



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Deval L. Patrick
GOVERNOR

Timothy P. Murray
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Ian A. Bowles
SECRETARY

Tel: (617) 626-1000
Fax: (617) 626-1181
<http://www.mass.gov/envir>

August 22, 2008

CERTIFICATE OF THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
ON THE
ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION FORM

PROJECT NAME: Astro 25 800 MHz Digital Trunked Radio System
PROJECT MUNICIPALITY: Peru
PROJECT WATERSHED: Housatonic
EEA NUMBER: 14289
PROJECT PROPONENT: Massachusetts State Police – Troop B
DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR: July 23, 2008

Pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (G. L. c. 30, ss. 61-62I) and Section 11.06 of the MEPA regulations (301 CMR 11.00), I hereby determine that this project **does not require** the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Project Description

As outlined in the Environmental Notification Form (ENF), the project involves the collocation of multiple wireless antennas on an existing 350-foot lattice tower and the installation of ancillary ground-based equipment on concrete pads. One 18-foot by 4-foot concrete pad will support several propane storage tanks and one 8-foot by 4-foot concrete pad will support an emergency generator. The project site consists of an existing wireless communications facility that includes a one-story structure and a chain-link fenced tower compound, within which is the existing 350-foot tower and two utility pedestals. The site is located near the intersection of Hickingbotham Road and South Road in Peru. The project site is located within the Hinsdale Flats Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

Jurisdiction

The project is undergoing environmental review pursuant to Section 11.03(11)(b) of the MEPA regulations because the project site is located within an ACEC. No state permits are required for the project. The project will require a Building Permit from the Town of Peru. The project will be funded by the Massachusetts State Police. Because the project involves financial assistance from the Commonwealth, MEPA jurisdiction extends to all aspects of the project that may cause Damage to the Environment as defined in the MEPA regulations.


Review of the ENF

The project will result in an increase of 104 square feet of impervious surface at the site. The project will not result in any impacts to wetland resource areas or rare species habitat. The environmental impacts of the project appear to be limited. The Proponent should follow best management practices during construction activities to avoid temporary and permanent impacts to the area. Exposed soils should be stabilized to avoid erosion impacts. Construction vehicle traffic should be directed over pre-existing access points. Due to the project site's location in the Hinsdale Flats ACEC, extraordinary care should be exercised by the Proponent to ensure that adverse environmental impacts are avoided, minimized and mitigated.

Conclusion

Based on a review of the information provided by the Proponent and after consultation with the relevant public agencies, I find that the potential impacts of this project do not warrant the preparation of an EIR. No further MEPA review is required at this time.

August 22, 2008
Date


for Ian A. Bowles

Comments Received:

7/25/2008 Department of Environmental Protection, Western Regional Office
8/12/2008 Department of Conservation and Recreation, Area of Critical Environmental Concern Program

IAB/BA/ba