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.: 13635
MEPA Analyst: Beiony Angus
Phone: 617-626-1029

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: **Russell Biomass Power Plant**			
Street: **Station Road**			
Municipality: **Russell**		Watershed: **Westfield River**	
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates: **18 0677641 E; 4672945 N**		Latitude: **42°11'20"N** Longitude: **72°50'55"W**	
Estimated commencement date: **Dec. 2006**		Estimated completion date: **January 2009**	
Approximate cost: **$150,000,000**		Status of project design: **40** %complete	
Proponent: **Russell Biomass LLC**			
Street: **101 Hampton Road**			
Municipality: **Pomfret Center**		State: **CT**	Zip Code: **06259**
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: **Rebecca Sherer**			
Firm/Agency: **Tighe & Bond, Inc**		Street: **53 Southampton Road**	
Municipality: **Westfield**		State: **MA**	Zip Code: **01085**
Phone: **(413) 572-3208**	Fax: **(413) 562-5317**		E-mail: **rlsherer@tighebond.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): **Massachusetts Technology Collaborative - $150,000**

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: **See Narrative Table 2-1 in Section 2**

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 **Facility** / **Transmission Line**	70 / 63		
New acres of land altered		39.2	
Acres of impervious area	5.3	2.4	7.7
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		7,000 (temp)	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0	
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	73,500	-10,570	62,930
Number of housing units	0	0	0
Maximum height (in feet) **Bldg** / **Stack**	45 / 100	180 / 200	135 / 300
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day	82	130	212
Parking spaces	44	-22	22
WATER/WASTEWATER			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	600,500	285,500	886,000
GPD water withdrawal **Average** / **Maximum**	600,000 / 600,000	62,000 / 285,000	662,000 / 885,000
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment **Average** / **Maximum**	500 / 0 / 0	500 / 101,000 / 133,000	1,000 / 101,000 / 133,000
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0	0

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:

See Table 2-1 in Section 2 for a complete list of potential permits

Maximum

Sanitary Sewer
Cooling

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 Narrative Section 5**) ☒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 **See Narrative Section 13**) ☐No

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

☒Yes (Specify **See Narrative Section 13**) ☐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 proponent proposes to develop a 50 MW biomass-fired power plant, on 18 acres of a 70-acre parcel in Russell, Massachusetts, see figures in Appendix A showing various project locations. Approximately 509,000 tons of biomass wood fuel will be consumed annually to produce heat to drive the turbine to generate electricity. The energy generated from the facility will be transmitted to the existing electrical grid and the net annual energy production will be approximately 380,000,000 kWh.

The plant will consist of a complete fuel receiving and handling system, a single fluidized bubbling bed boiler, a single condensing turbine, a mechanical forced draft evaporative cooling tower withdrawing water from the nearby Westfield River via an existing intake structure, air and water quality control systems, a distillate fuel oil boiler starting system, and essential auxiliaries typical of a stand alone power generating station.

The energy generated by the plant utilizing the renewable fuel will be conveyed via a new transmission line from the site, approximately 5.2 miles along an existing transmission line easement to connect with the existing 115 kV electrical transmission distribution line.

Significant site preparation work has already been completed as part of a permitted gravel operation. Approximately 18 acres of cleared ground is available for the siting of the power plant and related facilities. The site has the added benefit of an existing intake structure for the withdrawal of approximately 662,000 average and 885,000 gallons per day of water for cooling operations and a discharge point for about 101,000 average and 133,000 maximum gallons per day of return water from the cooling tower.

In addition, an existing municipal water main supplies potable water to the site. The small amount of water needed will be used for drinking water and plant domestic sanitary needs. The municipal sewer terminates on the other side of the River, therefore an on-site subsurface sewage disposal will be utilized for the plant's sanitary sewer needs. A storm drain and stormwater management system will be constructed on site to collect, detain and treat stormwater flows.

A sizable portion of the site will be utilized for the stockpile of 20 to 30 days fuel storage to assure a continuous, adequate supply for the plant. Transportation of wood fuel to the site, from the various sources, will necessitate approximately 75 deliveries along Main Street of Russell to supply the required 2,000 tons per day. Ash, the by product from burning wood fuel will be trucked from the site. Because the ash is from the burning of wood fuel it is anticipated that it will be appropriate for land application.