



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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May 26, 2006

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

PROJECT NAME : Canton Comprehensive Water Resources  
Management Plan \ Evelyn Estates

PROJECT MUNICIPALITY : Canton

PROJECT WATERSHED : Boston Harbor

EOEA NUMBER : 12172

PROJECT PROPONENT : Tolman Street, LLC, Colm O'Shea

DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR : April 26, 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 determine that this project **does not require** the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The proponent has requested a Phase I Waiver to allow the first phase of the project to proceed, pending the preparation of a Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP)/Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project. The Phase I Waiver Request was presented within the Notice of Project Change submittal (NPC). In a Draft Record of Decision (DROD), also issued today, I have proposed to **grant** a Phase I Waiver with conditions allowing the proposed Evelyn Estates project to proceed while the DEIR is being prepared.

### Project History:

The Town of Canton is preparing a Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan (CWRMP) to determine the most effective disposal methods for existing and future wastewater disposal flows within the town. Approximately 60% of Canton is connected to the existing sewage collection system, which discharges to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) system. The remainder of the Town uses individually owned on-site Title 5 septic systems. The Town plans to extend sewer service to unsewered areas and to increase potable water supplies through construction of a new well, Well #9, to meet anticipated future demand.

In May 2004, the Town of Canton submitted a Phase I report as required by a Special Review Procedure for MEPA review created in accordance with 301 CMR 11.09. The Phase I document defined the wastewater disposal needs of the community and included a proposed scope for the Phase II report. The Phase I report included a needs analysis that identified high needs areas and neighborhoods where on-site wastewater disposal may not be a realistic long-term option. The Phase I report also indicated that Infiltration/Inflow (I/I) is a significant wastewater problem. In addition, as a condition for approval of an increase in the interbasin transfer rate, the WRC required that the Town of Canton offset withdrawals from Well #9 that are discharged out of the Neponset River Basin on a 2:1 basis. The Secretary's Certificate (June 14, 2004) on the Phase I Report, required the proponent to submit a Phase I Waiver Request to the MEPA Office for any future proposals for sewerage in the Town prior to the completion of an approved CWRMP/Final EIR under the Waiver provisions at 301 CMR 11.11.

#### **Phase I Waiver Request:**

Pursuant to Section 11.11 of the MEPA Regulations, the proponent is requesting a Phase I Waiver to construct a 237 linear foot (lf) cross-country extension of the Town of Canton's 8" sewer main within an existing right-of-way, and approximately 640 lf of new cross-country 8" sewer main within an existing utility easement corridor to the project's internal cul-de-sac roadway (400 lf) to serve an 8-lot residential subdivision (3,520 gallons per day (gpd)) located within a 5-acre development parcel on Tolman Street in Canton. According to the information provided in the NPC, the project site contains soils that could accommodate on-site Title 5 septic systems. As a result, the project site was not located within a sewer needs area identified under the Town of Canton's Sewer Needs Survey included in the proponent's Phase I Report previously reviewed by MEPA (June 2004). As currently proposed, the project will be served by the Town of Canton's municipal water supply system and municipal sewer collection by the Town of Canton for treatment by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's (MWRA) Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). According to DEP, the proponent must work closely with the Town of Canton to develop and implement an infiltration/inflow (I/I) removal program to enable sewer extension applicants to commit to the 4:1 removal of I/I to mitigate the project's water supply and wastewater impacts. The proponent will also need to satisfactorily address DEP's comments pertaining to the project's proposed stormwater management plan.

I also ask that the Town of Canton contact the MEPA Office to discuss the Town's schedule for submittal of the Phase II Report and completion of the CWRMP planning process. According to the comments received from DEP on the Phase I Report, the Town of Canton's Phase II report should update the information contained in the Phase I Report to develop water and wastewater estimates for the Town based on more recent population data, and recently completed sewer extension projects. The Town of Canton should ensure that the Phase II Report satisfactorily addresses the comments received from DEP on the Phase I Report. The Phase II Report must include a detailed description of Canton's I/I program.

Water Conservation

The proponent will need to demonstrate to DEP that the final project design meets the Commonwealth's water conservation standards. I strongly encourage the proponent to incorporate water conservation and water use efficiency in the project design to comply with the March 1989 state plumbing code. Specifically, the proponent should commit to employing efficient residential water conservation technologies for the project including water saving devices, low flow toilets, and low flow appliances (dishwashers, washing machines). The proponent should also consider implementing a Irrigation Management Plan (IMP) to further reduce the project's irrigation water demand. An IMP could involve the use of amended soils and compost, the planting of native and drought-tolerant species of trees, shrubs, and turf grasses, an automated water efficient irrigation system, and a water management protocol for drought conditions. I ask that the proponent consult with DEP, and refer to the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission's *Lawn and Landscape Water Conservation, An Addendum to the Water Conservation Standards for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, October 2002*, during the final design of the proponent's IMP.

I have reviewed the Notice of Project Change/Phase I Waiver request and supporting information and I find that the relatively small amount of wastewater flow generated from the proposed project (3,520 gallons per day (gpd)), will not result in a significant increase in wastewater flow to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's (MWRA) Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). Based on these facts, I hereby propose to grant the request for a Phase I Waiver for the Evelyn Estates project on Tolman Street in Canton.

May 26, 2006  
DATE

  
Stephen R. Pritchard, Secretary

## Comments received:

05/16/06      Water Supply Citizens Advisory Commission (WSCAC), MWRA  
05/16/06      Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection – SERO

NPC #12172 – Canton CWWMP, Evelyn Estates  
SRP/NCZ/ncz