

MEPA Analyst: *Rick Bourne*

Phone: 617-626-1130

NPC

Notice of Project Change

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review of a NPC in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations (see 301 CMR 11.10(1)).

Project Name: Plum Island and Salisbury Beach Nourishment Newburyport Harbor Federal Navigation Project		EOEA #:13503
Street: Plum Island and Salisbury Beach		
Municipality: Newburyport, Newbury, Salisbury		Watershed: N/A
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates: N 4744762.4 to N 47400312 E 351635.3 to E352143.0		Latitude: 42°50'21"N to 42°47'54"N Longitude: 70°48'55"W to 70°48'29"W
Status of project construction: 0 %complete		
Proponent: MA Department of Conservation and Recreation		
Street: 251 Causeway Street, Suite 600		
Municipality: Boston	State: MA	Zip Code: 02114
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this NPC May Be Obtained: Christine M. Player		
Firm/Agency: Vine Associates Inc.		Street: 190 Old Derby Street
Municipality: Hingham	State: MA	Zip Code: 02043
Phone: 781-749-2530 x202	Fax: 781-749-2751	E-mail: cplayer@vineassociates.net

In 25 words or less, what is the project change? The project change involves . . . change disposal locations from extended Nearshore Disposal Site to beach/dune nourishment in Plum Island and Salisbury Beach, MA. Change from hopper dredge to hydraulic dredging.

See full project change description beginning on page 3.

Date of ENF filing or publication in the Environmental Monitor: 4/09/2005

Was an EIR required? Yes No; if yes,
was a Draft EIR filed? Yes (Date:) No
was a Final EIR filed? Yes (Date:) No
was a Single EIR filed? Yes (Date:) No

Have other NPCs been filed? Yes (Date(s):) No

If this is a NPC solely for lapse of time (see 301 CMR 11.10(2)) proceed directly to "ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES" on page 4.

PERMITS / FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE / LAND TRANSFER

List or describe all new or modified state permits, financial assistance, or land transfers not previously reviewed: new Chapter 91 permit; MESA review

Are you requesting a finding that this project change is insignificant? (see 301 CMR 11.10(6))
 Yes No; if yes, attach justification.

Are you requesting that a Scope in a previously issued Certificate be rescinded?
 Yes No; if yes, attach the Certificate

Are you requesting a change to a Scope in a previously issued Certificate? Yes No; if yes, attach Certificate and describe the change you are requesting:

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Previously reviewed	Net Change	Currently Proposed
LAND			
Total site acreage	34.4	-12.4	22.0
Acres of land altered	0	0	0
Acres of impervious area	0	0	0
Square feet of bordering vegetated wetlands alteration	0	0	0
Square feet of other wetland alteration	1,500,000 SF LUO (Land Under Ocean)	-1,334,976 LUO 79,412 Coastal Dune (nourishment) 654,953 SF Coastal Beach (nourishment)/ 46,746 SF (temp.) Overall impact reduction -600,611 SF (temp. impacts not included)	165,024 SF LUO 79,412 SF Coastal Dune (nourishment) 654,953 SF Coastal Beach (nourishment)/ 46,746 SF (temp.) Total: 899,389 SF/ 46,746 SF (temp.)
Acres of non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways	0	0	0
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A	N/A	N/A
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day	N/A	N/A	N/A
Parking spaces	N/A	N/A	N/A
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	N/A	N/A	N/A
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Does the project change involve any new or modified:

1. conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97? Yes No

2. release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction? Yes No

3. impacts on Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities? Yes No

4. impact on 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 No; if yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources? Yes No

5. impact upon an Area of Critical Environmental Concern? Yes No
If you answered 'Yes' to any of these 5 questions, explain below:

PROJECT CHANGE DESCRIPTION (attach additional pages as necessary). The project change description should include:

- (a) a brief description of the project as most recently reviewed
- (b) a description of material changes to the project as previously reviewed,
- (c) the significance of the proposed changes, with specific reference to the factors listed 301 CMR 11.10(6), and
- (d) measures that the project is taking to avoid damage to the environment or to minimize and mitigate unavoidable environmental impacts. If the change will involve modification of any previously issued Section 61 Finding, include a proposed modification of the Section 61 Finding (or it will be required in a Supplemental EIR).

