



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

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January 3, 2007

CERTIFICATE OF THE SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION FORM

PROJECT NAME	: Rosenfeld Well Site
PROJECT MUNICIPALITY	: Uxbridge
PROJECT WATERSHED	: Blackstone River
EOEA NUMBER	: 13922
PROJECT PROPONENT	: Town of Uxbridge/Department of Public Works
DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR	: December 6, 2006

Pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (G. L. c. 30, ss. 61-62H) and Section 11.06 of the MEPA regulations (301 CMR 11.00), I hereby determine that this project **does not require** the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

This project consists of the development of a new water supply source as part of a water distribution system improvement project by the Town of Uxbridge. The Town plans to amend its existing Water Management Act Permit to include this new source as an additional withdrawal point and to seek authorization to pump an average of 900,000 gpd from this source. The current WMA permit authorizes the Town to pump 1,240,000 gpd from existing sources. The addition of this source is intended to improve management of water supply and increase recharge periods to the aquifers at existing well sites while reducing potential impacts to groundwater from drawdown during pumping. The project will include: construction of a well pump/treatment facility building (approximately 500 square feet); installation of 1,700 linear feet of 16-inch diameter transmission main from the well site to Quaker Highway; and construction of a paved access road (approximately 20 feet wide and 1,700 feet long) from the pump station to Quaker Highway.

The 11.6 acre site is owned by the Town. It consists of an abandoned sand and gravel pit surrounded by vegetated land consisting largely of scrub brush and deciduous forest. The well

site is located approximately 600 feet from the Blackstone River and 250 feet from Emerson Brook. The site is outside the area mapped as a Priority Habitat along the Blackstone River by the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife's Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP).

The project is undergoing MEPA review pursuant to Section 11.03 (6)(b)(1) because it requires a state permit and consists of new withdrawal of 100,000 or more gpd from a water source that requires new construction for the withdrawal. The project requires a WMA Permit and New Source Approval from the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and an Access Permit from the Massachusetts Highway Department (MassHighway). Also, it requires an Order of Conditions from the local Conservation Commission.

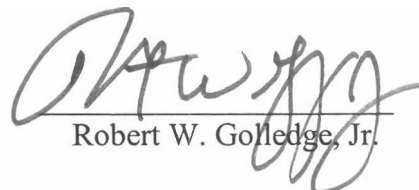
Potential environmental impacts are associated with the withdrawal of 900,000 gallons per day (gpd) of water and the creation of .83 acres of impervious surfaces. MassDEP is reviewing the final pumping test report and Water Management Act permit amendment application that were submitted in November 2006. Reports included with the ENF indicate that pump tests did not have any impact on adjacent wetlands.

At the December 19 site visit, Town officials indicated that a high school may be built on an adjacent parcel to the north of the site. As planning proceeds for these projects, the Town should consider whether shared access drives can be designed to serve both projects while minimizing the creation of impervious surfaces associated with each. I note that it is likely the high school project will require separate MEPA review.

The review of the ENF has served to adequately disclose the potential impacts associated with this project. Based on the information in the ENF and after consultation with relevant public agencies, I find that outstanding issues can be addressed adequately through state and local review. No further MEPA review is required.

January 3, 2007

Date



Robert W. Golledge, Jr.

Comments Received:

12/26/2006 Department of Environmental Protection /Central Regional Office
(MassDEP/CERO)

RWG/CDB/cdb