



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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April 21, 2006

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

PROJECT NAME : Test Well Site 44-03
PROJECT MUNICIPALITY : Off Old Post Road – Barnstable (Marstons Mills)
PROJECT WATERSHED : Cape Cod
EOEA NUMBER : 13750
PROJECT PROPONENT : Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Water District
DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR : March 22, 2006

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 (EIR).

According to the Environmental Notification Form (ENF), the proposed project consists of the construction of a 24- by 48-inch gravel packed municipal well with a capacity of 990,000 gallons per day (gpd) . The proposed project will include the construction of a 600 square foot pump station. The pump station may eventually house containment for potassium hydroxide for iron, manganese, and nitrate removal. It will include an emergency generator. The proponent will also enhance the access roadway with gravel. The well is being developed to alleviate existing water supply deficiencies, create flexibility and reliability in the water system, improve fire protection, meet future demands, and take pressure off existing wells that have experienced deterioration in water quality. The proponent is not proposing to increase its overall water withdrawal. The project includes the installation of about 750 linear feet of 12-inch diameter water main from the new well to the distribution system. The project site is approximately 250 acres.

This project is subject to review pursuant to Section 11.03(4)(b)(1) of the MEPA regulations because it involves a new withdrawal of 100,000 or more gpd from a water source that requires new construction for the withdrawal. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will need to approve the Pumping Test Report. The project will also require a New Source

Approval, a Permit to Construct, and a Water Management Act Permit Amendment from DEP. MEPA jurisdiction is limited to those aspects of the project within the subject matter of state permits and that may have significant environmental impacts (water withdrawal and treatment).

The proponent currently is authorized by DEP to withdraw 3.57 million gallons per (average) day (mgd) or 1,303.05 million gallons per year from its existing sources through November 30, 2010. The addition of this proposed well to its withdrawal permit would provide redundancy; it would not authorize an increase in the total volume withdrawn by the system within the current permit period. The Zone I is approximately 11 acres and is controlled by the proponent. The estimated Zone II area for the well is approximately 608 acres.

The proponent operates a fully-funded water system in which customers pay for the actual cost of water. Water bills are based on an increasing block rate. The water system is 100 percent metered. All meters are replaced every ten years. All master meters are calibrated annually. The proponent conducts an annual water audit. The proponent has adopted a Water Use Restriction Bylaw, based on the DEP Model Bylaw, which allows the proponent to place restrictions on outdoor water use. A Voluntary Water Conservation Program is instituted each spring. The proponent has a public education program to inform customers of the efficient use of water. Water conservation kits are available for free to all customers. The installation of water saving devices and low-flow toilets are required in new construction and renovations. The Town of Barnstable has a Groundwater Protection Overlay District regulation in place, and a floor drain regulation that meets the requirements of 310 CMR 22.21(2)(a)(8).

There are several steps that the proponent could take to strengthen this program. The proponent should consider adding a seasonal price increase during hot and dry weather to its water conservation program, to discourage outdoor watering. The Town of Barnstable should adopt Low Impact Development (LID) techniques that maximize infiltration, minimize the need for irrigation, and encourage water-efficient appliances.

Based on a review of the information provided by the proponent and after consulting with the relevant public agencies, I find that the potential impacts of this project do not warrant the preparation of an EIR and can be adequately addressed in the DEP permitting process.

April 21, 2006
Date


Stephen R. Pritchard

cc: Sharon Stone, DEP/SERO

Comments received:

MA Div. of Marine Fisheries, 4/11/06

Cape Cod Commission, 4/11/06

EarthTech, 4/12/06

EarthTech, 4/13/06

DEP/SERO, 4/14/06

Watershed Hydrogeologic, 4/18/06

Watershed Hydrogeologic, 4/19/06

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