



# *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

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August 25, 2006

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

PROJECT NAME : Springdale Valley Sewer Interceptor Repair  
PROJECT MUNICIPALITY : Canton  
PROJECT WATERSHED : Neponset Valley  
EOEA NUMBER : 13838  
PROJECT PROPONENT : Town of Canton, Department of Public Works  
DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR : July 25, 2006

Pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (G. L. c. 30, ss. 61-62H) 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.

As described in the Environmental Notification Form (ENF), the proposed project involves stabilizing an existing 20-foot wide sewer easement and repairing and realigning the exposed sewer. The proponent proposes to excavate the existing easement material to a depth of 18 inches, place a geo-grid in the 10-foot wide trench for the 1500-foot length of easement and then cover the geo-grid with 18 inches of gravel aggregate. The stabilization will allow repair and maintenance vehicles to get in to repair exposed sections of a 12-inch sewer pipe within a stream bed. The site is within a sewer easement located on a 66.1-acre parcel owned by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) located off Neponset Street near the Canton/Norwood town line, and between University Road and Cedarcrest Road in the Town of Canton. The site contains wooded and wetland areas. It has gated access on Neponset Street where University Road intersect.

The proposed project site is located within the Fowl Meadow Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) in the Neponset River basin. This area includes the largest wetland and floodplain areas in the Neponset River basin. The area encompasses a diverse suite

of wetland resource areas with municipal public wells that provide water to the communities of Canton, Dedham, and Westwood. The northern Fowl Meadow area has been designated a National Environmental Study Area by the National Park Service and the area is also home to 13 state-listed rare species.

The project is undergoing review pursuant to Sections 11.03 (3)(b)(d) and 11.03(11)(b) and of the MEPA regulations because it will alter 5,000 or more square feet of bordering or isolated vegetated wetlands and will be located within an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The project will also require a Superseding Order of Conditions and possibly a 401 Water Quality Certificate from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Because the proponent is not seeking state financial assistance for the project, MEPA jurisdiction extends to those aspects of the project that are within the subject matter of required permits, or potentially required permits, and that have the potential to cause significant Damage to the Environment. In this case, MEPA jurisdiction exists over wetland and water issues.

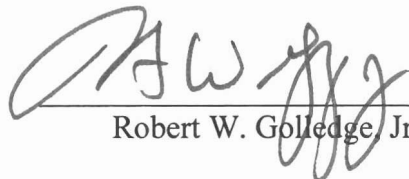
As proposed, this project entails critical repairs project to the 12-inch sewer. The ENF states that no additional design flow will be added to the Town's sewer capacity during the repair. DEP has said in its comment letter that no approval will be required under 314 CMR 7.00. DEP supports the proposed plan but will require the proponent to submit the following plan revisions and the construction sequence before they will issue a Superseding Order of Conditions:

- The diverted channel should have the same cross-sectional dimensions as the existing channel. The proponent should use that portion of the original channel downstream of the scour pool as a reference.
- Gravels and cobbles from the existing channel should be used in the diverted channel stream bed to the greatest extent possible.
- Bioengineering techniques should be used to stabilize the banks of the diverted channel banks. The proponent should refer to "Technical Note 14-1, Streambank Soil Engineering, NRCS Stream Restoration Design Handbook (draft 9/14/2005)." Probable erosion points will be the diversion point and the outside bend of the curve.
- The proponent should provide a narrative separate of the proposed plan regarding sequencing of the diversion and repair of the sewer.

I conclude that no further MEPA review is required. I am confident that the remaining issues can be resolved during the permitting process. If the project undergoes a material change and requires a new or amended state agency action, the proponent should file a timely Notice of Project Change (NPC).

August 25, 2006

Date

  
Robert W. Gollidge, Jr.

Comments received:

- 08/11/06 Department of Conservation and Recreation, ACEC Program
- 08/15/06 Department of Environmental Protection, NERO

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