



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

Massachusetts Water Resources Commission

**Receipt of a Request for Approval of
an Action to Increase the Present
Rate of Interbasin Transfer
Under the Interbasin Transfer Act
MGL Chapter 21 Section 8B-8D**

RECEIVED

OCT 15 2002

MEPA

On September 20, 2002, the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission received a request for approval of an action to increase the present rate of interbasin transfer under the Interbasin Transfer Act (M.G.L. Chapter 21 §§ 8B-8D) from the Town of Reading. The Town, which has land area in the Ipswich River basin, the Mystic River subbasin of the Boston Harbor basin and North Coastal basin, is applying for admission to the MWRA Waterworks System, which has sources in the Chicopee River basin and the Nashua River basin. Reading is proposing to purchase up to 0.6 million gallons per day (mgd) to supplement its existing water supply sources. The Commission is in the process of reviewing the application to assure that all required information has been provided.

An environmental review, pursuant to Section 61 & 62H, inclusive, of Chapter 30, is required for this proposed action. The Interbasin Transfer (IBT) application was submitted as part of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for this project (EOEA #12514).

Once the application has been accepted as complete by the Water Resources Commission, a public review and comment period commences. Two public hearings will be held. Written comments will also be accepted. After the close of the public comment period, WRC Staff will make a recommendation concerning the merits of the application. The WRC will hold an additional public hearing to take comments on the Staff's recommendation. Within 60 days of this final public hearing, the WRC must make a decision on the proposal.

As required by the Interbasin Transfer Act regulations (313 CMR 4.00), copies of this notice have been sent to the municipalities directly affected. Copies of the EIR/IBT application are available for review at the Reading Public Library, the Belchertown Public Library, the Clinton Public Library and at the Department of Environmental Management, Office of Water Resources, 251 Causeway Street, Suite 700, Boston, MA 02114. For further information, contact Michele Drury, (617) 626-1366 (michele.drury@state.ma.us).

251 Causeway Street, Suite 900, Boston MA 02114