

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
 EOE No.: 13393
 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: Southwest Area Wastewater Treatment Improvements		
Street: Southwest Area of Agawam (see Project Description for more information)		
Municipality: Agawam	Watershed: Westfield River	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 18 06 90 988 E 46 57 665 N (central proj. area)	Latitude: 042°02'59"N	Longitude: 072°41'32"W (central proj. area)
Estimated commencement date: Spring 2006	Estimated completion date: Spring 2011	
Approximate cost: \$27,800,000	Status of project design:	5% complete
Proponent: Agawam Department of Public Works		
Street: 36 Main Street		
Municipality: Agawam	State: MA	Zip Code: 01001
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: David J. Popielarczyk, PE		
Firm/Agency: Tighe & Bond	Street: 53 Southampton Road	
Municipality: Westfield	State: MA	Zip Code: 01085
Phone: 413-572-3233	Fax: 413-562-5317	E-mail: djpopielarczyk@tighebond.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 301 CMR 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): DEP: Town may apply for State Revolving Loan Fund

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 (Conservation Commission), NPDES Phase II General Permit for Construction Activities (USEPA), Programmatic General Permit (USACOE)

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input checked="" 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"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i>
Total site acreage	NA			
New acres of land altered		2.6 Acres (temporary)* 0.08* (permanent)t		
Acres of impervious area	NA	0.08	0.08	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		30,000 sf		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		NA		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	NA	~2000 sf	~2000 sf	
Number of housing units	NA	NA	NA	
Maximum height (in feet)	NA	15 ft	15 ft	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	0	6	6	
Parking spaces	0	3	3	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	NA	450	450	
GPD water withdrawal	NA	NA	NA	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	~2,800,000 (existing sewer system/ treatment)	1,020,800**	3,820,800	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0 (in Project Area)	19.4	19.4	

*New temporary land disturbance of 2.6 acres is proposed for cross-country sewer routes and new permanent land disturbance of 0.08 acres is proposed for pump stations. In addition, approximately 22.2 acres of disturbance is proposed within previously disturbed areas consisting of existing roadways.

**Projected future flows from project area at full build-out. Current average wastewater flow is 325,900 gpd.

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 portion of project site mapped as habitat, species noted in 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 MHC has identified 6 areas within the project area that have favorable characteristics for archaeological sites. These areas are identified in a letter from MHC in Attachment D.) No

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

Yes (Specify Assessment will be performed to identify if the proposed work will affect any archaeological resources) 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 proposed project involves the extension of sewer lines to service the southwest area of the Town of Agawam. The southwest area of Town is currently served by individual subsurface wastewater disposal systems (primarily septic tanks with leach fields) and is unsewered. The project area extends from the Southwick town line in the west to Bradford Drive in the east and from North Street Extension in the north to the Connecticut State line in the south, and includes the unsewered portion of North West Street that extends north of North Street Extension. This area is characterized by forested areas, farmlands, and low-density residential and compact residential uses. Many of the existing compact residential neighborhoods are experiencing problems related to failing septic systems. Research of wastewater issues, including a survey of neighborhood residents, review of Board of Health records, review of soil and groundwater information, and water quality sampling and analysis, indicates that there is a need for sewage disposal improvements. Neighborhoods were ranked based on this research. Neighborhoods ranked as high priority (greatest need for wastewater disposal improvements) were scattered throughout the Project Area.

The Project Proponent reviewed several alternatives for wastewater disposal in the Project Area. The alternatives included: continued use of individual sub-surface disposal systems; construction of decentralized treatment facilities; and sewerage system expansion. In addition to analysis of different technology options, fifteen (15) alternative sewer layout designs, with varying numbers of pump stations and off-road impacts, were also analyzed. Each alternative was reviewed in detail in a Project Evaluation Report (PER). The PER is attached as part of this Expanded ENF submittal and provides detailed descriptions of each alternative and the issues considered in choosing the Preferred Alternative. Alternatives were ranked based on cost; environmental impacts, including sensitive receptors and permitting issues; historic/archaeological impacts; expandability of the systems; and land acquisition needs.

The Preferred Alternative (Alternative #15) involves extension of the sewer system to serve the Project Area. Extension of the sewer system to service the Project Area was initially recommended in the 1972 *Report on Sanitary Sewer System Expansion*, prepared by Tighe & Bond. Additional sewage collected would be treated at the Bondi's Island Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) located in Agawam. Agawam's allocation to this regional WWTF is 8.2 million gallons per day (mgd). The projected future average wastewater disposal generation within the Project Area at full build-out is approximately 1.0 mgd. (The average daily sewage flow generated in the Project Area is currently approximately 0.3 mgd.) Combined

with the current average wastewater flows from the sewer portion of Town, Agawam's total wastewater directed to the WWTF will be approximately 3.8 mgd, and well within the Town's sewage treatment allocation of 8.2 mgd.

The Preferred Alternative requires the construction of approximately 19.4 miles of new sewer lines and three pump stations. Approximately 0.75 miles of sewer line is proposed to be installed as two cross-country sections. The remainder of the sewer line is proposed within existing roadways. The cross-country sections are proposed within low-lying areas and will result in temporary impacts to wetland resource areas. The project proponent will work with the Agawam Conservation Commission, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Army Corps of Engineers to limit impacts to resource areas and to restore any impacted resource areas upon completion of construction activities. Options to minimize construction related impacts will be considered, including trenchless drilling technologies, such as pipe-jacking, microtunneling or horizontal direction drilling and the use of construction or "swamp" mats.

Short- and long-term impacts and mitigation measures for the Preferred Alternatives are identified in greater detail in Section 7, Mitigation Measures in the attached PER. It is anticipated that construction of the project will occur in phases over a timeframe of approximately 3 to 5 years.