

ENF Environmental Notification Form

<i>For Office Use Only</i> Executive Office of Environmental Affairs	
EOEA No.:	<u>13568</u>
MEPA Analyst:	<u>Bill GAGE</u>
Phone:	617-626- <u>1025</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: Former L.E. Mason Facility		
Street: 98 Business Street		
Municipality: Boston	Watershed: Boston Harbor	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 42-15-5.62	Longitude: 071-07-43.5
Estimated commencement date: 9/1/05	Estimated completion date: 12/31/06	
Approximate cost: \$3 million	Status of project design: 50%complete	
Proponent: Thomas & Betts L.L.C.		
Street: 8155 T&B Boulevard		
Municipality: Memphis	State: TN	Zip Code: 38125
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: John Mitchell		
Firm/Agency: Shaw Environmental	Street: 88C Elm Street	
Municipality: Hopkinton	State: MA	Zip Code: 01748-1656
Phone: 508 497 6168	Fax: 508 435 9641	E-mail: john.mitchell@shawgrp.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): Not Applicable (NA)

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?
 Yes (Specify: COE, MADEP) No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: See ENF Supplemental Information: Section 1

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed: 301 CMR 11.03(3)(b)1.a.

- 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	State Permits & Approvals
LAND				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input 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 <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i>
Total site acreage	3.02 acres			
New acres of land altered		0 acres		
Acres of impervious area	3.02 acres	-0.11 acres	2.91 acres	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0.0 acres		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0.0 acres		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0.0 acres		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	4800 sq. ft.	-4800 sq. ft.	0 sq. ft.	
Number of housing units	1	-1	0	
Maximum height (in feet)	30	-30	0	
TRANSPORTATION				See ENF Supplemental Information: Section 1
Vehicle trips per day:	See ENF Supplemental Information: Section 2			
Parking spaces:	See ENF Supplemental Information: Section 2			
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	0	0	0	
GPD water withdrawal	0	0	0	
GPD wastewater generation/treatment	0	0	0	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0	0	

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.*)

See ENF Supplemental Information: Section 3

properties. The project will require that up to 60 one-way trips will be made along these routes, depending on the activities being conducted.

Due to the heavy use of intra-state trucking within the local area of the Phase-2006 activities, it is not anticipated that the additional vehicle usage of the local roads would create a traffic issue. As the proposed remedial activities do not include the construction of any new residential, commercial or industrial facilities, it is not anticipated that the project would result in a change in the number of parking spaces.

3.0 Project Description

The proposed project is being implemented to achieve regulatory closure for specific areas of the former L.E. Mason facility being regulated under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) – 310 CMR 40.0000. The project has been designed to remediate PCB impacted soil and sediment associated with the L.E. Mason property owned by Thomas & Betts L.L.C. of 8155 T&B Boulevard, Memphis TN as required by the Letter of Noncompliance dated February 7, 2005 (**Appendix A**). The project would consist of two stages (Phase 2005 and Phase 2006) that have been designated according to the years they have been scheduled. Phase-2005 constitutes the remediation of the former Aluminum Die Cast (ADC) area including the impacted Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) storm drain line and will be completed between August and November 2005. Phase 2006 includes the remediation of 1,800 linear feet of Mother Brook and has been scheduled for summer 2006 (Phase-2006).

Phase-2005 will commence with the partial demolition of the former ADC building. After the building is razed, the concrete floor would be removed to expose the impacted soil. Before the excavation stage of Phase-2005 is launched, Mother Brook would be diverted around the excavation area to prevent the hydraulic loading of the excavation walls by the stream. Temporary coffer dams would be installed and the stream diverted with centrifugal pumps. The excavation activities would result in the removal of PCBs impacted soil followed by offsite disposal at appropriate facilities. Any groundwater that infiltrates the excavation would be collected and processed in an onsite water treatment facility. Upon completion of the excavation activities, the area would be backfilled and the concrete floor would be reinstalled. The demolished portion of the building would then be restored on the original footprint.

Though much of the ADC building is located within the 25-foot buffer zone of Mother Brook, the appropriate stormwater and erosion controls (i.e. silt fences, staked hay bales and other best management practices) will completely negate any potential adverse impacts from the demolition of the building. The stream diversion will not present impacts on natural resources associated with Mother Brook. The stream is historically subject to considerable variation in seasonal streamflow; a temporary diversion of flow would not measurably alter the vegetation adjoining the diversion area. The potential impacts to aquatic wildlife would be minimized with barrier nets, which would allow for the transport of waterborne species downstream should any become ensnared. The temporary coffer dams that have been selected for the diversion are designed to avoid disturbance to fluvial substrates during installation and operation. When the excavation of the soil beneath the ADC building is complete, the dams would be disassembled and the streamflow gradually restored.

In addition to the ADC demolition and excavation activities, an impacted BWSC drain line would be pressure washed and lined with an inflatable epoxy resin. All wash water and/or stormwater would be collected at the outfall point and processed through an onsite water treatment system prior to its discharge. This would prevent PCBs from potentially entering the BWSC Storm Drain, and by extension in the future (inland banks, streambeds etc...). Phase-2005 would present no potential impacts towards resource areas associated with Mother Brook.

Phase-2006 would involve a more extensive diversion of Mother Brook and the subsequent dredging of streambed sediment. The same resource area impact mitigation measures (coffer dams, barrier nets etc...) employed during Phase-2005 would be employed during Phase-2006. The potential temporary impacts on resource areas posed by the dredging activities would be minimized or mitigated through a multifaceted approach. Prior to the commencement of the streambed dredging, a detailed survey would be conducted to determine the preexisting elevation of the streambed and characterize the spatial variation in the grain size of the streambed sediment.

