

For Office Use Only
 Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: 12734
 MEPA Analyst: Nick ZAVOLAS
 Phone: 617-626-1030

ENF 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: Hampden Women's Facility		
Street: Center Street		
Municipality: Chicopee	Watershed: Connecticut River	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: UTM NAD 83 meters X: 6 97 623 EW to 6 97 290 EW Y: 46 66 866 N to 46 67 084 N	Latitude: 42°07'53" N to 42°07'44" N Longitude: 72°36'47" W to 72°36'32" W	
Estimated commencement date: April 2002	Estimated completion date: January 2004	
Approximate cost: \$25 million	Status of project design: 15 % complete	
Proponent: Division of Capital Asset Management		
Street: One Ashburton Place, Room 413		
Municipality: Boston	State: MA	Zip Code: 02108
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Paul G. Davis, Ph.D.		
Firm/Agency: BEC Inc.	Street: 296 North Main Street	
Municipality: East Longmeadow	State: MA	Zip Code: 01028
Phone: (413) 525-3822	Fax: (413) 525-8348	E-mail:

- 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):

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: Chicopee Conservation Commission-Order of Conditions

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

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" 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 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
LAND				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superceding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification (non-filing status) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits (including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:
Total site acreage	25±			
New acres of land altered		7.2±		
Acres of impervious area	0.3±	7.2±	7.5±	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		2650±		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0±		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		N/A		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	9300	305,000±	305,000	
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Maximum height (in feet)	10	20	30	
TRANSPORTATION				NPDES Construction <u>Sect. 404 PGP 1 non-reporting</u>
Vehicle trips per day	32	214	246	
Parking spaces	12	188	200	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	1000	24,440	25,440	
GPD water withdrawal	N/A	N/A	N/A	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	1000	24,440	25,440	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0.05 sewer/water	0.05 sewer 1.8 water line replacement/upgrade	0.1 sewer 1.8 water line replacement/upgrade	

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

Chapter 210 of the Acts of 2000 authorized the change in use of the land from its present use of open space (Article 97) to use for a correctional facility.

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 **Site Investigated for Archaeological Assets associated with Native Americans in Coordination with MHC. See Attachment A.**

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.*)

Pursuant to Chapter 12 of the Acts of 1996, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by its Division of Capital Asset Management (DCAM) is authorized to construct the new Hampden Women's Facility in Chicopee, Massachusetts. The project is intended to meet the pressing public need to relieve overcrowding at the existing Hampden correctional facility by creating a specialized facility for the women's population, which will meet their specific needs.

The Project site is located between Interstate I-91 and Center Street in Chicopee, next to the municipal border with Springfield. The site includes a 20 acre parcel of land currently owned by the City of Chicopee and two privately-owned parcels (5 acres). The City-owned parcel was acquired by the City as part of Atwater Park, but the subject parcel was cut off from the rest of Atwater Park, and disturbed with highway fill and drainage construction, by the construction of I-91. By Chapter 210 of the Acts of 2000, the Legislature authorized the change in use of the City-owned parcel from open space to the project. The T.J. O'Connor Animal Control Shelter (used by the Cities of Chicopee, Springfield, and Holyoke as well as several area Towns) is located in the center of the City-owned parcel. Two small, relatively undisturbed wooded sections are located at the northern and southern portions of the City-owned parcel. An unnamed perennial stream is located near the northern border of the City-owned parcel. The site also includes two privately-owned parcels, bounded by the City-owned parcel, the Springfield/Chicopee boundary and Center Street.

