

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
 EOEA No.: 12886
 MEPA Analyst: Bill GAGE
 Phone: 617-626-1025

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: Town of Marion Wastewater System Improvements including WWTP Upgrade, Collection System Improvements, and Sewer Extensions		
Street: Various		
Municipality: Marion	Watershed: Buzzards Bay	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: Various	Latitude: various	Longitude: various
Estimated commencement date: March 2003	Estimated completion date: 2005-2006	
Approximate cost: \$25,000,000	Status of project design: 0 to 75 %complete	
Proponent: Town of Marion		
Street: 2 Spring Street		
Municipality: Marion	State: MA	Zip Code: 02738
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Erin Farrell		
Firm/Agency: CDM	Street: 56 Exchange Terrace	
Municipality: Providence	State: RI	Zip Code: 02903
Phone: 401-751-5360	Fax: 401-751-5499	E-mail:

- 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): Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust (DEP administered) State Revolving Fund, \$9,000,000 (additional funds applied for)

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: NPDES permit – State surface water discharge permit (renewal with increased flow); EPA Stormwater General Permit – Construction site; Order of Conditions

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 type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit (possible) <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/Extension Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i>
Total site acreage				
New acres of land altered				
Acres of impervious area	14.77	0	14.77	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		6,250		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		TBD		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		TBD		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	243,000	0	243,000	
Number of housing units	0	0	0	
Maximum height (in feet)				
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	4	+15	19	
Parking spaces	0	+11	11	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	N/a	N/a	N/a	
GPD water withdrawal	N/a	N/a	N/a	
GPD wastewater generation/treatment	500,000	88,000	588,000	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	18 miles	+7 miles	25 miles	

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 _____) No

A letter requesting review was sent to the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program on August 27, 2002. According to a September 3, 2003 letter received from the NHESP, the Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene Carolina*), a species of special concern is known to occur in the vicinity of the South Converse Road Area. The Eastern Box Turtle is a species of special concern and is protected under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (M.G.L. c. 131A) and its implementing regulations. A copy of the letter is provided as an attachment to this ENF.

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

The WWTP site does not contain any historical features. The sewer extensions will be located in existing streets and are therefore unlikely to affect any historical or archaeological resources. A letter requesting review was sent to the Massachusetts Historical Commission on August 27, 2002. MHC responded on September 26, 2002 stating that the project was unlikely to affect significant historical or archaeological resources. A copy of this letter is provided as an attachment to this ENF.

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 Marion Wastewater System Improvements Project (the Project) was designed to fulfill the recommendations of the Town of Marion Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP), completed in April 2002 and the August 13, 2001 Administrative Consent Order (ACO) between the Town of Marion and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP) (see Attachment 2). The CWMP cited two primary areas in need of improvement: the wastewater treatment facility and the wastewater collection system. In addition, as part of this project the sewer collection system will be extended to three existing neighborhoods which are in need of an offsite wastewater treatment solution.

(A) The WWTF will be upgraded to meet the present and future needs of the town, including capacity and permit requirements. The existing WWTF consists of three non-aerated facultative lagoons, a new effluent disk filtration process, and ultraviolet (UV) disinfection. The upgraded WWTF will include new preliminary treatment processes (screening and grit removal), and a new sequencing batch reactor (SBR) process. A new Headworks Building will be constructed to house the preliminary treatment processes and odor control system, and a second new building will be constructed to house the process equipment for the SBR system. This building will include a laboratory, control area, support functions, and other administrative spaces. All work will be performed within the existing footprint of the current WWTF. In addition to the improvements at the WWTF itself, the effluent pipe that conveys treated wastewater from the plant to Effluent Brook will be upgraded; this work may result in temporary impacts affecting a maximum of 6,250 square feet of wetland resource areas.

A wastewater needs analysis conducted as part of the 2001 Draft Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) identified three areas as needing alternatives to onsite septic systems for sewage disposal: the Berry Roads area, the Dexter Beach area, and the South Converse Road area. These areas are discussed in greater detail in Attachment 1.

(B) Various alternatives were considered for improvements to the Town of Marion Wastewater Treatment Facility. The alternatives considered for the liquid treatment processes are described in the Town of Marion Wastewater Facilities Plan and Attachment 1 of this ENF. The three sewer extension needs areas were identified through several studies as requiring an off-site solution (see Draft CWMP). All three areas are characterized as dense existing residential development, with high groundwater and highly variable soils, often with a shallow hardpan layer. Following the Draft CWMP, the Town undertook a detailed evaluation of a localized treatment alternative, termed a satellite system. Each satellite system would include sewers, a package wastewater treatment plant, and a disposal system. The key issue with the feasibility of such a plan is the location of a suitable and permissible disposal site. Potential disposal sites were identified in or near each of the three needs areas. Testing was conducted at the most promising sites. The results were that there are no suitable, available disposal sites for such a satellite system. Therefore, the extension of the central collection system was the only feasible alternative for these existing residences. Attachment 1 to this ENF describes the various alternative approaches to connecting these areas to the sewer system.

(C) In spite of the environmental benefits associated with the implementation of the sewer system extension project, the Town of Marion was concerned with the potential for any increase in growth and development as a result of the expanded sewer system. This concern has been addressed throughout the project in two ways: (1) understanding and defining the limits of the expansion areas; and (2) adopting specific strategies to ensure control of future connections and limiting additional expansion. These methods are described in greater detail in Attachment 1 to this ENF. In addition, the Project Narrative describes the mitigation measures proposed for wetland resource area impacts as well as traffic related impacts associated with the proposed project. Please refer to the attachment for a description of these mitigation measures.