

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ■ MEPA
Office

ENF Environmental Notification Form

<i>For Office Use Only</i> <i>Executive Office of Environmental Affairs</i>	
EOEA No.:	<u>13392</u>
MEPA Analyst:	<u>Rick Bourne</u>
Phone:	617-626- <u>1130</u>

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: Northampton Water Treatment Plant		
Street: Parcels E-13 and E-11 (120 Mountain Street)		
Municipality: Williamsburg	Watershed: Connecticut	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 42.40695° N Longitude: 72.67475° W	
Estimated commencement date: April, 2005	Estimated completion date: January, 2007	
Approximate cost: \$22 million	Status of project design: 90 %complete	
Proponent: George Andrikidis – City of Northampton Director of Public Works		
Street: 125 Locust Street		
Municipality: Northampton	State: MA	Zip Code: 01060
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Tom Touchet		
Firm/Agency: Metcalf & Eddy, Inc.	Street: 701 Edgewater Drive	
Municipality: Wakefield	State: MA	Zip Code: 01880
Phone: (781) 224-6090	Fax: (781) 224-5986	E-mail: tom.touchet@m-e.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. 10169) 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): SRF Funding Application for \$22 million will be submitted October 15, 2004

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: Town of Williamsburg Application for Site Plan Review/Special Permit/Variance (approved August 2004), NPDES General Stormwater Permit*, NPDES Construction Dewatering*, NPDES General Permit–Surface Water Discharge*

Note: * = Approval Pending

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 checked="" 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
Total site acreage	165.48			<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i> <u>Title 5 - On-Site Septic System (approval pending)</u>
New acres of land altered		13.49		
Acres of impervious area	.007	+2.01 (new) -0.005 (to be removed)	2.012	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		Approx. 4,390 s.f. temporary impact		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		Approx. 15 linear feet of inland bank		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
Gross square footage	295	+106,506 (proposed WTP) -197 (removal of existing structures)	+106,604	
Number of housing units	0	0	0	
Maximum height (in feet)	0	32	32	
Vehicle trips per day	0	Approx. +6.25	Approx. 6.25	
Parking spaces	0	+7	7	
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	0	+114	114	
GPD water withdrawal	4.2 mgd (average), 6.5 mgd max.	No change in current withdrawal levels are proposed	4.2 mgd (average), 6.5 mgd max.	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	0	+80	80	

Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	+0.03 (wastewater)	0.03 (wastewater)
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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: PH574/WH7375) 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.)

Project History and Description

The proposed project includes design and construction of a new 4.2 million gallon per day (mgd) average potable water treatment plant (WTP) and low lift pumping station for the City of Northampton, Massachusetts. The treatment plant has been designed for a maximum treatment capacity of 6.5 mgd. The WTP will be located on the west side of Mountain Street while the pump station will be located on the east side of Mountain Street adjacent to the Mountain Street Reservoir in the Town of Williamsburg, Massachusetts. The City of Northampton is committed to the design and construction of a WTP through an Administrative Consent Order with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), dated November 14, 2001 (ACO-WE-01-5014). The purpose of the WTP is to comply with the EPA Surface Water Treatment Rule and provide filtration, disinfection, corrosion control, and removal of iron, manganese, color, odor, taste, and total organic carbon (TOC) from the combined source waters, in order to provide safe, clean drinking water to the City of Northampton.

An ENF was previously filed for this project and was published in the *Environmental Monitor* on October 11, 1994. Following review of the original ENF (EOEA #10169), the Secretary issued a Certificate, dated November 10, 1994, indicating that no environmental impact report was required.

This project was on hold for several years after the City of Northampton was granted a waiver from the requirement of providing filtration in the water treatment system. That waiver has since been rescinded; therefore, the city is pursuing construction of the proposed WTP. As a result of the time lapse since the MEPA Certificate was issued in 1994, and an increase of 4,388 square feet in temporary impacts to bordering vegetated wetlands (BVW), a Notice of Project Change (EOEA #10169) was filed and a MEPA Certificate for the NPC was issued on June 23, 2003. This latest certificate indicated that the project did not require the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR).

Shortly after receiving the MEPA certificate in 2003, the Town of Williamsburg denied the Special Permit application submitted by the City of Northampton for constructing the WTP at 120 Mountain Street. The reasons given for the denial were generally focused on the facility's location and visibility from Mountain Street, which was a significant concern to the nearby residences.

After working with the Town and the neighbors regarding the WTP's location, aesthetics, and visibility from Mountain Street, the City of Northampton filed a revised Special Permit application to the Town of Williamsburg on June 24, 2004. As part of the application, the entire facility was relocated across the street from the original site to Parcel E-13, which is land also owned by the City of Northampton. In the 2004 application, the facility was set back from Mountain Street by 475 feet. Since the City addressed the concerns of the Town and accommodated the location and visibility issues of the neighbors, the Town granted the City a Special Permit in 2004.

Subsequent to receiving the MEPA certificate in 2003, the project underwent a site plan review with the Town of Williamsburg in August, 2004. As a result of this review and concerns about aesthetics, many of the facility structures were moved from the east side of Mountain Street near the Mountain Street Reservoir to a location across the street to the west side of Mountain Street. Because of the new location of the proposed WTP, a new ENF is being filed. No changes have been made to the capacity or processes of the WTP.

