



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
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Public Notice of Variance Request
of M.G.L. c. 131 §40

Notice is hereby given that a request is being made of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to waive the wetlands protection regulations by Alfred Dougherty of the City of North Adams Airport Commission for improvements to the Harriman and West Airport. This request seeks a variance of the Wetlands Protection Act (MGL c. 131 §40) and the associated wetland regulations (310 CMR 10.00).

The variance request is for the Runway and Taxiway Reconstruction with Safety Area and other Airport Improvements in the City of North Adams and the Town of Williamstown. The Harriman and West Airport is proposing to construct runway safety improvements to the runway, taxiway, and airport infrastructure. This project will include (1) the relocation and reconstruction of the existing runway 100 ft. to the west; (2) construction of standard Runway Safety Areas at both runway ends; (3) reconstruction and realignment of the parallel taxiway; (4) reconstruction of the main apron with drainage improvements; (5) other improvements to stormwater management at the Airport; and (6) creation of a 3.3± acre replacement wetland. The project will result in (1) permanent direct impact to 0.96± acres of Bordering Vegetated Wetland with an additional 0.55± acres of impact associated with construction of wetland mitigation site and other incidental work; (2) relocation of 850± of stream Bank with the replacement wetland; (3) replacement of existing culverts beneath the runway (1430± lf Bank resource associated with Paull Brook and unnamed intermittent stream); and (4) modification of Riverfront Area (60,560± square feet) on existing airfield or as part of construction of replacement wetland.

At this time it appears that the project may require a variance as per 310 CMR 10.05(10) from the following wetland regulation performance standards: Bank 10.54(4), BVW 10.55(4), Land Under Water 10.56(4), Riverfront Area 10.58(4), and Wildlife Habitat 10.60.

Individuals wishing to comment on the above referenced variance application are requested to submit written comments by the close of business on August 15, 2006 to:

Lisa Rhodes
Department of Environmental Protection
Wetlands and Waterways
One Winter Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

This information is available in alternate format by calling our ADA Coordinator at (617) 574-6872.

DEP on the World Wide Web: <http://www.state.ma.us/dep>

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