ENF

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ■ MEPA Office

Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
EOEA No.: 13247
MEPA Analyst: Anne Canaday
Phone: 617-626-1035

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: Yankee Nuclear Power Station – Site Closure Project		
Street: 49 Yankee Road		
Municipality: Rowe	Watershed: Deerfield River	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: Zone 19 - N 15,544,904 E 585,206	Latitude: 42° 43' 41" Longitude: 72° 55' 42"	
Estimated commencement date: 9/1/04	Estimated completion date: 5/31/05	
Approximate cost: $5 Million	Status of project design: 75% complete	
Proponent: Yankee Atomic Electric Company		
Street: 49 Yankee Road		
Municipality: Rowe	State: MA	Zip Code: 01367
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: John McTigue		
Firm/Agency: ERM	Street: 399 Boylston St. 6th Floor	
Municipality: Boston	State: MA	Zip Code: 02116
Phone: 617-646-7842	Fax: 617-267-6447	E-mail: john.mctigue@erm.com

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._____) ☒No

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): **None**

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: **Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permit and EPA TSCA Risk-Based Disposal Approval**

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

- ☐ Land
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ ACEC
- ☐ Rare Species
- ☐ Wastewater
- ☐ Air
- ☐ Regulations
- ☒ Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Solid & Hazardous Waste
- ☐ Historical & Archaeological Resources

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total
LAND			
Total site acreage	1,815		
New acres of land altered		0	
Acres of impervious area	9.4	- 7.9	1.5
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		6,000	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		20,000	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0	
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	103,569	-91,910	11,660
Number of housing units	0	0	0
Maximum height (in feet)	160	-145	15
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day	500	-470	30
Parking spaces	250	-205	45
WATER/WASTEWATER			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	1,150	-1,055	95
GPD water withdrawal	1,150	-1,055	95
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	1,050	-965	85
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	NA	NA	NA

State Permits & Approvals

- ☒ Order of Conditions
- ☐ Superseding Order of Conditions
- ☐ Chapter 91 License
- ☒ 401 Water Quality Certification
- ☐ MHD or MDC Access Permit
- ☐ Water Management Act Permit
- ☐ New Source Approval
- ☐ DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit
- ☒ Other Permits (*including Legislative Approvals*) – Specify:

Chapter 91 permit

Corrective Action Design

Beneficial Use Determinations

MCP filings – Phase IV

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 (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.

The site is located at 49 Yankee Road in the northwestern Massachusetts Town of Rowe, adjacent to the Vermont border (Figure 1). The site consists of an approximately 1,800-acre property owned by the Yankee Atomic Electric Company (YAEC) and portions of an adjacent property to the west owned by USGen New England (USGen NE). The site abuts the eastern shore of the Deerfield River and Sherman Reservoir, adjacent to Sherman Dam, one of several dams along the Deerfield River used for hydroelectric power generation.

The plant was constructed between 1958 and 1960. The layout of the plant did not change significantly between 1960 and 1992, when the plant was shutdown. In 2001, Yankee constructed an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) adjacent to the plant that utilizes a dual-purpose (storage and transport) canister system for storage of spent nuclear fuel. An aerial photograph of the plant taken in April 2001 is provided as Figure 2 and the general layout of the plant is provided as Figure 3.

As part of site closure, the following activities are planned that trigger MEPA review due to their potential impacts to wetlands (see Figure 6):

- **Removal of PCB-impacted sediments to comply with the requirements of the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) and Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Sediment removal is planned near the East and West Storm Drain Outfalls.**
- **Decommissioning of the circulating water intake structure and pipe to satisfy the requirements of the property owner, USGen NE, and to maintain the integrity of Sherman Dam.**
- **Decommissioning of the circulating water discharge structure to satisfy the requirements of the property owner, USGen NE, and to maintain the integrity of Sherman Dam.**
- **Removal of Southeast Construction Fill Area (SCFA) to eliminate an on-site construction and demolition debris landfill to satisfy the requirements of the Massachusetts Solid Waste Regulations and to re-use the native soils for fill on or off the site.**

The evaluation of alternatives focuses on alternatives to the proposed activities, including the no action alternative, which involves leaving the sediments and structures in-place. The sediments cannot be left in-place because they pose a potential risk of harm to the environment and response actions are necessary to satisfy the requirements of the MCP and TSCA. The structures cannot be left in-place because it would not satisfy USGen NE's requirements to restore their portion of the site to pre-existing conditions, where feasible, and would not satisfy the site closure project objectives for the remainder of the site.

Mitigation measures are planned to minimize impacts to the environment during the proposed activities, all of which will be temporary impacts. Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented during the sediment remediation and structure decommissioning activities to prevent erosion and siltation within Sherman Reservoir and other wetland resource areas. Silt curtains will be used for work within Sherman Reservoir and silt fencing will be established around the upland edge of the work areas and along other vulnerable upland areas. An earthen berm will be constructed to replace temporary flood control measures previously maintained by YAEC in association with Sherman Dam.

In the long-term, there will be a net benefit to the environment from the removal of the impacted sediments and the removal of man-made structures that exist along the shoreline and extend into Sherman Reservoir. Restoration activities will improve the habitat value, especially associated with fishery resources.

See Section 2.0 for a more detailed project description.

LAND SECTION – all proponents must fill out this section

I. Thresholds / Permits

A. Does the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **land** (see 301 CMR 11.03(1)
___ Yes _X_ No; if yes, specify each threshold:

II. Impacts and Permits

A. Describe, in acres, the current and proposed character of the project site, as follows:

	Existing	Change	Total
Footprint of buildings	2	-1.7	0.3
Roadways, parking, and other paved areas	10	-7	3
Other altered areas (describe)			
Undeveloped areas	1,803	+9	1,812

B. Has any part of the project site been in active agricultural use in the last three years?
___ Yes _X_ No; if yes, how many acres of land in agricultural use (with agricultural soils) will be converted to nonagricultural use?

C. Is any part of the project site currently or proposed to be in active forestry use?
_X_ Yes ___ No; if yes, please describe current and proposed forestry activities and indicate whether any part of the site is the subject of a DEM-approved forest management plan:

YNPS is situated on an approximately 1,800-acre forested parcel, most of which has traditionally been managed for forest products. Current forest management activities are subject to an approved plan prepared by New England Forestry Consultants. These activities