



# *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

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January 20, 2006

## CERTIFICATE OF THE SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION FORM

PROJECT NAME : Choquette Residence  
PROJECT MUNICIPALITY : Princeton  
PROJECT WATERSHED : Chicopee  
EOEA NUMBER : 13701  
PROJECT PROPONENT : Noel Choquette  
DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR : December 21, 2005

Pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (G. L. c. 30, ss. 61-62H) and Section 11.06 of the MEPA regulations (301 CMR 11.00), I hereby determine that this project **does not require** the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report.

As described in the Environmental Notification Form (ENF), the proponent proposes to construct a single family house and detached barn structure, on a 32.78-acre parcel of property located off Hubbardston Road (Route 62) in Princeton. The project includes the construction of a 1,500 lf gravel driveway, 2 surface parking spaces, a private water supply well, and a subsurface sewage disposal system. The project is located within the Wachusett sub-watershed, and is subject to the regulations for the protection of Watersheds under the Watershed Protection Act (WsPA) (350 CMR 11.01).

The project is undergoing review pursuant to section 11.03 (3)(b)(1) (c) of the MEPA regulations, because the project will result in the alteration of 1,000 or more square feet (sf) of outstanding resource waters. The project will require a 401 Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and a 404 Programmatic General Permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE). The proposed project has received an Order of Conditions from the Princeton Conservation Commission on October 18, 2005 with no appeals filed. The project has received a WsPA Exemption pursuant to 11.05(3) from the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) for the construction of a single family dwelling on a lot that existed prior to July 1, 1992.

**Wetlands:**

As described in the ENF, the proposed driveway construction will involve two crossings of bordering vegetated wetland resource areas and will result in the alteration of approximately 2,500 sf of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW). The northern most crossing (wetland alteration area #2) will be spanned with a precast concrete slab and will incorporate 3 cross culverts to enable flow from the intermittent stream in this location, and will result in approximately 1,370 sf of impacts to BVW. The second wetland crossing (Wetland alteration area #1) will be constructed with appropriate fill material, and will result in approximately 1,120 sf of impacts to BVW.

Mitigation

According to the proponent's statements made at the MEPA Scoping Session for this project, the proponent has committed to a wetland mitigation plan involving the construction of approximately 2,500 sf (1:1) of wetlands replication to be located immediately north of Wetland alteration area #1.

DEP's permit process should contain conditions relative to the coordination of all work to be permitted for this site. The proponent can resolve any remaining issues regarding impacts to wetland resource areas, the technical specifications pertaining to the proposed driveway construction and the two proposed wetlands crossings, and the design and implementation of the proponent's proposed wetland mitigation plan, with DEP. I conclude that no further MEPA review is required. The review of the ENF has served to demonstrate that the impacts of the project do not warrant the preparation of an EIR.

January 20, 2006  
DATE

  
Stephen R. Pritchard, Secretary

Comments received: (None)

EOEA# 13701  
SRP/NCZ/ncz