An alternatives analysis was conducted and included consideration of the following alternatives:

- No Action
- Use of Former Charles River Hospital, Chicopee, MA
- Cottage Street Landfill Site, Springfield, MA
- Fire Training Academy Site, Springfield, MA
- Center Street – Segmented Portion of Former Atwater Park Area, Chicopee, MA (Preferred Alternative)
 - Subalternative 1. Northerly placement
 - Subalternative 2. Southerly placement (preferred subalternative)

Under the "No Action" alternative, the public need to relieve overcrowding at the existing Hampden correction facility would not be met. The "No Action" alternative was therefore not considered prudent. The former Charles River Hospital site in Chicopee was eliminated from further consideration due to intense local opposition associated with immediate proximity to residential and commercial interests. The site of the former Cottage Street Landfill was eliminated from further consideration due to the

estimated \$17 Million dollar clean-up cost associated with the area. This area is currently undergoing design and permitting as a materials recycling and landfill capping operation. The site of the existing Fire training Academy was eliminated from further consideration due to the necessity to fill floodplain along the Chicopee River if the site was to provide adequate size. Further, its location opposite a high density residential trailer park with attendant local residential conflicts and economic justice considerations removed this site from further consideration. The preferred location of the facility at Center Street has received local support. Adjacent properties include Interstate 91 and industrial facilities. The local dog pound currently located on-site would need to be relocated to allow the facility to be constructed. The southerly positioning of the proposed facility on the 25± acre site minimizes wetland impacts and intrusion into the Riverfront area.

The proposed project will include minimum/medium security correctional complex with 180 cells for approximately 220 women, as well as space for Facility Administration with the Women's Director office, Control area and Training and Muster spaces, Inmates support services and housing, and building services. The site program includes employee and visitor parking of approximately 200 spaces, a loading area with sallyport and outside perimeter/ fire road surrounded by an 8' fence. The outside of the building functions as secure perimeter around internal courtyard, extended by a secure fence around Vehicle /Service yard and between unattached buildings. Emergency access is through a gate at the sallyport. There will be no high volume lighting of the site. Access to the site will be from an extended drive from Center Street. Public transportation to the site already exists with an immediately adjacent Pioneer Valley Transit Authority bus stop.

The project will be constructed within a 25± acre wood upland area, regrading the hill to form a leveled land platform (approx. 130' level). The actual building site will be limited to approximately 7.5± acres. Trees and other vegetation will be retained to the maximum extent practicable, allowing for a cleared perimeter, in order to provide a visual barrier. Additional area also will be required for a stormwater detention basin and wetlands replacement (0.5± acres total). As part of the site selection and site acquisition process, DCAM has already completed the wetlands delineation and Determination of Applicability for the site, a site topographic survey, a site assessment for contaminants and hazardous materials, and an archaeological review. There were no identified wetlands, hazardous materials, or archaeological issues that are likely to limit construction at the identified area, although there is a small unavoidable impact to a disturbed wetland that will require permitting and mitigation.

Utilities servicing the project area include water, electricity, telephone, gas, sewage and stormwater. An existing water line on Center Street will need to be upgraded to a 16" diam. service for a distance of 1.8 miles. The City of Chicopee has requested that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts participate financially in a program to assist in the upgrade of such local utilities along Center Street and negotiations are ongoing. Sewer in this area is reportedly adequate for the estimated project need of 25,000 gpd based upon a per capita prorated usage at the Hampden Correctional Facility in Ludlow, MA. Sewer is directed to the City of Springfield facilities via the Brightwood Interceptor at Bondi's Island under agreement with the City of Chicopee. Combined sewer overflows have been eliminated from this segment of the sewer area.

Impacts of the proposed project include:

- demolition of the T.J. O'Conner Animal Control Shelter (i.e., dog pound).
- creation of 7.2± acres of new impervious area
- filling of 2650± square feet of wetland resource area (Bordering Vegetated Wetland).

Anticipated mitigation measures to be incorporated as part of this project will include:

- stormwater BMPs to meet MA DEP standards,
- replacement impacted wetlands that cannot be avoided or have impacts further minimized,
- erosion and sedimentation control during the construction phase of the work,
- maintenance of a wooded buffer surrounding the facility to the maximum extent practicable, and
- participation in financially supporting infrastructure improvements along Center Street.

It is anticipated that the Cities and Towns using the current animal control shelter will be replaced with an equivalent facility as a separate project.