The project area is comprised of two lots (Parcels E-13 and E-11), located on the west and east sides of Mountain Street respectively. Both lots total approximately 165 acres. These lots mainly consist of mature forest within a rural area. Parcel E-11 is bounded by the Mountain Street Reservoir to the east, Mountain Street to the north and west, and Reservoir Road to the south. Parcel E-13 is bounded by the town line to the north, primarily wooded parcels to the south, and Mountain Street to the east. A steep slope on Parcel E-11 separates the proposed pump station and the Mountain Street Reservoir. Residences are scattered in the vicinity, with the nearest residence approximately 200 feet to the west of Parcel E-11. Construction will include a 17,900 square foot operations building, septic system, clear well, equalization tank, flow meter chamber, two water treatment settling lagoons, seven parking spaces, and a raw water pipeline to connect the treatment plant to the proposed pump station at the southeastern edge of Parcel E-11, near the Mountain Street Reservoir dam. Finished water piping will also be provided between the clearwell and the existing transmission main in Mountain Street. The work will require disturbance of approximately 13.5 acres, or approximately eight percent of the total parcel. All work is anticipated to occur within upland with the exception of a small section of the raw water feed pipeline located within Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW), and a small section of Inland Bank to accommodate the lagoon discharge pipe to the Mountain Street Reservoir. Impacts to BVW will be temporary in nature.

The treatment lagoons will serve as a settling basin for the spent washwater from the water treatment process on Parcel E-13. The lagoons will be alternated for use each year. The lagoon not in use for a particular year will be allowed to dry and the gravel that lines the floor of the lagoon will be replaced. The supernatant overflow from the lagoons will be discharged back into the Mountain Street Reservoir.

In addition to the WTP, an on-site septic system is anticipated to be located on the site for an estimated 80 gpd of sanitary sewage generated by the four person daily staff at the WTP. The system will be in compliance with all Title 5 regulations. The system will be located after the completion of a soil evaluation and percolation testing.

Project Alternatives

No Action

The City of Northampton is committed to the construction of a WTP through an Administrative Consent Order with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), dated November 14, 2001 (ACO-WE-01-5014). The purpose of the WTP is to comply with the EPA SWTR and provide filtration, disinfection, corrosion control, and removal of iron, manganese, color, odor, taste, and total organic carbon (TOC) from the combined source waters, in order to provide safe, clean drinking water to the City of Northampton. Given these considerations, the no action alternative was dismissed from further review.

Construction at Mountain Street Location

The selection of the proposed location for the WTP was based on two factors: 1) the site is proximate to the Mountain Street Reservoir, which is a raw water supply for the City of Northampton, and 2) the City of Northampton

owns not only the lot upon which the WTP is proposed, but also owns many of the adjacent lots; therefore, transfer of land is not necessary.

Minimization and Mitigation

The proposed design requires the least amount of impact to resource areas possible. Aesthetic impacts are being mitigated by relocating all treatment plant buildings to the west side of Mountain Street, with the exception of the pump station near the reservoir. The trench width for the pipelines between the pump station and the treatment plant has been reduced as much as possible to disturb the least amount of area (including BVW). This area will be restored to pre-construction grades and the vegetation will be restored with grasses, sedges, rushes and other herbs with an indicator status of facultative or wetter. Shrubs and trees will not be planted over the pipelines due to the potential need to regain access to the pipelines for maintenance or repair in the future.

Prior to the start of construction all erosion and sedimentation controls will be approved by the Resident Engineer and inspected by the Williamsburg Conservation Commission if they so choose. Discharges from dewatering activities will be treated prior to discharging to any resource area, in accordance with the NPDES Construction Dewatering Permit.

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:

	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Total</u>
Footprint of buildings	<u>0.007</u>	<u>+1.037/-0.005</u>	<u>1.039</u>
Roadways, parking, and other paved areas	<u>0</u>	<u>+0.973</u>	<u>0.973</u>
Other altered areas (describe)	<u>0.36</u> (gravel roads)	<u>+1.46</u> (lagoons)	<u>11.48</u>
		<u>+0.89</u> (gravel)	
		<u>+9.13</u> (grass)	
Undeveloped areas	<u>165.11</u>	<u>-13.49</u>	<u>151.99</u>

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?
 ___ Yes X 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:

D. Does any part of the project involve conversion of land held for natural resources purposes in accordance with Article 97 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97? ___ Yes X No; if yes, describe:

E. Is any part of the project site currently subject to a conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction or watershed preservation restriction? ___ Yes X No; if yes, does the project involve the release or modification of such restriction? ___ Yes ___ No; if yes, describe:

F. Does the project require approval of a new urban redevelopment project or a fundamental change in an existing urban redevelopment project under M.G.L.c.121A? ___ Yes X No; if yes, describe:

G. Does the project require approval of a new urban renewal plan or a major modification of an existing urban renewal plan under M.G.L.c.121B? Yes ___ No X ; if yes, describe:

H. Describe the project's stormwater impacts and, if applicable, measures that the project will take to