

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.: 13307
 MEPA Analyst: Nick ZAVOLAS
 Phone: 617-626-1030

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: Massachusetts Army National Guard - Methuen Readiness Center		
Street: 679 Lowell Street (Route 110)		
Municipality: City of Methuen	Watershed: Merrimack	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: X=317193.12427 Y=4728611.58444	Latitude: 42 71 17.72810 N Longitude: 71 13 53.41614 W	
Estimated commencement date: 2006	Estimated completion date: 2008	
Approximate cost: \$15.3 Million	Status of project design: 30% complete	
Proponent: Massachusetts Army National Guard		
Street: 50 Maple Street		
Municipality: Milford	State: MA	Zip Code: 01757
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Brian Vaillancourt		
Firm/Agency: URS Corporation	Street: 38 Chauncy Street	
Municipality: Boston	State: MA	Zip Code 02111
Phone: (617) 542-4244	Fax: (617) 524 3301	E-mail: Brian_Vaillancourt@URSCorp.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): This project will be 75% federally funded and 25% Commonwealth of Massachusetts funded

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?
 Yes (Specify: Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) and National Guard Bureau (NGB) Reviews) No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: MA WPA Order Of Conditions-City of Methuen , MHC Concurrence, National Guard Bureau Review

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

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input 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 checked="" 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 <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i> MHC Concurrence
Total site acreage	5.5 Acres			
New acres of land altered		None		
Acres of impervious area	Approximately 3.2 Acres	+ Approx. 1.7 Acres	4.9 Acres	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		None		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		None		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		None		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	37,000 sf	+27,000sf	+64,000sf	
Number of housing units	None	None	None	
Maximum height (in feet)	Approximately 35-40 Feet	0	Approximately 35-40 Feet	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	4 (Weekday) 204 (Weekend)	+20 (Weekday) +122 (Weekend)	+24 (Weekday) +326 (Weekend)	
Parking spaces	Approximately 2.4 Acres of Military and Civilian Vehicle Parking	+1 Acre of Military and Civilian Vehicle Parking	257 Mixed Military/Civilian Vehicle Spaces 3.4 Acres	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	Not Available	12,500 gpd	12,500 gpd	
GPD water withdrawal	0	0	0	
GPD wastewater generation/treatment	Not Available	12,500 gpd	12,500 gpd	
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 See Below _____) No

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (MNHESP) indicated during consultation for this project that the project site abuts an area designated as a Priority and Estimated Habitat (PH1/WH2), which has been delineated for Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and the Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*). This area is centered on the Merrimack River in the area to the east of the project site.

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 The Motor Vehicle Storage Building and Armory structures at the Methuen Armory Facility are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places) No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

Yes (Specify The Motor Vehicle Storage Building will be demolished to accommodate the proposed action.)
 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 project site is located at 679 Lowell Street (Route 110) in Methuen. The Proposed Action is construction of a new Readiness Center at the site of the existing Methuen Armory facility. The project proponent is the Massachusetts Army National Guard (MAARNG). The existing Armory building, which is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, will be upgraded as a part of this project. The project will include demolition of the existing Motor Vehicle Storage Building (MVSb) at the facility.

Battery B, 102nd Field Artillery Battalion is currently stationed at the Methuen Armory. This unit has an authorized personnel strength of 102 soldiers. The project will support a new MAARNG force structure and will enable the planned relocation of four MAARNG units to the facility. These units include the 726th Finance Battalion (consisting of the 747th Finance Detachment, the 101st Finance Detachment, the 685th Finance Detachment), and an Engineer Construction Support Company. Construction of the Readiness Center and renovation of the existing armory structure will allow these units to meet mission, readiness and training requirements. A site locus figure is presented as Figure 1, and the existing conditions at the Methuen Armory site are presented in Figure 2.

The project site includes approximately 23,400 sf of buffer zone associated with an offsite bordering vegetated