

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.: **14394**
MEPA Analyst: **Nick ZAVOLAS**
Phone: 617-626-**1030**

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: <i>Southwick Parallel Interceptor Sewer Project</i> | | |
| Street: <i>Linear Project (See Project Narrative)</i> | | |
| Municipality: <i>Westfield, MA</i> | Watershed: <i>Westfield River</i> | |
| Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: | Latitude: Start: <i>42.110645</i> End: <i>42.116601</i> Longitude: Start: <i>-72.737438</i> End: <i>-72.728455</i> | |
| Estimated commencement date: <i>09/2009</i> | Estimated completion date: <i>05/2011</i> | |
| Approximate cost: <i>\$1,860,000</i> | Status of project design: <i>90 %complete</i> | |
| Proponent: <i>Town of Southwick, MA Board of Selectmen (Karl Stinehart)</i> | | |
| Street: <i>454 College Highway</i> | | |
| Municipality: <i>Southwick</i> | State: <i>MA</i> | Zip Code: <i>01077</i> |
| Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: <i>Ronald A. Michalski, P.E.</i> | | |
| Firm/Agency: <i>Tighe & Bond, Inc.</i> | Street: <i>53 Southampton Road</i> | |
| Municipality: <i>Westfield</i> | State: <i>MA</i> | Zip Code: <i>01085</i> |
| Phone: <i>(413) 572-3203</i> | Fax: <i>(413) 562-5317</i> | E-mail: <i>ramichalski@tighebond.com</i> |

- 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. See Below) No

- EOEA No. 4680 – Westfield Interceptor Design
- EOEA No. 11813 – Sewer Expansion and Expansion of Westfield Water Pollution Control Plant
- EOEA No. 5091 – Westfield River Interceptor Sewers
- EOEA No. 5411 – Little River Erosion Control

- 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):

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals:

Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (NHESP), Order of Conditions (Westfield Conservation Commission; Wetlands Protection Act), Section 404 Authorization (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), Individual 401 WQC (MADEP),.

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources |

| Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts | Existing | Change | Total | State Permits & Approvals |
|--|----------|---------|-------|---|
| LAND | | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits (including Legislative Approvals) – Specify: MESA Authorization Sewer Connection/Extension Permit |
| Total site acreage | 2.65 | | | |
| New acres of land altered | | 0.88 | | |
| Acres of impervious area | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration | | 0 | | |
| Square feet of new other wetland alteration *BLSF, LUW | | 117,355 | | |
| Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways | | 0 | | |
| STRUCTURES | | | | |
| Gross square footage | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Number of housing units | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Maximum height (in feet) | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| TRANSPORTATION | | | | |
| Vehicle trips per day | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Parking spaces | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| WATER/WASTEWATER | | | | |
| Gallons/day (GPD) of water use | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| GPD water withdrawal | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| GPD wastewater generation/treatment | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Length of water/sewer mains (in miles) | 0 | 0 | 0 | |

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 Estimated Habitat and Priority Habitat of Rare Species) 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 _____) No

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

Yes (Specify _____) 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 Town of Southwick planned and constructed a municipal sewerage system between 1985 and 2005 that consists of more than 15 miles of pipe, 6 sewage pumping stations and a connection to the Westfield Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The sewerage system serves existing homes along South and Middle Pond, two of three recreational lakes in Southwick known as Congamond Lakes. In addition, the downtown business district of the town was seweraged along with adjacent residential areas where on-lot sewage disposal problems were prevalent. Locally, the seweraged areas are called the Phase I Sewer System.

All Southwick sewage is transported to Westfield via a long interceptor sewer that follows an abandoned railroad bed from Depot Street in Southwick to the Westfield WWTP. Because of cost concerns during the Sewer System project, Southwick did not construct a new interceptor sewer for the entire route. Southwick is temporarily borrowing capacity in one of Westfield's interceptor sewers to convey sewage to the WWTP for the last 3,600 feet.

As part of the overall Southwick sewer construction program, Southwick negotiated an Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) with Westfield to purchase capacity in the Westfield WWTP as well as the right to connect to existing Westfield sewers to cover the final 3,600 feet to the WWTP. A copy of the signed IMA is provided in Section 6. It should be noted that in 2005, Westfield expanded its WWTP to provide additional capacity for Westfield as well as 500,000 gpd of sewage capacity purchased by Southwick in accordance with terms of the IMA. The IMA also states that Southwick can use 3,600 feet of Westfield sewers until one of the following occurs:

1. Southwick sewage flows exceed 175,000 gpd or expands beyond Phase 1 areas, or
2. Westfield needs additional capacity in the shared sewer pipe.

The Town of Southwick received a letter from Westfield on December 8, 2006 confirming that there are capacity concerns in the shared pipe and that Southwick should initiate plans for a separate, parallel pipeline. As previously stated, Southwick is currently borrowing capacity in one of Westfield's interceptor sewers to convey sewage to the WWTP. Southwick's 21-inch diameter interceptor sewer connects to Westfield's 12-inch diameter Interceptor sewer on South Meadow Road. Due to the reduction in pipe size from 21 inches to 12 inches, there is limited capacity in the Westfield 12-inch pipe. The shared pipe is located entirely in Westfield and runs from South Meadow Road, cross-country to Mainline Drive. The pipe is then routed along Mainline Drive to Route 20 and then cross country to the WWTP. Though parallel to the existing sewer, the project will result in the widening of the existing easement.

The preferred alignment of 3,600 feet of parallel 21-inch interceptor sewer extends from the Westfield WWTP to South Meadow Street and involves two perennial stream crossings at the Little and Westfield Rivers (Land Under Water), as well as work within inland Bank, Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF), and Buffer Zone. Work within wetland resource areas is discussed in further detail in Sections 5 and 7 of this ENF. At both stream crossings, open-cut trench technology is the anticipated method of construction due to the slope requirements of the gravity pipe, the composition of the substrate at both locations and technology limitations. A detailed alternatives analysis is provided in Section 10 of this ENF. Construction of the proposed parallel sewer also includes crossing beneath the four lanes of East Main Street (Route 20), a state highway. Work along and within the Westfield River will also occur within mapped rare species habitat, which is discussed further in Section 5 of this ENF.