



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
 Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
 Boston, MA 02114

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
 GOVERNOR  
 TIMOTHY P. MURRAY  
 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
 IAN A. BOWLES  
 SECRETARY

Tel: (617) 626-1000  
 Fax: (617) 626-1181  
<http://www.mass.gov/envir>

May 11, 2007

CERTIFICATE OF THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
 ON THE  
 NOTICE OF PROJECT CHANGE

PROJECT NAME : Newbridge on the Charles (formerly known as the Senior Campus Community)  
 PROJECT MUNICIPALITY : Dedham  
 PROJECT WATERSHED : Charles River  
 EOE NUMBER : 13199  
 PROJECT PROPONENT : Hebrew Senior Life and the Rashi School  
 DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR : N/A

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 the proponent's request for a finding that the project change is insignificant. I hereby determine that the proposed change does not significantly increase the environmental consequences of the project. Therefore, a supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is not warranted and, pursuant to Section 11.10(6) of the MEPA regulations, the NPC shall not require publication in the *Environmental Monitor* and a comment period in accordance with 301 CMR 11.10(8).

A Certificate on the Final EIR (FEIR) for the project, with a determination that the FEIR adequately and properly complies with MEPA, was issued on March 18, 2005. According to the NPC, the project change consists of a closed-loop geothermal well system to be used for heating and cooling purposes, which will reduce the project's energy use and reliance on fossil fuels. The system includes approximately 400 boreholes, which will be approximately 500 feet deep. All wells will be located in upland areas outside of any resource area Buffer Zones and will not involve any water withdrawals from, or discharges to, the ground or the Charles River. The geothermal system will use approximately 62,000 gallons of water, which will be obtained from the Dedham-Westwood Water District public supply, and then re-circulated throughout the system.

According to the NPC, the project will not require any new state agency action. Based on consultations with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), it appears that the project, as proposed in the NPC, is consistent with MassDEP policy on regulatory requirements for closed loop geothermal system heat pump wells. Therefore, it is exempt from requirements for a Groundwater Discharge Permit. MassDEP has also confirmed that the proposed geothermal system will not require a Water Management Act (WMA) Permit. The geothermal wells will require registration under the Underground Injection Control (UIC) regulations, 310 CMR 27.00. MassDEP has suggested that the proponent investigate options such as propylene glycol (alone or mixed with water) for the proposed fluid medium since water can freeze unless continuously circulated through the system.

Based on review of the NPC and consultation with MassDEP, I have determined that the proposed project change does not warrant additional MEPA review. Any outstanding issues can be adequately addressed during the state and local review and approval process.

May 11, 2007

DATE



Ian A. Bowles, Secretary

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