

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: 14057
 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: Hillside Plastics Expansion		
Street: 262 Millers Falls Road		
Municipality: Turners Falls, MA	Watershed: Connecticut River	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 42° 35.2N Longitude: 72° 31.5W	
Estimated commencement date: Oct 2007	Estimated completion date: Dec. 2008	
Approximate cost: \$1.5M	Status of project design: 75 %complete	
Proponent: Hillside Plastics, Inc.		
Street: 262 Millers Falls Road		
Municipality: Turners Falls	State: MA	Zip Code: 01376
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained:		
Firm/Agency: Land Solutions	Street: 2 Amherst Road P.O. Box 121	
Municipality: Sunderland	State: MA	Zip Code: 01375
Phone: 413-665-4777	Fax: 413-665-4777	E-mail: landsolutions1@yahoo.

- 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 301 CMR 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: Special Permit, Environmental Impact & Site Plan Review by the Town of Montague ZBA & Planning Board, Order of Conditions from Montague Conservation Commission, NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharge during construction.

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

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input 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 type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i>
Total site acreage	35 AC			
New acres of land altered		7 AC		
Acres of impervious area	2.25 AC	1.25 AC	3.75 AC	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		none		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		none		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		none		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	40,000	30,000	70,000	
Number of housing units	0	0	0	
Maximum height (in feet)		35	35	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	280	160	440	
Parking spaces	70	40	110	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	125,000	93,000	218,000	
GPD water withdrawal	N/a	N/a	N/a	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	41,000	31,000	72,000	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	N/a	N/a	N/a	

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

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.)

(a) Description

The site is a 35 acre parcel located on Millers Falls Road opposite the Turners Falls Airport in Turners Falls, MA. The proposed project is an expansion of an existing business. The existing 40,000 s.f. production building, will be expanded to 70,000 s.f. and parking added for the plant and adjacent snack-bar and storage building. In addition to the developed area at the site frontage which includes the plant and adjacent snack bar, the facility currently uses an area of approximately 4 acres to the east of the buildings for storage of the product (plastic bottles) in mobile trailers. The project proposes to level an additional area of approximately 7 acres to the south (rear) of the building for trailer storage. This requires clearing and grading the adjacent hillside. The storage areas will not be paved. Surface will be gravel and remain relatively pervious. A perimeter swale will intercept stormwater runoff and allow for natural filtration and aeration.

(b) Alternatives

Expansion at this site will allow the owner to increase production and integrate additional capacity with the existing operation. The land is already under their ownership and was partially graded at the time that the building was constructed, with future expansion in mind. Construction at another site is not considered a viable alternative due to cost of purchasing additional land and inefficiencies of operating at two locations. The "Do Nothing" alternative would not allow the business to grow and be competitive in its market and would jeopardize the viability of the business in this region.

The majority of the proposed clearing and grading is to provide modular storage for the product. The product experiences seasonal fluctuations in demand and storage in trailers has proved to be an efficient way to stabilize the production schedule and have product ready for shipping as needed. This method of storage has efficiently recycled used trailers instead of constructing warehouse space. It allows the owner to have the product available on site at low storage cost. Construction of a warehouse at this location or at another location are alternatives to this work. A new building would create several acres of impervious cover and consume new building products used in construction. If the warehouse were to be located at another site, it would require transportation of the product from this site and increase fuel consumption, as well as air and noise pollution. Various sizes and configurations of the level area have been considered as the proposal developed.

(c) Mitigation

A habitat analysis of the property has been completed as required by NHESP and is attached to this submittal. Approximately 70% of the estimated habitat on site will remain after construction. Proposed construction on the parcel to the west by others is also subject to review for endangered species. Formal review of the project by the Conservation Commission and DEP is scheduled to begin in June, where these issues will be reviewed. The proposal includes minimal impervious area to serve the needs of the facility, and significant open space which will be preserved and legally protected.