

ENF Environmental Notification Form

<i>For Office Use Only</i> <i>Executive Office of Environmental Affairs</i>	
EOEA No.:	<u>13759</u>
MEPA Analyst:	<u>Deidre Buckley</u>
Phone:	617-626- <u>1044</u>

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: Scituate Fire Station		
Street: 789 Chief Justice Cushing Highway (& 136 Mann Lot Rd., Corner Lot)		
Municipality: Town of Scituate	Watershed:	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 42 12' 15" Longitude: 70 46' 53"	
Estimated commencement date: Sept. 2006	Estimated completion date:	
Approximate cost: \$750,000	Status of project design: 75	%complete
Proponent: Town of Scituate		
Street: 600 Chief Justice Cushing Highway		
Municipality: Scituate	State: MA	Zip Code: 02066
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Rod Gaskell		
Firm/Agency: Sitec Environmental Inc.	Street: 769 Plain St., Unit C	
Municipality: Marshfield	State: MA	Zip Code: 02050
Phone: (781) 319-0100	Fax: (781) 834-4783	E-mail: rgaskell@sitec-engineering.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): Transfer of 3.19 acres from the Scituate Town forest to Fire Station use by Chapter 146 of the Acts of Zoning.

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, Title 5 Septic Permit, Massachusetts Highway Department Permit to Access State Highway

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

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input 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 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 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 type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits (including Legislative Approvals) – Specify: <u>Title 5 Septic Permit</u> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Total site acreage	3.19			
New acres of land altered		1.55		
Acres of impervious area	0	0.63	0.63	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		1,098		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	0	5,573	5,573	
Number of housing units	0	1	1	
Maximum height (in feet)				
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day				
Parking spaces	0	6	6	
WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use				
GPD water withdrawal				
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	0	220	220	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)				

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: Portion of Town Forest to Fire Station) 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

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 _____) 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.)

Proposed Project

The proposed project is a municipal fire station for the Town of Scituate (Ref. Attachment 7, Plan Sheets 1 of 2 and 2 of 2). It is proposed within a 3.19 acre portion of the Scituate Town Forest which fronts on both Rt. 3A and Mann Lot Road. The MA Legislature authorized this release of use of public open space for a Fire Station in Chapter 146 of the Acts of 2000. (Ref. Attachment 1.) This release or change of use of public land was also approved by Annual Town Meeting vote in March 2000 and reaffirmed at Special Town Meeting in November 2001.

Proposed Site

This 3.19 acre parcel is primarily a White Pine forest surrounding an isolated pocket of deciduous wooded wetland dominated by Red Maple. The replication of 2,169 SF wetland is proposed to mitigate filling 1,098 SF of this wooded wetland (i.e.; 2:1 wetland replication). A continuous fire station roadway will provide egress/access to both Route 3A and Mann Lot Road to provide maximum utility and operational safety. This roadway necessitates this wetlands filling. Other than this filling, the proposed roadway layout will result in the maintenance of a 50'-80' naturally forested buffer strip around the wetlands pocket on this property. There is no other layout of this roadway which provides the same level of utility and operational safety that will result in a wider buffer strip or otherwise less wetlands impacts. A Notice of Intent has been filed with the Scituate Conservation Commission. (Ref. Attachment 2.)

The proposed septic system leaching field will be located off Mann Lot road on a separate lot from the proposed fire station site, greater than 100' from wetlands. The fire station site was determined to be not suitable for locating a septic system due to high ground water conditions. An application for septic system approval has been filed with the Scituate Board of Health. (Ref. Attachment 3.)

Because of the change of use on Rt. 3A, a state highway, a permit is required from MA Highways. A state highway curb cut permit application has been filed. (Ref. Attachment 4.)

Alternative Considerations

Significant effort by the Town of Scituate has been put into locating a site for this fire station. (Ref. Attachment 5.) In 1992, due to fiscal constraints, the town closed one of its four operating fire stations within this section of town. The closed station provided first response coverage to the northeast section of Scituate and secondary coverage for both fire protection and emergency medical services (EMS) to other sections of town. In 1995 a house fire within ½ mile took the lives of three children. A review of the fire Department was undertaken in 1998. Two sites were recommended, one of which was the Town Forest location. In 1999 there were several medical emergencies within the area and residents felt that response times were inadequate and a committee was formed to research alternative locations. The search committee recommended two new stations be built, one of which at the Town Forest Site

Pervious Permitting Efforts

An Order of Conditions was issued by the Scituate Conservation Commission on December 19, 2001 (DEP File No. 68-1508). The Order was appealed to DEP. The Department issued a final Decision on May 14, 2004 which vacated a subsequent Superseding Order of Conditions and dismissed the appeal. Because it has been more than three years, it is the Department's opinion that a new Notice of Intent should be filed. One of the issues that emerged from this DEP wetlands appeal process was the need to file an ENF because of this change in land use from a town forest to a fire station, as required under MEPA Regulations, Section 301CMR 11.03(1)(b).