



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

*Executive Office of Environmental Affairs*

*100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900*

*Boston, MA 02114-2524*

MITT ROMNEY  
GOVERNOR

KERRY HEALEY  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ROBERT W. GOLLEDGE, JR.  
SECRETARY

August 25, 2006

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

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

PROJECT NAME : Dune Stabilization & Beach Nourishment  
PROJECT MUNICIPALITY : Round Cove Barrier Beach - Harwich  
PROJECT WATERSHED : Cape Cod  
EOEA NUMBER : 13814  
PROJECT PROPONENT : Town of Harwich  
DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR : June 7, 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 the above project **does not require** the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

According to the Environmental Notification Form (ENF) and the supplemental information submitted on August 2 and 10, 2006, the Preferred Alternative has been revised because of state agency concerns regarding its ability to be permitted as originally proposed. The project consists of the maintenance dredging of approximately 1,370 cubic yards (cy) at the entrance channel to Round Cove. The proponent would pump and dewater 1,150 cy of sand onto the adjacent eroding barrier beach. The dune would be covered with compatible sand and vegetated with American Beach Grass. A feeder source of 220 cy of sediment would be placed and maintained along the beach, above Mean High Water (MHW), to the immediate north of the barrier beach as a future source for sand. Additional compatible sand material may also be utilized from an off-site source. This project will improve tidal flushing of Round Cove, salt marsh productivity, boating opportunities, and fish access to a greater area of the Cove. It will also stabilize an eroding barrier beach. The project site is about 3.3 acres in area and is located within the Pleasant Bay Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

The project is subject to MEPA review pursuant to Sections 11.03(3)(b)(1)(a), 11.03(3)(b)(1)(e), and 11.03(11)(b) because the project alters coastal dune/ barrier beach, adds new fill within a velocity zone, and is located within a designated ACEC. It will require a Chapter 91 Waterways License and a 401 Water Quality Certificate from the Department of

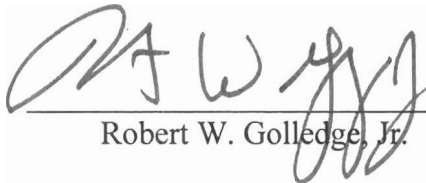
Environmental Protection (DEP). The project will also need to obtain an Order of Conditions from the Harwich Conservation Commission. On November 29, 2005, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) issued a Programmatic General Permit (PGP) for the dredging, and the project will require another PGP from the USACOE for the placement of dredged material. The project may require Federal Consistency Review by the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (MCZM). MEPA jurisdiction extends to those aspects of the project that require state permits and may have significant environmental impacts (waterways/dredging, wetlands, and stormwater).

According to the proponent, the project would affect the following wetland resource areas: approximately 7,400 square feet (sf) of Coastal Beach; 10,700 sf of Dune, and 1,300 sf of Land Containing Shellfish/Intertidal Beach. The project will deposit 1,370 cy of dredged material on a barrier beach. The project includes a discharge to Pleasant Bay, an Outstanding Resource Water. About 19,400 sf of the project area are subject to a wetlands restriction order, however, the proposed project is a permitted activity.

The proponent will provide temporary erosion and sedimentation measures, vegetated plantings, and dune stabilization measures. The project will be monitored for three years after construction has been completed. According to the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (MDMF), the dredge and beach fill project should have a no dumping time-of-year (TOY) restriction of May 1 to July 15 to protect horseshoe crab spawning. The MDMF also recommends that the dredging permit be conditioned with a "no dredging" TOY restriction from January 15 through May 30 to protect winter flounder spawning. DEP should consider these MDMF recommendations in its permitting process. Because this is a public dredging project in which dredged material will be placed on a private beach, DEP should ensure that public access to the restored beach is provided.

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

August 25, 2006  
Date

  
Robert W. Gollidge, Jr.

cc: Sharon Stone, DEP/SERO

Comments received:

Cape Cod Commission, 6/9/06  
Division of Marine Fisheries, 6/15/06  
MCZM, 6/19/06  
Coastal Engineering, 6/22/06  
Cape Cod Commission, 6/22/06  
Pleasant Bay Resource Management Alliance, 6/23/06  
Division of Marine Fisheries, 6/26/06  
DCR, 6/27/06  
Mass Wildlife, 6/27/06  
DEP/SERO, 6/27/06  
DEP/SERO, 6/29/06  
Coastal Engineering, 6/30/06  
Coastal Engineering, 7/13/06  
MCZM, 7/20/06  
DEP/SERO, 7/27/06  
DCR, 7/31/06  
Coastal Engineering, 8/2/06  
Coastal Engineering, 8/10/06  
Coastal Engineering, 8/10/06  
Pleasant Bay Resource Management Alliance, 8/14/06  
DEP/SERO, 8/15/06  
DCR, 8/15/06  
Division of Marine Fisheries, 8/17/06

13814enf  
RWG/WTG/wg