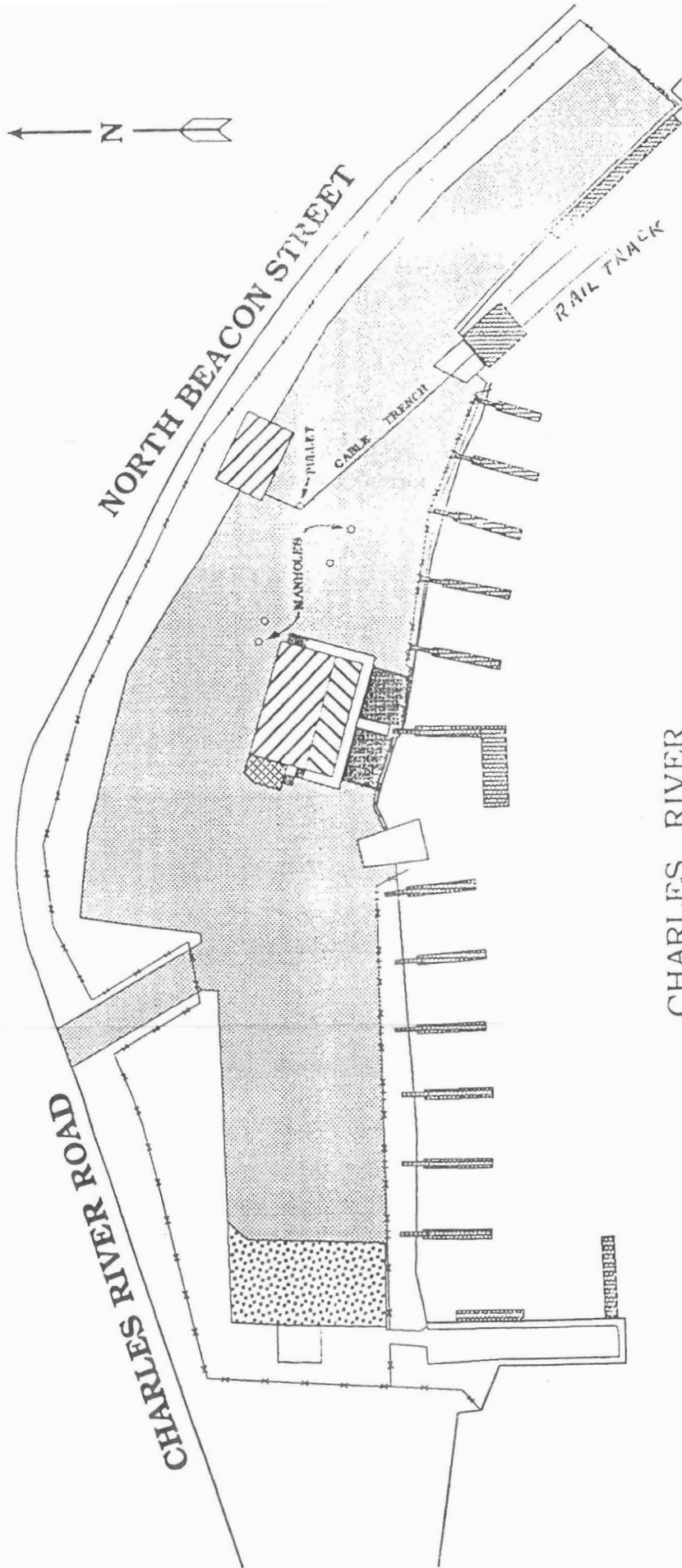
If you have any further questions I can be reached by phone at (617)504-3551 or by e-mail at rlevy@rcn.com

Sincerely,

Ralph B. Levy
Secretary

Cc: D. Slagle, DEP
R. Bourre, MEPA ✓

WATERTOWN YACHT CLUB YARD LAYOUT



CHARLES RIVER

- ASPHALT PARKING LOT
- FLOATING WOODEN DOCKS AND PLATFORMS
- CONCRETE SURFACE
- GRAVEL SURFACE

