THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS



WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

100 CAMBRIDGE STREET, BOSTON MA 02114

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Relating to the Interbasin Transfer application by the Town of Reading, requesting an increase in the amount of interbasin transfer from the MWRA Waterworks System

The Massachusetts Water Resources Commission hereby gives notice pursuant to MGL c. 21 §§ 8B-8D, and 313 CMR 4.00, Interbasin Transfer Act and Regulations, that it will conduct public hearings in West Boylston, for the donor basin and in Reading, for the receiving basin, to receive public comment on the proposed permanent interbasin transfer.

Reading is applying to become a full member of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) Waterworks System and is proposing to increase the Town's approved Interbasin Transfer volume so that it is fully supplied by the MWRA. The Town of Reading has land area in the Ipswich River basin, the Mystic River subbasin of the Boston Harbor basin and the North Coastal basin. The MWRA Waterworks System's sources are located in the Chicopee River basin and the Nashua River basin.

The Water Resources Commission is required to consider the impact of the transfer on such issues as fisheries, recreation and the aquatic ecosystem of the donor basin. To this end, the Commission has scheduled two (2) public hearings to receive comments on this proposed interbasin transfer of water:

- 1. Monday afternoon, April 23rd, at 3:00 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, 16 Lowell Street (Route 129), Reading MA 01867 (the receiving area).
- 2. Thursday afternoon, April 26th at 4:00 PM in the Cafeteria of the Department of Conservation and Recreation Administration Building, 180 Beaman Street, in West Boylston, MA 01583, in the donor basin.

Copies of the application are available for review at the Reading Public Library and by contacting:

Michele Drury Office of Water Resources Department of Conservation and Recreation 251 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02114 Telephone: 617-626-1366; fax 617-626-1455; email: <u>michele.drury@state.ma.us</u>

Persons desiring to present testimony at the <u>hearings on Reading's application</u> are encouraged to provide a written summary at or before the hearings. Written testimony, addressed to the Water Resources Commission, Attention: Michele Drury, will be accepted until 5:00 PM, April 30, 2007.

It is expected that a staff recommendation to approve or deny the application will be presented to the Water Resources Commission at its May 10th, 2007 meeting. Copies of the staff recommendation will be available at the meeting, or by calling Michele Drury. Following the May 10th meeting, the Commission has scheduled another public hearing to receive comments on the staff recommendation to be held on Thursday, May 24th, 2007 at 3:00 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, 16 Lowell Street (Route 129). Reading MA 01867.

Written comments on the staff recommendation, addressed to the Water Resources Commission, Attention: Michele Drury, will be accepted until 5 PM, May 31st, 2007.