This project originally underwent review by the MEPA Office through the submittal of an Environmental Notification Form (ENF) in April 2005 (EOEA #13503) for the extension of the existing Nearshore Disposal Site off Plum Island. The extension was 1,500' by 1,000', covering 1,500,000 square feet (SF), or 34.4 acres, of Land Under the Ocean. This disposal site was to be used for the disposal of 150,000 cubic yards (CY) of sandy material to be removed by the maintenance dredging of the federal entrance channel located at the mouth of the Merrimack River as part of the Newburyport Harbor Federal Navigation Project. An Environmental Impact Report was not required. Other previous MEPA filings for this project have included the filing of an ENF in 1987 for the maintenance dredging of the Newburyport Harbor entrance channel with disposal at the Nearshore Disposal Site off Plum Island (EOEA #6429) and a Notice of Project Change, filed in 1996, to add the Nearshore Disposal Site off Salisbury. This Notice of Project Change (NPC) is being filed due to the change in placement areas for the dredge material

The clean, sandy dredge material (approximately 160,000 CY is proposed to be used for beach/dune nourishment at two severely eroded sites on Plum Island in Newbury (120,000 CY) and Salisbury State Beach in Salisbury (40,000 CY). The nourishment site on Plum Island is approximately 13.5 acres in size, and the nourishment site in Salisbury is approximately 8.5 acres in size. The proposed nourishment will add necessary material to the beach and dunes to help curtail the severe erosion that has occurred in these areas, and improve storm and flood protection. The overall impacts to Resource Areas has been reduced from the previously-reviewed project from 1,500,000 SF (34.4 acres) of Land Under the Ocean to 899,389 SF (22.0 acres) for nourishment, including Coastal Beach, Coastal Dune and Land Under the Ocean. There will be a total of approximately 46,746 SF of temporary impacts to Coastal Beach due to project staging/access and placement of the temporary dredge pipeline. Temporarily impacted areas will be restored in-place after construction. Impacts to Land Containing Shellfish have also now been avoided (reduction of -1,500,000 SF). Time of Year restrictions will be implemented to avoid impacts to marine fisheries and endangered species, including the piping plover. Due to the change in disposal locations, the dredging methodology will change from use of a hopper dredge to a hydraulic cutter-head dredge. The originally-proposed project and its subsequent changes are described in greater detail in Attachment 5, Project Narrative. While the NPC is being filed for the change in disposal sites, the overall project, including beach/dune nourishment and maintenance dredging, is presented in the Project Narrative.

ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES

Attachments:

1. Secretary's most recent Certificate on this project
2. Plan showing most recent previously-reviewed proposed build condition
3. Plan showing currently proposed build condition
4. Original U.S.G.S. map or good quality color copy (8-1/2 x 11 inches or larger) indicating the project location and boundaries
5. List of all agencies and persons to whom the proponent circulated the NPC, in accordance with 301 CMR 11.10(7)

Signatures:

<p>6/15/09 </p>	<p>6/15/09 </p>		
Date	Signature of Responsible Officer or Proponent	Date	Signature of person preparing NPC (if different from above)
Raul Silva	Name (print or type)	Christine M. Player	Name (print or type)
MA Dept. of Conservation & Recreation	Firm/Agency	Vine Associates, Inc.	Firm/Agency
251 Causeway Street, Suite 700	Street	190 Old Derby Street, Suite 311	Street
Boston, MA 02114	Municipality/State/Zip	Hingham, MA 02043	Municipality/State/Zip
(617) 626-1392	Phone	(781) 749-2530x202	Phone