Public Notice

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Division of Wetlands and Waterways

Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 M.G.L. c. 21 §§ 26 - 53, notice is given of a 401 Water Quality Certification application for the replacement of the existing Schell Bridge crossing the Connecticut River in the Town of Northfield, Massachusetts by the MassDOT Division of Highways, Ten Park Plaza, Room 4260, Boston, MA 02116. The purpose for the project is to improve safety and address deterioration of the existing bridge structure and therefore, reinstate access over the Connecticut River for pedestrians and bicyclists. This project includes the work required to demolish the existing bridge and construct a new pedestrian/bicycle bridge. The roadway approaches will be rebuilt as a shared use path for approximately 1,000 feet on each side of the bridge with parking provided at the terminus of the shared use path segment to accommodate three vehicles. Additional information may be obtained from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division at the above address, Attention Tim Dexter or by emailing timothy.dexter@state.ma.us. Written comments should be sent to Heidi Davis, MassDEP Wetlands Program, 1 Winter Street, Boston, MA 02108 or heidi.davis@mass.gov within 21 days of this notice.

Any group of ten persons, any aggrieved person, or any governmental body or private organization with a mandate to protect the environment who submits written comments may appeal the Department's Certification. Failure to submit written comments before the end of the public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing.