

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Environmental**  
**Affairs ■ MEPA Office**  
**ENF**  
**Commonwealth of**  
**Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Environmental**

<i>For Office Use Only</i>	
<i>Executive Office of Environmental Affairs</i>	
EOEA No.:	<u>14170</u>
MEPA Analyst:	<u>Bill GAGE</u>
Phone:	<u>617-626-1025</u>

**Affairs ■ MEPA Office**  
**Environmental**  
**Notification Form**

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: University Avenue Water Main		
Street: University Avenue, Everett Street, Providence Highway (Route 1)		
Municipality: Norwood, Westwood	Watershed: Neponset River Watershed	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 71° 10' 28"	Longitude: 42° 12' 01"
Estimated commencement date: April 2008	Estimated completion date: December 2008	
Approximate cost: \$ 7,000,000	Status of project design: 10 %complete	
Proponent: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA)		
Street: 100 First Avenue		
Municipality: Charlestown	State: MA	Zip Code: 02129
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Marianne Connolly		
Firm/Agency: MWRA	Street: 100 First Avenue	
Municipality: Charlestown	State: MA	Zip Code: 02129
Phone: 617 788-1165	Fax: 617 788-4888	E-mail: <u>Marianne.Connolly@mwra.state.ma.us</u>

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): N/A

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?

Yes (Specify \_\_\_\_\_)  No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: Order of Conditions: Town of Norwood, NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activities, Street Occupancy Permits from Norwood and Westwood,

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

- |  |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land            | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water           | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy          | <input type="checkbox"/> Air          | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations  | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
<b>LAND</b>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval  <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits (including Legislative Approvals) – Specify: MWRA 8 (m)
Total site acreage	1.5			
New acres of land altered		0		
Acres of impervious area	1.5	0	1.5	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
<b>STRUCTURES</b>				
Gross square footage	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>				
Vehicle trips per day	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Parking spaces	N/A	N/A	N/A	
<b>WASTEWATER</b>				
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	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Length of water (in miles)	0	1.9	1.9	

**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 \_\_\_\_\_)  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 \_\_\_\_\_)  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

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 (The Fowl Meadow and Ponkapoag Bog ACEC)  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.)

## **General**

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) is planning to construct a new 10,500-foot water main 36-inches in diameter in University Avenue, Everett Street, and Route 1, primarily in the Town of Norwood, and approximately 100' in the Town of Westwood as shown on **Figures 1 and 2**. This ENF is required because these streets are on the boundary of, and therefore are included in, the Fowl Meadow and Ponkapoag Bog Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The new University Avenue water main will begin at the intersection of University Avenue and Canton Street in Westwood and run westerly in Norwood on University Avenue and Everett Street to Route 1. The water main will then run north along Route 1 crossing the Norwood-Westwood town line and crossing Route 1 to connect with MWRA's existing water main.

## **Preferred Alternative**

The proposed water main will interconnect two existing dead end MWRA pipelines that currently serve the communities of Norwood, Canton, Stoughton, and Dedham/Westwood Water District. This new interconnection will form a looped water distribution system thereby increasing the reliability of water supply to these communities. The water main includes several buried isolation valves, air releases and blow-off structures along the proposed alignment as well as a redundant interconnection with the Town of Norwood water system.

The water main route along University Avenue is surrounded by developed industrial and retail uses on one side and a mix of developed industrial, recreational and open space on the other. The open space on the south side of the alignment consists primarily of the Fowl Meadow wetland and flood plains. Purgatory Brook runs roughly parallel to University Avenue approximately 500 to 1,200 feet south of the proposed alignment.

It is anticipated that most, if not all, of the water main will be constructed using cut-and-cover method within the paved area of existing streets. Every effort will be made to avoid construction within wetland resource areas, although much of the project will be within the 100-foot buffer zone. MWRA will implement Best Management Practices during construction to avoid adverse impacts to wetlands and water resources and the 100 foot buffer zone and comply with the Order of Conditions to be issued by the Norwood Conservation Commission. The construction of the proposed water main is scheduled for 2008.

MWRA will coordinate with the Towns of Norwood and Westwood and the Massachusetts Highway Department to finalize a construction/traffic mitigation plan for safety and access at and near the project site.

### **Other Alternatives Evaluated**

#### **Westwood Route Alternative**

The MWRA considered an alternative route that would have reduced the length of pipe within the ACEC, but it was dismissed because it would not provide the same level of water system redundancy. The alternative route would have been mostly in the Town of Westwood beginning at the intersection of University Avenue and Canton Street running northwesterly in Canton Street to Everett Street; and westerly in Everett Street to Route 1. The portion of the proposed water main in Canton Street would run parallel to MWRA's existing 24-inch water main that currently serves Canton and Stoughton (defeating the purpose of redundancy). Since the purpose of the new water main is to provide redundancy to the existing water main, this alternative was dismissed due to the increased risk of a break in one of the two water mains causing structural damage to the other water main in the same alignment.

#### **No Build Alternative**

The No Build alternative is not an option. In order to provide redundancy to the towns of Norwood, Canton, Stoughton, and the Dedham/Westwood Water District, a new interconnection is necessary to form a looped water distribution system to increase reliability of water supply to these communities. The No Build alternative is not consistent with MWRA's "Water System Master Plan" (October 2006) which calls for improving water supply redundancy to this part of the MWRA service area.

### **LAND SECTION** – all proponents must fill out this section

#### **I. Thresholds / Permits**

- A. Does the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **land** (see 301 CMR 11.03(1))  
Yes  No; if yes, specify each threshold:

#### **II. Impacts and Permits**