Following the survey, temporary gravel access ramps would be installed on the dry banks to facilitate the entry and egress of remediation equipment. Approximately 18-inches of material would be dredged from the streambed resulting in approximately 1,882 cubic yards of material to be segregated and managed appropriately. Dredge material will be dewatered onsite prior to offsite disposal at an appropriate facility. The unearthed sediment would be appropriately disposed of according to federal guidelines. Any vegetation within the impacted areas that is removed during the remediation would be chipped and disposed of along with the sediment. After approximately 18 inches of sediment is removed, confirmatory samples will be analyzed to verify that the underlying sediment contains levels of PCBs consistent with background concentrations. Previous analytical results from sediment samples collected in mother brook indicate that removal of 18 inches will be sufficient to remediate the streambed; however sampling will be conducted to confirm whether additional dredging is necessary.

Upon completion of the remedial dredging of Mother Brook, the streambed will be restored to its previous grade with clean fill consisting of sand, cobble and riprap. The temporary access ramps will be completely removed, and the streamflow gradually restored.

4.0 Impacts on Natural Resources

Land:

The excavation of impacted sediment would result in the majority of the proposed project occurring within the diverted streambed. The placement of the required access points and staging areas for the project took advantage of preexisting areas of impervious surfaces or areas of limited vegetation. These areas would be used to the best extent practicable to avoid unnecessary impacts to the surrounding land. As a majority of the land within the general area of the proposed project is fully developed, the remediation of the site and downgradient stream would not result in long term, deleterious impacts on the existing land use.

Wetlands:

No bordering vegetated wetlands exist along Mother Brook in either the Phase-2005 or Phase-2006 project areas. However, other wetlands, as defined by MEPA include open water. The project would temporarily impact approximately 33,866 square feet of open water associated with Mother Brook. The open water would be diverted through a stream diversion system that would allow for the continued flow of Mother Brook. The land under the open water (e.g. the stream bottoms) would be temporarily impacted through the remediation activities. The impacted sediments would be excavated and replaced with clean material. The clean material would be restored to the pre-existing grade of the stream bottom to ensure the replacement of similar flow patterns. The project has been designed to actuate a positive effect on the brook's natural resources over the long term. The removal of PCBs adsorbed to streambed sediments will improve water and habitat quality. The remediation of streambed sediment should augment the viability of the invertebrate populations living in the brook. An increase in the number of these organisms would benefit fish and vertebrates that subsist on these macroinvertebrates. Therefore, other than the temporary impact to the open water habitat associated with the remediation, no long term deleterious impacts to the open water habitat would result from the proposed project.

Waterways and Tidelands:

Mother Brook (the waterway) would be temporarily impacted during the remediation by the stream diversion. A separate stream diversion is proposed for the Phase-2005 construction and the Phase-2006 construction. However, the diversion of the brook in order to effectuate the remediation of the stream sediments would provide long term benefits to the waterway by removing the contaminant from the stream ecosystem. No alteration of the existing stream corridor is proposed; therefore, there will be no impact on the location of the defined bed and the waterway would retain its flood storage capacity and conveyance features.

The proposed project has no impacts on tidelands as there are none located within the project limits. It is not anticipated that the project activities could have an impact on the down-gradient tidal lands as the distance is far to great and there are intervening impoundments.

Bordering Stream Vegetation:

The project will have temporary impacts on the natural resources associated with Mother Brook. Mother Brook is bordered by an intermixed spacing of vegetated (maintained lawn, shrubs and trees), non-vegetated (gravel) and retaining wall (granite and concrete) banks on both sides. The banks along the upgradient portion of Mother Brook were dominated by oaks (*Quercus sp.*) Maples (*Acer sp.*), smooth sumac (*Rhus glabra*) and poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*). The banks between the Amtrak Bridge Crossing and Hyde Park Avenue were dominated by Maples, grey birch (*Betula populifolia*), Black Walnut (*Juglans sp.*) and scrub brush. The banks between Hyde Park Bridge and the Neponset River were dominated by Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*), black walnut and smooth sumac.

5.0 Consistency with MetroPlan and Open Space Plan

A review of the Recreation Department's Open Space Plan and the MetroPlan developed by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council illustrates how closely the principles and goals of the plans intersect with the projected remediation activities. The proposed remedial actions are to take place in response to prior contamination of streambed sediments with PCBs. The end product of the anticipated remediation

activities will be a restoration of a one thousand foot length of Mother Brook from the Amtrak Bridge crossing to its confluence with the Neponset a few yards above Dana Ave.

The project's aim, to remove PCB's from the sediments of Mother Brook is consistent with the Open Space Plan. The anticipated project is highly consistent with the Regional Policy Plan for the Metropolitan Boston Regional Plan (MetroPlan). The proposed activities will allow for the utilization of an underdeveloped industrial facility through the mitigation of outstanding environmental liability associated with it. In addition, the remediation activities planned for Mother Brook support the MetroPlan's provisions for the restoration of streams and wetlands.

The potential negative impacts of the proposed project to the resources will either be completely avoided or minimized and mitigated in accordance with the overall message of the MetroPlan. The anticipated activities have been designed to restore the lower reaches of Mother Brook to a more pristine condition and free up industrially zoned land for redevelopment. The goals of the proposed project directly coincide with those outlined in the MetroPlan.