

<i>For Office Use Only</i> <b>Executive Office of Environmental Affairs</b>
MEPA Analyst: <i>Nick ZAVOLAS</i>
Phone: <i>617-626-1030</i>

# NPC

## Notice of Project Change

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review of a NPC in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations (see 301 CMR 11.10(1)).

Project Name: Greenwood Street Landfill Cap Repair Project		EOEA #: 13350	
Street: Greenwood Street			
Municipality: Worcester		Watershed: Blackstone	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:		Latitude: 42°-13'-09"	
		Longitude: 71°-47'-25"	
Status of project construction: 20 %complete			
Proponent: City of Worcester and NEWS of Worcester LLC			
Street: 20 East Worcester Street			
Municipality: Worcester		State: MA	Zip Code: 01604
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this NPC May Be Obtained: Daniel Duffy			
Firm/Agency: Geosyntec Consultants		Street: 289 Great Road, Suite 105	
Municipality: Acton		State: MA	Zip Code: 01720
Phone: (978) 263-9588	Fax: (978) 263-9594	E-mail: dduffy@geosyntec.com	

In 25 words or less, what is the project change? Based on a recent settlement study, the project change involves accepting additional quantity of materials to repair the cap at the Greenwood Street Landfill. See full project change description beginning on page 3.

Date of Expanded ENF filing or publication in the Environmental Monitor: August 25, 2004  
 October 1, 2004, Certificate on the Expanded ENF  
 October 1, 2004, Certificate on Draft Record of Decision for a Phase I Waiver  
 November 22, 2004, Certificate on the Final Record of Decision for a Phase I Waiver

Was an EIR required?  Yes  No; if yes,  
 was a Draft EIR filed?  Yes (Date: )  No  
 was a Final EIR filed?  Yes (Date: )  No  
 was a Single EIR filed?  Yes (Date: )  No

Have other NPCs been filed?  Yes (Date(s): )  No

If this is a NPC solely for lapse of time (see 301 CMR 11.10(2)) proceed directly to "ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES" on page 4.

**PERMITS / FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE / LAND TRANSFER**

List or describe all new or modified state permits, financial assistance, or land transfers not previously reviewed:

Are you requesting a finding that this project change is insignificant? (see 301 CMR 11.10(6))

Yes  No; if yes, attach justification.

Are you requesting that a Scope in a previously issued Certificate be rescinded?

Yes  No; if yes, attach the Certificate

Are you requesting a change to a Scope in a previously issued Certificate?  Yes  No; if yes, attach Certificate and describe the change you are requesting:

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Previously reviewed	Net Change	Currently Proposed
<b>LAND</b>			
Total site acreage	100.6	0	100.6
Acres of land altered	0	0	0
Acres of impervious area	0	0	0
Square feet of bordering vegetated wetlands alteration	0	0	0
Square feet of other wetland alteration	0	0	0
Acres of non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways	0	0	0
<b>STRUCTURES</b>			
Gross square footage	0	0	0
Number of housing units	0	0	0
Maximum height (in feet)	0	0	0
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Vehicle trips per day	400	0	400
Parking spaces	10	0	10
<b>WATER/WASTEWATER</b>			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	15,000	0	15,000
GPD water withdrawal	0	0	0
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	0	0	0
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0	0

Does the project change involve any new or modified:

1. conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97? Yes No

2. release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction? Yes No

3. impacts on Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities? Yes No

4. impact on 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 No; if yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources? Yes No

5. impact upon an Area of Critical Environmental Concern? Yes No

If you answered 'Yes' to any of these 5 questions, explain below:

**PROJECT CHANGE DESCRIPTION** (attach additional pages as necessary). The project change description should include:

(a) a brief description of the project as most recently reviewed

(b) a description of material changes to the project as previously reviewed,

(c) the significance of the proposed changes, with specific reference to the factors listed 301 CMR 11.10(6), and

(d) measures that the project is taking to avoid damage to the environment or to minimize and mitigate unavoidable environmental impacts. If the change will involve modification of any previously issued Section 61 Finding, include a proposed modification of the Section 61 Finding (or it will be required in a Supplemental EIR).

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

### **(a) Brief description of the project as most recently reviewed under MEPA**

The City of Worcester owns the Greenwood Street Landfill (Landfill), which was originally closed and capped in 1986. Since this closure, the Landfill has undergone substantial settlement that has resulted in ponding of stormwater and poor drainage off the Landfill. The City of Worcester sought and obtained authorizations to repair the cap through MEPA Phase 1 Waiver, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Corrective Action Design Approval and MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and Management Permit (the Authorizations). Under contract to the City of Worcester, NEWS of Worcester LLC is in the initial phase of restoring proper grades of the Landfill and repairing the cap in accordance with the Authorizations. The Phase 1 repair involves the repair and recapping of disturbed portions of the 52-acre landfill to grade and shape the Landfill to restore proper grades of the plateau of the Landfill to 5-percent and to repair the cap (the Project). The DEP approved 0.52 million cubic yards to restore the grades to a maximum elevation of 494 feet MSL subject to a reassessment of the settlement. In this approval, DEP contemplated that additional materials may be required to properly remediate the landfill. To gage this, the Corrective Action Design authorization issued by the DEP required the Proponent to implement a settlement monitoring program to demonstrate settlement characteristics and ensure that post-closure settlement will not be a future problem.

