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.: 14284
MEPA Analyst: Anne Canaday
Phone: 617-626-1035

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: Apponagansett Bay Sewer		
Street: Lucy Street		
Municipality: Dartmouth	Watershed: Buzzards Bay	
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates: 336900E 4606842N	Latitude: 41.5966° N Longitude: 70.957° W	
Estimated commencement date: 1/1/2000	Estimated completion date: 9/1/2001	
Approximate cost: $13,000	Status of project design: 100 %complete	
Proponent: Town of Dartmouth DPW		
Street: 759 Russells Mills Road		
Municipality: Dartmouth	State: MA	Zip Code: 02748
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: David Hickox		
Firm/Agency: Town of Dartmouth DPW	Street: 759 Russells Mills Rd	
Municipality: Dartmouth	State: MA	Zip Code: 02748
Phone: 508-999-0740	Fax: 508-999-0762	E-mail: dhickox@town.dartmouth.ma.us

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 301 CMR 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):_____

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: 401 Water Quality Certificate – 11/16/1999
Order of Conditions - 9/21/1999

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	0.46		
New acres of land altered		0.047	
Acres of impervious area	0.071	0	0.071
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0.047	
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage			
Number of housing units			
Maximum height (in feet)			
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day			
Parking spaces			
WASTEWATER			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	0	0	0
GPD water withdrawal	0	0	0
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	0	7590	7590
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0.43	0.43

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:

_____

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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

In 1999 when the project was completed, the site was not included in an Estimated Habitat, as of 2006 the maps have been revised and now a portion of the site just touches the boundary of an Estimated Habitat.

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.*)

ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS:

Option 1. - *TAKE NO ACTION ON CITIZENS PETITION TO PROVIDE SEWER SERVICE*

The Apponagansett Bay Sewer Project was initiated by citizens petition to the Dartmouth Board of Selectmen. At the request of the Board of Selectmen, the Department of Public Works Engineering Division performed preliminary cost estimates for the project based on the Town of Dartmouth's **MASTER PLAN for Wastewater Collection.** (Refer to Attachment "B").

After a series of Public Hearings on the proposed project, a two thirds majority of the citizens voted favorably for the project. The projects final design including alternatives analysis of the proposed saltmarsh crossing were completed in August 1999. On September 1, 1999 bids for the project were opened publicly. Silva Construction Co., Inc. was the low bidder.

The Town will be awarding the project to Silva subject to obtaining the 401 Water Quality Certification permit.

NOTE: The proposed sewer service area is located on Apponagansett Bay and has been identified as one of the greatest sources on nutrient loading to the Bay. Existing septic systems are difficult to repair due to the high water table and poor soils.

Option 2.- *ROUTE SEWER MAIN BETWEEN EXISTING HOMES TO HIGHLAND ST.*

In order to avoid the saltmarsh resource area, the Engineering Division evaluated several alternative routes to make connection to the existing sanitary sewer system on Highland Street.

Based on site surveys and field reconnaissance, it would be very difficult to install gravity sewer thru the sidelines of the existing homes due to minimal setbacks from existing foundations and direct conflict with existing garages and outbuildings. (Refer to Attachment "A"). Further, in order to service the entire area by gravity sewer, certain depth requirements must be obtained that would be difficult if the connection to the existing sanitary sewer system was at a point other than as detailed on the Master Plan that being the low end of Highland Street.

Option 3. - *INSTALL LOW PRESSURE SEWER THRU-OUT THE SERVICE AREA..*

The Department of Public Works designs and install gravity sewer in accordance with the MASTER PLAN for Wastewater Collection (Refer to Attachment "B"). The purpose of the Master Plan is to maximize the limits of the gravity sewer collection system and minimize the need to depend on pumps and electrical power supply.

The Department of Public Works policy is to only allow the installation of Low Pressure Sewer (LPS) when gravity sewer is not feasible.

Based on the fact that the proposed service area is to be serviced in accordance with the Town's Master Plan, the LPS option has not been considered for this project as it would require the installation of 23 individual low pressure pumps that do not have backup electrical supply.

Option 4. - *INSTALL GRAVITY SEWER SYSTEM PER TOWN'S MASTER PLAN*
(Refer to Attachment "B")

The Town in the early 1970's performed a comprehensive evaluation of the various watersheds within the Town in order to maximize the limits of the gravity collection system and minimize the number of pump stations and individual pumps that would be required to service the Town.

In order to service the subject area, the Engineering Division has designed the proposed Apponagansett Bay Sewer Project in accordance with the Master Plan.

CONCLUSION: ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

Based on the analysis of the 4 options presently above, it was determined that the installation of gravity sewer for the Apponagansett Bay Sewer Project should be in accordance with the Town of Dartmouth's Department of Public Works MASTER PLAN for Wastewater Collection.

Option 4 provides for the best long term solution for the discharge of sanitary sewer from the proposed service area. The proposed work can be performed with minimal impact to the resource area in less than two days. Completion of the work in the fall of 1999 will allow for indiviual connections to the system by December 1999 and the resulting improvements to Apponagansett Bay's water quality would be immediate.