Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ■ MEPA Office

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
EOEA No.: 12955
MEPA Analyst: Nick Zavolas
Phone: 617-626-1030

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: Sewer Expansion Program		
Street: Various Streets		
Municipality: Tewksbury	Watershed: Merrimack, Ipswich, Concord, Shawsheen	
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates: 4720890N, 292419E	Latitude: 42° 36' 45"N Longitude: 71° 31' 51"W	
Estimated commencement date:Summer 2003	Estimated completion date:Summer 2010	
Approximate cost: $ 80 Million	Status of project design: 10 %complete	
Proponent: Town of Tewksbury		
Street: Town Hall, 1009 Main Street		
Municipality: Tewksbury	State: MA	Zip Code: 01876
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Jane Wheeler		
Firm/Agency: Camp Dresser & McKee Inc.	Street: One Cambridge Place, 50 Hampshire St.	
Municipality: Cambridge	State: MA	Zip Code: 02139
Phone: (617) 452-6562	Fax: (617) 452-8562	E-mail: wheelerjw@cdm.com

Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)? ☒Yes ☐No

Has this project been filed with MEPA before? ☐Yes (EOEA No._____) ☒No

Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before? ☐Yes (EOEA No._____) ☒No

Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:

a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8))	☐Yes	☒No
a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09)	☐Yes	☒No
a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11)	☐Yes	☒No
a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11)	☒Yes	☐No

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an agency of the Commonwealth, including the agency name and the amount of funding or land area (in acres): TBD

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency? ☐Yes(Specify_____) ☒No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals:
ACOE Section 404; Street Opening Permit

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- ☐ Land
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ ACEC
- ☐ Rare Species
- ☒ Wastewater
- ☐ Air
- ☐ Regulations
- ☒ Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Solid & Hazardous Waste
- ☐ Historical & Archaeological Resources

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total
LAND			
Total site acreage	*		
New acres of land altered		7.2*	
Acres of impervious area	N/A	0.05**	0.05**
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		117,500***	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		13,450****	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		N/A	
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	0	320	320
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A	N/A	N/A
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day	N/A	N/A	N/A
Parking spaces	N/A	N/A	N/A
WATER/WASTEWATER			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	N/A	N/A	N/A
GPD water withdrawal	N/A	N/A	N/A
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	0*****	0*****	0
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	95	95

State Permits & Approvals

- ☒ Order of Conditions
- ☐ Superseding Order of Conditions
- ☐ Chapter 91 License
- ☒ 401 Water Quality Certification
- ☒ MHD or MDC Access Permit
- ☐ Water Management Act Permit
- ☐ New Source Approval
- ☒ DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit
- ☐ Other Permits (*including Legislative Approvals*) – Specify:

Article 97

* This is a linear project involving the construction of approximately 95 miles of sewer main. To calculate new acres of land altered, the length of cross-country sewer in feet was multiplied by an assumed trench width of six feet and then converted to acres.
** Six small pumping stations and associated parking space and one pump station structure.
*** Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration calculated by subtracting the total amount of wetlands impact (130,950 sq ft) from square feet of new other wetland alteration (land under water).
**** Square feet of new other wetland alteration (land under water) was determined by assuming an approximate

width and length of each perennial stream crossing.
***** No new wastewater is being produced, only conveyed to the Lowell Duck Island Wastewater Treatment Facility.

CONSERVATION LAND: Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?

☒Yes (Specify Pipelines through conservation land) ☐No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?

☐Yes (Specify_____) ☒No

RARE SPECIES: Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

☒Yes (Specify See Rare Species Section below) ☐No

HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

☐Yes (Specify) ☒No

See Attachment 2 for Massachusetts Historical Commission correspondence. The Town has retained a firm to conduct a reconnaissance survey.

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

☐Yes (Specify_____) ☒No

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN: Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

☐Yes (Specify_____) ☒No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project description should include **(a)** a description of the project site, **(b)** a description of both on-site and off-site alternatives and the impacts associated with each alternative, and **(c)** potential on-site and off-site mitigation measures for each alternative (*You may attach one additional page, if necessary.*)

The Town of Tewksbury Sewer Expansion Program consists of approximately 500,000 linear feet (95 miles) of new sewers and force mains and approximately 20 small pumping stations. As shown on Figure 1, the project has been broken into six phases (Phases 6 through 11), with most phases divided into several smaller construction contracts.