**(b) A description of material changes to the project as previously reviewed**

The initial phase of the Project is ongoing based on the Authorizations. In accordance with the DEP's Corrective Action approval, Geosyntec Consultants, under contract with NEWS, conducted a settlement-monitoring program based on site data collected since 2005 when the project first started. Analysis of the results of the program demonstrates that the current Authorizations are not sufficient to address post-closure settlement. Upon receipt of the analysis, the DEP engaged the services of an independent geotechnical engineering consultant to review the study. Both Geosyntec and the geotechnical engineering consultant agreed that a closure elevation of 505 feet MSL after post-closure settlement is necessary to properly close the site. Based on actual data and the analysis of the data, the Proponent will be unable to restore proper grades of 5-percent on the Landfill without grading the site to this elevation. These performance criteria are required to ensure that the cap is graded properly to avoid future differential settlement that caused ponding on the Landfill previously. Given the quantitative results of the settlement-monitoring program, the Proponent has the quantitative basis for proposing a revised grading plan that will implement the performance criteria of the Corrective Action, and which is the subject of this Notice of Project Change.

The Proponent requests that it be allowed to accept additional quantity of materials to bring the Landfill to proper grades of 5-percent on the plateau of the Landfill (herein "the Project Change"). The Project Change will require the Proponent to seek a Permit Modification to the grading plan as part of the Corrective Action Design to be approved by DEP. The revised grading plan would take into account the quantitative results from the settlement-monitoring program so that once the Corrective Action is completed the Landfill has a cap that is graded properly to avoid future differential settlement that caused ponding on the Landfill previously. The integrity of the final grades and repaired cap is essential to support the post-closure use of a restored wildlife habitat and walking trails, and maintain the integrity of the constructed cap. Without the Project Change the original objective of the Project cannot be accomplished.

**(c) Significance of the Proposed Changes**

The Project Change will not significantly increase potential environmental consequences when considering all the criteria listed in 301 CMR 11.10(6)(a) through (g), as described below.

- 1) **Expansion of Project.** The Project Change is required to achieve the performance requirements of the previously approved Project. The Project Change will remain within the footprint boundaries of the Landfill, and therefore no change in physical dimensions of the Project will result from the Project Change.
- 2) **Generation of further impacts.** The Project Change is not expected to generate any material additional environmental impacts that have not already been previously approved. The Proponent will continue to use the same project environmental

controls as currently permitted including: stormwater controls, limitations on truck trips, maintenance of approved truck routing, dust control, phasing to mitigate impacts to the Grasshopper Sparrow, and monitoring of landfill settlement.

- 3) Change in Project schedule. The only schedule impact as a result of the Project Change will be to lengthen the schedule for completion of Project. The Proponent estimates that the Project will be lengthened by three - four years.
- 4) Change in Project site. No change in the Project site is proposed.
- 5) New applications or requests. The Proponent will file an application to modify the Corrective Action Authorization issued by DEP.
- 6) Material delays in net benefits. The Project Change will preserve the net benefits to the environment, and public health through proper capping and re-grading of the closed Landfill.
- 7) Lapse of time. The Notice of Project Change is not due to a lapse of time.

**(d) Measures that the project is taking to avoid damage to the environment or to minimize and mitigate unavoidable environmental impacts. If the change will involve modification of any previously issued Section 61 Finding, include a proposed modification of the Section 61 Finding (or it will be required in a Supplemental EIR).**

Not Applicable.

## **ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES**

### **Attachments:**

1. Secretary's most recent Certificate on this project
2. Plan showing most recent previously-reviewed proposed build condition
3. Plan showing currently proposed build condition
4. Original U.S.G.S. map or good quality color copy (8-1/2 x 11 inches or larger) indicating the project location and boundaries
5. List of all agencies and persons to whom the proponent circulated the NPC, in accordance with 301 CMR 11.10(7)

Signatures:

10/14/2008 Robert L. Moylan, Jr. - 10/15/08 D T D  
Date Signature of Responsible Officer or Proponent Date Signature of person preparing NPC (if different from above)

Robert L. Moylan, Jr.  
Name (print or type)

Daniel T. Duffy  
Name (print or type)

City of Worcester  
Firm/Agency

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Date Signature of Responsible Officer or Proponent

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