

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: 14054
 MEPA Analyst: DEIRDRE Buckley
 Phone: 617-626-1044

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: IPA Blackstone Expansion Project		
Street: 204 Elm Street		
Municipality: Blackstone, MA 01504	Watershed: Blackstone	
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates: UTM Zone 19 UTM X (Meters): 291840.8 UTM Y (Meters): 4659353.5	Latitude: 42.060600 - 42° 3' 38.2" Longitude: 71.515700 - 71° 30' 56.5"	
Estimated commencement date: 1 st quarter 2009	Estimated completion date: 2 nd quarter 2010	
Approximate cost: \$100 million	Status of project design: 10 % complete	
Proponent: IPA Mill, LLC		
Street: 62 Forest Street, Suite 102		
Municipality: Marlborough	State: MA	Zip Code: 01752
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Name: Stephen Herzog		
Firm/Agency: AMEC Earth and Environmental	Street: 2 Robbins Road	
Municipality: Westford	State: MA	Zip Code: 01886
Phone: 978-692-9090	Fax: 978-692-6633	E-mail: stephen.herzog@amec.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. 11208) 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): The project will not require a land transfer or seek funding from an agency of the Commonwealth.

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: EPA NPDES General Permit for Stormwater – construction; EPA NPDES General Permit for Stormwater – operation or No Exposure Exemption (TBD); Federal Aviation Administration Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration; Town of Blackstone Zoning Board of Appeals Special Permit (new or modification TBD); Town of Blackstone Planning Board Site Plan Approval.

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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i> Energy Facilities Siting Board Approval to Construct
Total site acreage	39.40 ac			
New acres of land altered		3.1 ac		
Acres of impervious area	Approx. 5.4 ac	Approx. 1 ac	Approx. 6.4 ac	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0.0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0.0		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0.0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	142,500 sq. ft. (approx.)	24,000 sq. ft. (approx.)	166,500 sq. ft. (approx.)	
Number of housing units	0	0	0	
Maximum height (in feet)	180	0	180	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	Approx 20	0	Approx 20	
Parking spaces	42	0	42	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	14,000 gpd	720 gpd	14,720 gpd	
GPD water withdrawal	0 gpd	0 gpd	0 gpd	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	10,000 gpd avg.; 30,000 gpd max.	negligible	10,000 gpd avg.; 30,000 gpd max.	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0.185 mi (975 Feet)	0 mi.	0.185 mi (975 Feet)	

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 Based on review of NHESP mapping information. Confirmation being sought from USFWS and NHESP program.

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 Confirmation being sought from Massachusetts Historic Commission.

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.*)

IPA Mill, LLC (IPA Mill) is proposing development of an approximately 170 megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired peak electric generating facility (the IPA Blackstone Expansion Project) in the northeast corner of the town of Blackstone, Massachusetts. The proposed project would be constructed entirely within the property boundaries of, and adjacent to the existing Blackstone Energy Company (BEC) power plant, an approximately 540 MW (net nominal, no steam augmentation) baseload electric generating plant located at 204 Elm Street in Blackstone, Massachusetts (Figures 1 and 2). The proposed Expansion Project would be comprised of a single General Electric (GE) 7FA combustion turbine, or a comparable combustion turbine, operating in simple cycle mode and utilizing natural gas as the exclusive fuel. The facility is likely to run predominantly during summertime days, but will be licensed to minimize potential restrictions to allow for flexibility to meet demand around the clock and throughout the year. To qualify as a minor modification to the existing facility's air permit, however, a restriction on the total number of hours of operation will likely be proposed (see Air Quality Section).

A switchyard at the site presently provides interconnection to a 345 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line and the regional electric transmission grid. This switchyard will be able to accommodate the output of the Expansion Project without significant upgrades. IPA Mill does not anticipate any upgrade to off-site electric transmission facilities to accommodate the Expansion Project. Natural gas supply will be available from the interstate gas pipeline which presently serves the BEC plant. IPA Mill does not anticipate any upgrade to off-site natural gas supply facilities to accommodate the Expansion Project. Based on a preliminary water balance for the Expansion Project, IPA Mill does not expect that any changes in the water supply agreements for the existing facility will be required. Currently, the BEC facility receives water supplies from the town of Blackstone water system to supply potable and process needs. The existing facility uses dry-cooling technology, significantly reducing water demand at the facility. The Expansion Project will require only limited volumes of water (maximum 0.5 gallons per minute [gpm] for service needs [wash waters, etc.]), but will not require any additional volumes for cooling, pollution control or other process needs. In addition, no new staff will be required to operate the

new unit; therefore, no additional potable supplies will be required for the project. Industrial wastewater flows at the existing facility are currently stored on site and trucked off for disposal. The existing facility is in the process of permitting a sewer connection to the Blackstone municipal sanitary sewer collection system for treatment at the Woonsocket Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). IPA Mill does not anticipate that the volumes or constituents covered by the new discharge permit will need to be altered to accommodate the limited volumes of wastewater generated by the Expansion Project (principally wash waters).

The site for the Expansion Project is currently a level, unvegetated area within the larger BEC property which was used for equipment laydown and parking during construction of the existing plant. The BEC property was carved out of a larger sand and gravel mining property which remains active adjacent to the south and east of the facility. The BEC property is bounded to the west and northwest by woods and the Mill River, and to the north by wooded areas up to the Blackstone/Mendon town line. The Blackstone/Bellingham town line is located approximately three-quarters of a mile to the east of the site. Residential areas exist beyond the Mill River to the west, beyond the Blackstone/Mendon town line to the north, and to the east along the Blackstone side of the Blackstone/Bellingham town line.

The proposed Expansion Project will consist of the combustion turbine; air intake filter; continuous emissions monitoring equipment; single exhaust stack (anticipated to be no more than 125 feet tall); step-up and auxiliary transformers; fin fan cooler; and auxiliary equipment. The combustion turbine and some accessory equipment will be housed in a sound attenuating building, consistent in appearance with existing control and turbine buildings for the BEC.

The proposed facilities will be consistent with, and smaller than, the existing BEC facilities. Due to the nature of the site and surrounding areas, only the tops of the existing exhaust stacks are currently visible from surrounding areas in most directions; this will also be the case with the new facility.

Alternatives to the proposed project location considered by IPA Mill will be fully detailed in the Petition for Approval to Construct to be filed with the MA Energy Facilities Siting Board. The proposed site is preferable to alternatives considered due to existing infrastructure and the nature of the existing site conditions.