

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: 12802
MEPA Analyst: **MICK 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: Algonquin Regional High School	
Street: 79 Bartlett Street	
Municipality: Northborough, MA	Watershed: SuAsCo
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates: 19 02 84 668 E 46 89 128 N	Latitude: 42d 19' 35.61" N Longitude: 71d 36' 47.93" W
Estimated commencement date: October 2002	Estimated completion date: August 2004
Approximate cost: \$59,200,000	Status of project design: 65 %complete
Proponent: Algonquin Regional High School	
Street: 79 Bartlett Street	
Municipality: Northborough	State: MA Zip Code: 01532
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Ben Gary, RLA	
Firm/Agency: Moriece & Gary, Inc.	Street: 56 Roland Street
Municipality: Charlestown	State: MA Zip Code: 02129
Phone: (617)776-7600	E-mail: bgary@mgary.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): **School Building Assistance Bureau, Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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 Northborough Building Permit, Building Inspector, Town of Northborough**

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

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input checked="" 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 |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
LAND				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input 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 <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i> Curb Cut Permit (MHD)
Total site acreage	191.8			
New acres of land altered		27.95		
Acres of impervious area	11.84	9.8	21.64	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		4,000		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	210,000	115,000	325,000	
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Maximum height (in feet)	28'	12'-17'	40'-45'	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	2,150	720	2,870	
Parking spaces	475	440	915	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	26,000	8,000	34,000	
GPD water withdrawal	26,000	8,000	34,000	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	26,000	8,000	34,000	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	S Leaching Field W .8	S .71 W 0	S .71 W .8	

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: Rare Wildlife and Priority Habitat) 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 _____)

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.*)

- (a) **The Algonquin Regional High School building, oriented facing south, currently sits on the project site located in Northborough, Massachusetts of Worcester County. The site originally consisted of 42.94 acres, but has recently been expanded through the purchase of additional property abutting the playfields to the east and north of the school. The high school was built in two sections. The original single-story, flat roofed structure was constructed in 1959 and contains 154,000 gross square feet. In 1969 a three-story, 56,000 gross square foot addition was constructed. The addition was built into a hillside on the South side of the building and sits at a slightly higher grade than the original school. The main entrance and exit to and from the site is a long drive from Bartlett Street. A secondary connection directly to Route 20 is used for car traffic into the site. Existing athletic facilities include tennis courts, baseball and soccer fields, and a football 'stadium' with running track. Topography slopes downward to Stirrup Brook from elevation 293 to 235 on the north side of the building. Wetlands occur along the low-lying areas adjacent to Stirrup Brook and its tributaries. The site displays a variety of vegetation and natural communities, including forested uplands, open uplands, open marsh, red maple swamp, streams, drainage channels and isolated wetland depressions. The subsurface conditions as revealed by the exploration program indicate that the project site is overlain (from ground surface down): Forest Mat/Topsoil/Subsoil (surficial soils); Stratified, Medium Dense to Dense, Fine to Coarse Sand-to Fine to Coarse Sand and Silt to Silt glacial outwash deposits; and Glacial Till. Bedrock was not reached within the extent of the test borings. Limited measurements indicate that during April 2002, groundwater levels were about 16ft. to 19ft. below existing ground surface.**
- (b) **Numerous on-site and off-site alternatives were considered to meet the projected enrollment and educational needs of the school system. In all, four primary options were presented with one option being presented with four different models. The options and models are as follows:**
- **Option A: Construct a new building on the existing Regional High School Site**
 - **Option B: Complete renovation and addition to Regional High School Building**
 - **Option C: Build a new school in Southborough and completely renovate existing high school building within existing Reional Agreement**
 - **Option D: Build a new school in Southborough by means of intensive negotiations between the Towns resulting in dissolution or significant amendment to Regional District.**
 - **Model 1: Dissolve with full renovations to existing school facility(fast track)**
 - **Model 2: Dissolve with full renovations to existing school facility(slow track)**
 - **Model 3: Dissolve with limited repairs to existing school facility**
 - **Model 4: Amend Regional Agreement for each community to pay for capital costs in that community with no "buy out" by Northborough.**
- The project team developed benefits and drawbacks, preliminary site development drawings, construction schedules, and preliminary project budgets for all the development options. After consideration of all options, the option presented was chosen.**
- (c) **On site mitigation measures include preservation and protection of wetlands and providing a buffer of vegetation between neighbors and the school.**