

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
 EOE No.: 14155
 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: Construction of a New Sewage Collection, Treatment, and Disposal Facility to Replace Existing Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems at Wequassett Resort and Golf Club		
Street: 2171 Route 28		
Municipality: Harwich	Watershed: Cape Cod	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 041° 43' 13.37" N Longitude: 069° 59' 39.17" W	
Estimated commencement date: 9/08	Estimated completion date: 4/09	
Approximate cost: \$2,000,000.00	Status of project design: 100 %complete	
Proponent: Wequassett Inn LLP		
Street: 2171 Route 28		
Municipality: Harwich	State: MA	Zip Code: 02645
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Catherine A. Morey		
Firm/Agency: Coastal Engineering Co., Inc.	Street: 260 Cranberry Hwy	
Municipality: Orleans	State: MA	Zip Code: 02653
Phone: 508-255-6511 ext. 514	Fax: 508-255-6700	E-mail: cmorey@ceccapecod.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. 13814) 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): N/A

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: Wetlands Order of Conditions will be required for a portion of work within the wetlands buffer zone.

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 type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| <input checked="" 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 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> DEP Groundwater Discharge Permit
Total site acreage	19.99			
New acres of land altered		0.30		
Acres of impervious area	5.44	0.01	5.45	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	71,000	0	71,000	
Number of housing units	116 (guestrooms)	0	116 (guestrooms)	
Maximum height (in feet)	<30	0	<30	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	950	0	950	
Parking spaces	187	0	187	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	28,677	0	28,677	
GPD water withdrawal	N/A	0	N/A	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	26,070	0	26,070	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0.25	0.25	

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: A portion of the project site is located in an area designated as an Estimated Habitat & Priority Habitat)
 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 Pleasant Bay) 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 Wequassett Inn (now known as the Wequassett Resort and Golf Club) has occupied the property since the 1920's. The subject site is a 19.99-acre parcel of land located in Harwich, MA on the Orleans-Chatham Road (Route 28), opposite the intersection of Pleasant Bay Road with Route 28. The property is situated between Route 28 to the west and Pleasant Bay to the east, and is bordered on the south by Round Cove. The attached portion of the USGS Quadrangle sheet and Aerial Photos show the property locus (see Appendix B). Drawing C1.2.1, enclosed herewith, shows the existing site conditions at the property. Seventeen separate cesspool and Title 5 septic systems scattered about the property serve to dispose of the sanitary sewage generated by the existing buildings. Some of these systems are in close proximity to the wetland resource areas adjacent to Pleasant Bay and Round Cove.

The Wequassett Resort has entered into an Administrative Consent Order, ACO-SE-07-1G004 (see Appendix A), with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MADEP), dated 11/07/07, for the installation and operation of a new tertiary wastewater treatment plant to be administered under a Groundwater Discharge Permit. The new wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system will service all of the existing buildings at the resort and the anticipated future expansion. The new treatment plant will replace the existing individual onsite septic systems and provide a much higher level of treatment than the existing systems. The existing individual sewage disposal systems will be abandoned in accordance with Title 5 regulations.

The new wastewater collection, treatment plant, and disposal system will be constructed under a permit issued by the MADEP. A portion of the collection system that is within the 100 ft. buffer zone of the coastal bank along Round Cove, and the abandonment of the existing subsurface sewage disposal systems there, will require approval from the Harwich Conservation Commission under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Harwich Wetlands Protection By-law. Some of this work is also within the Pleasant Bay ACEC.

A Hydrogeologic study conducted by Coastal Engineering determined that the groundwater flow direction is easterly, toward Pleasant Bay. The new effluent disposal system has been positioned in the northwest corner of the property to maximize the separation to Pleasant Bay and keep the effluent discharge out of the mapped watershed of Round Cove. In our opinion, the proposed sewage treatment facility and subsurface disposal system will produce a treated sewage effluent that will have no significant impact to the environment and/or public health and safety. In fact, due to the high level of

treatment being proposed, we expect that the new treatment plant will substantially reduce the level of wastewater pollutants presently being discharged at the site from the existing cesspool and Title 5 systems.

Our calculations show that the new sewage collection, treatment, and disposal system will result in a substantial decrease in the nitrogen load at the property from sewage discharge. We calculate the new treatment works will reduce the nitrogen load from sewage generated by the existing buildings by 76%. In addition, existing cesspools and 1978 Code Title 5 Systems within the Pleasant Bay ACEC and within the buffer zone of the Coastal Bank will be eliminated.

Based upon our study and calculations, it is our opinion that the groundwater aquifer will be adequately protected from contamination, and that no adverse impact to any wetland resource area will occur.

Alternative Analysis: There is no alternative of locating the sewage collection, treatment, and disposal system offsite. Therefore, the alternative considered were:

Alternative #1: Do Nothing. That is not a practical alternative as ACO-SE-07-1G004 issued by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection on November 7, 2007 requires that, "Construction of a wastewater treatment works capable of meeting effluent standards required by the Groundwater Discharge Permit pursuant to 314 CMR 5.00 and 6.00 shall be completed and all sewage flow from the property shall be connected to the treatment works by April 2009".

Alternative #2: Relocate the sewage collection, treatment, and disposal system. Because the site is already developed and the buildings exist there are no feasible alternatives for the location of the collection sewers. The treatment plant and disposal facility could be located elsewhere on the property, but doing so would put those works in closer proximity to Pleasant Bay and Round Cove. This alternative would result in sewage being discharged within the mapped watershed of Round Cove.

Alternative #3: Preferred Alternative, as proposed. The preferred alternative was selected because the proposed sewage collection, treatment, and disposal system provides the greatest environmental protection. The proposed siting of the treatment plant and disposal system in the northwest corner of the property maximizes their separation from Pleasant Bay and Round Cove. The proposed siting removes sewage discharges from the mapped watershed of Round Cove. The alternative also eliminates existing cesspool and 1978 code Title 5 systems from the buffer zones of Pleasant Bay and Round Cove, and removes said systems from the Pleasant Bay ACEC and mapped watershed of Round Cove.