The new sewers will connect to the existing sewer system in numerous locations. The existing sewers were designed with the expectation that this expansion program would be constructed and therefore have sufficient capacity. Similarily, the additional wastewater flow to be conveyed by the new sewers will not exceed the Town's allotment at the Lowell Duck Island Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Attached to this ENF (see Attachment 1) is a request for a partial waiver from preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a portion of the proposed sewer construction project. The waiver request is limited to the first phase (Phase 6) of the six-phase project. Phase 6, located adjacent to the Shawsheen River, consists of approximately 25,711 linear feet of new sewer main, including approximately 1,800 feet of cross-country sewers and 1,300 feet of force main, and one pumping station. Construction and operation of Phase 6 is independent of

the other five phases. There will be no impacts to bordering vegetated wetlands in Phase 6. Because the area of Phase 6 is a densely populated part of the Town with many failing septic systems, construction of sewers is critical to improving the Shawsheen River's water quality. Design of this phase is underway, with construction scheduled to begin in the summer of 2003.

The following is a summary of each phase:

Phase 6

- Located in the southeast corner of the Town where Main Street intersects Salem Street;
- Consists of approximately 25, 711 linear feet of pipeline with 1,800 linear feet of cross-country pipeline;
- One construction contract;
- No wetland impacts. No work in buffer zone or BVW.
- Connecting to the existing sewer system in four locations. Independent of other sewer extensions.

Phase 7

- Most of the work in this phase is located east of Shawsheen Street in the eastern part of town in the Shawsheen River drainage basin;
- Consists of approximately 129,215 linear feet of pipeline with 11,650 linear feet of cross-country pipeline;
- Divided into four construction contracts;
- Approximately 72,600 sq. ft. of temporary wetland impacts.

Phase 8

- Work in this phase is located in the center of Town with some additional areas in the northwest portion of the Town and southeast of Ames Pond;
- Consists of approximately 109,215 linear feet of pipeline with 20,380 linear feet of cross-country pipeline;
- Divided into three construction contracts;
- Approximately 28,100 sq. ft. of temporary wetland impacts.

Phase 9

- Located in the western corner of the Town, south of Main Street;
- Consists of approximately 99,215 linear feet of pipeline with 8,580 linear feet of cross-country pipeline;
- Divided into three construction contracts;
- Approximately 16,300 sq. ft. of temporary impacts.

Phase 10

- This area of work is adjacent to Phase 9, with a second area southeast of Round Pond, and a third area in the southeast corner of the town;
- Consists of approximately 60,949 linear feet of pipeline with 2,550 linear feet of cross-country pipeline;
- Divided into two construction contracts;
- Approximately 6,000 sq. ft of temporary wetland impacts.

Phase 11

- The largest area of this work is east of Phase 10 with a small area in the northwest corner of the Town adjacent to Route 495 and another small area adjacent to Route 93.
- Consists of approximately 76,827 linear feet of pipeline with 7,005 linear feet of cross-country pipeline;
- Divided into three construction contracts;
- Approximately 7,950 sq. ft. of temporary wetland impacts.

The final detailed design of Phases 7 through 11 has not started yet. Construction of these phases will be staggered over the next eight years to avoid excessive construction at any one time. Project completion is expected in 2010 (final paving).

The proposed locations of the pipelines will be carefully selected in order to avoid wetlands, priority habitats of rare species, estimated habitats of rare wildlife, and certified vernal pools to the greatest extent possible. The only alternatives to cross-country sewers would be: (1) No action (i.e. continue to rely on individual subsurface disposal systems), (2) take private property and construct wastewater pumping stations and force mains in numerous locations, (3) keep pipelines in public/private streets for the entire length of the pipeline which would require extremely deep cuts in some areas.

Funds for the design and construction of the entire sewer expansion program (approximately $80 Million) were appropriated at Town Meeting in October 2002.