Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ■ MEPA Office

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
EOEA No.: 12761
MEPA Analyst: ANDREA DAMES
Phone: 617-626-1028

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: Fall River State Pier		
Street: Water Street		
Municipality: Fall River	Watershed: Taunton	
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates: 19 03 19847 E 46 19 165 N	Latitude: 41° 42' 21" Longitude: 71° 09' 54"	
Estimated commencement date: 9/02	Estimated completion date: 6/03	
Approximate cost: $1,700,000	Status of project design: 50 %complete	
Proponent: MA Department of Environmental Management, Office of Waterways		
Street: 349 Lincoln Street – Building 45		
Municipality: Hingham	State: MA	Zip Code: 02043
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Martha Craig Rheinhardt		
Firm/Agency: Vine Associates, Inc.	Street: 18 Beach St., P.O. Box 555	
Municipality: Monument Beach	State: MA	Zip Code: 02553
Phone: 508-743-0390	Fax: 508-743-0391	E-mail: mrheinhardt@vineassociates.net

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): Seaport Advisory Council, $1,700,000

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Programmatic General Permit; local Order of Conditions

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

- ☐ Land
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ ACEC
- ☐ Rare Species
- ☐ Wastewater
- ☐ Air
- ☐ Regulations
- ☒ Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Solid & Hazardous Waste
- ☐ Historical & Archaeological Resources

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total
LAND			
Total site acreage	220,000 s.f.		
New acres of land altered		0	
Acres of impervious area	220,000 s.f.	2900 s.f.	222,900 s.f.
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		2500 s.f. Land Under the Ocean	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0	
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	96,000 s.f.	0	96,000 s.f.
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A	N/A	N/A
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day	N/A	N/A	N/A
Parking spaces	N/A	N/A	N/A
WATER/WASTEWATER			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	N/A	N/A	N/A
GPD water withdrawal	N/A	N/A	N/A
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	N/A	N/A	N/A

State Permits & Approvals

- ☒ Order of Conditions
- ☐ Superseding Order of Conditions
- ☒ Chapter 91 License
- ☐ 401 Water Quality Certification
- ☐ MHD or MDC Access Permit
- ☐ Water Management Act Permit
- ☐ New Source Approval
- ☐ DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit
- ☐ Other Permits (*including Legislative Approvals*) – Specify:

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

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.*)

The proposed project is for the upgrading and expansion of the existing Fall River State Pier, in order to provide a longer and more uniform docking face along the western face of the pier. The pier is owned by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management, Office of Waterways. The existing alignment of the State Pier is such that there is an approximate fifteen foot jog in the face of the pier. The proposed project is to slightly expand the existing pier through the construction of a sheet pile bulkhead adjacent to the existing structure, in order to provide a uniform and straight docking face that will increase the use and value of this pier. The project is being funded by the Seaport Advisory Council.

The project site is located in the City of Fall River at the intersection of Water Street and Central Street at the Fall River State Pier. The main area of the State Pier consists of a one-story marine industrial warehouse constructed on a filled pier and timber pile pier foundation. The Fall River State Pier, which is currently operated by the Fall River Line Pier, opened in 1954, servicing the needs of the general cargo and break-bulk industry. Over its history, the port has handled various types of cargo, including wood pulp, bananas, fresh and frozen fish, wallboard, newsprint, paper, chemicals and lumber. Fall River continues to specialize in break-bulk cargoes and currently handles Kraft liner board, lumber, paper products, frozen fish and chemicals.

The present berthing lengths are 170 feet and 230 feet, respectively. The berth is presently underutilized due in part to the set back alignment of this area of the pier. A longer single berth would provide a much more versatile docking face at this location.

The Resource Areas at the project site are Designated Port Area (DPA), Land Under the Ocean (LUO) and Anadromous/Catadromous Fish Run ("Fish Run"). The proposed project will impact approximately 2500 square feet of DPA and LUO. The proposed work will impact approximately 230 linear feet of Fish Run. Any work proposed within a Fish Run will be conducted outside the spawning season, in order to avoid any potential impacts to anadromous or catadromous fish.

An extensive alternatives analysis was prepared for the State Pier Berth Improvements Findings Report and is included in Attachment 4. Of the five alternatives considered, three of the alternatives propose a new pier structure to develop a uniform docking face, and two propose filling behind a seaward retaining structure, which would eliminate the need for the new wharf structure. The no-build alternative would not alleviate the congested nature of the pier and would not allow for larger vessels to use the structure.

The project is described in greater detail in Attachment 3-Project Narrative and Attachment 4-Findings Report.