



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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February 24, 2006

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## CERTIFICATE OF THE SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS ON THE NOTICE OF PROJECT CHANGE

PROJECT NAME : Downstream Repairs & Improvements to  
the Bolivar Pond Dam

PROJECT MUNICIPALITY : Bolivar Street - Canton

PROJECT WATERSHED : Neponset River

EOEA NUMBER : 13596

PROJECT PROPONENT : Town of Canton - Department of Public  
Works

DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR : January 25, 2006

Pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (G. L. c. 30, ss. 61-62H) and Section 11.10 of the MEPA regulations (301 CMR 11.00), I have reviewed the Notice of Project Change (NPC) submitted on this project and determine that it **does not require** further MEPA review.

The project originally consisted of the repair and modification of the upstream face of the dam by reconstructing the stone parapet that had collapsed and a small area of roadway, sidewalk, and curb. The project included repairing the main spillway and installing a flash rack and flash boards. There will be grading and rip-rap (approximately 500 cubic yards) added to the dam and spillway areas. These repairs were proposed to correct safety deficiencies. The dam is an earth/rockfill embankment with a roadway on top (Bolivar Street) and an historic building, the former Ames Shovel Shop Factory on the downstream side of the embankment. An old stone masonry wall, a portion of which has failed, retained the upstream side of the embankment. On September 9, 2005, the Secretary determined that the project did not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Certificate also stated that if the proponent undertakes any additional repairs to the downstream side of the dam, the proponent must submit an NPC.

This NPC was submitted for MEPA review on January 16, 2006.

The proponent has proposed downstream repairs and improvements to the Bolivar Pond Dam. It is proposing to remove the existing (former Ames Shovel Shop) building (8,500 sf). The proponent would repair and improve the existing wall along Bolivar Street. It would provide drainage improvements, side slopes, loaming and seeding, landscaping, and paving as required. The proponent is proposing two possible alternatives. Alternative A consists of removing the existing building and retaining the existing concrete wall in place along Bolivar Street. Alternative B consists of removing the existing building and constructing a new wall against the existing stone masonry wall along Bolivar Street. Both alternatives include the installation of a new drain system, granite curbing, filling and grading, loaming, seeding, and landscaping the side slope. New paving will be provided by the proponent, as required. The proponent will determine its preferred alternative during final design. The Canton Fire Department will provide wet down as the building is demolished to reduce dust. No additional impacts to wetlands will occur because of this portion of the project.

The proponent should provide the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) with current photographs of the former Ames Shovel Shop and adjacent properties. It should clarify the circumstances that necessitate the demolition and provide any feasibility analysis that has been completed to MHC.

Based on a review of the information provided by the proponent, a review of the comment letters, and after consultation with the relevant public agencies, I find that the potential impacts of this project change do not warrant the preparation of an EIR and can be handled by the permitting agencies. No further MEPA review is required for the Upstream and Downstream Repairs to the Bolivar Pond Dam.

February 24, 2006  
Date

  
Stephen R. Pritchard

cc: Nancy Baker, DEP/NERO

Comments received:

MHC, 2/6/06  
DEP/NERO, 2/14/06

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