

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
WATER DIVISION
P.O. BOX 95
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03302-0095

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY
OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION
REGION I
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109-3912

NOTICE OF EXTENSION OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

THIS IS A JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE OF AN EXTENSION TO THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PERTAINING TO A DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT TO DISCHARGE INTO THE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER SECTIONS 301 AND 402 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT (THE "ACT"), AS AMENDED, AND REQUEST FOR STATE CERTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 401 OF THE ACT, AND ISSUANCE OF A STATE SURFACE WATER PERMIT UNDER NH RSA 485-A:13, I(a).

DATE OF NOTICE: November 1, 2011

PERMIT NUMBER: NH0001465

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: NH-002-12

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH)
P.O. Box 330
Manchester, NH 03105-0330

NAME AND LOCATION OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Merrimack Station
97 River Road
Bow, NH 03301

RECEIVING WATER: Merrimack River

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: Class B

PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT PERMIT:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Water Division have cooperated in the development of a draft permit for the above identified facility. The effluent limits and permit conditions imposed have been drafted to assure that State Water Quality Standards and provisions of the Clean Water Act will be met. EPA has formally requested that the State certify the draft permit pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and expects that the draft permit will be certified.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRAFT PERMIT:

A fact sheet (describing the type of facility; type and quantities of wastes; a brief summary of the basis for the draft permit conditions; and significant factual, legal and policy questions considered in preparing this draft permit) and the draft permit may be obtained at no cost at http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/draft_permits_listing_nh.html or by writing or calling EPA's contact person named below:

John Paul King
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OEP06-1)
Boston, MA 02109-3912
Telephone: (617) 918-1295
Fax: (617) 918-0295

The administrative record containing all documents relating to the draft permit is on file and may be inspected at the EPA Boston office mentioned above between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

PUBLIC HEARING:

The Regional Administrator has determined, pursuant to 40 C.F.R.§124.12, that a significant degree of public interest exists in this proposed permit and that a public hearing should be held to consider this Draft Permit and related documents. The date and time of the public hearing has not been changed with this notice.

The public hearing and meeting (information session) will be held on the following date and time:

DATE: Thursday November 3, 2011

MEETING TIME: 6:30 pm. - 7:00 pm.

HEARING TIME: 7:15 pm

LOCATION: New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301

In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §124.12, the following is a summary of the procedures that shall be followed at the public hearing:

- a. The Presiding Officer shall have the authority to open and conclude the hearing and to maintain order; and

b. Any person appearing at such a hearing may submit oral or written statements and data concerning the draft permit.

PUBLIC COMMENT (REVISED)

The original public comment period for this proposed permit was from September 30, 2011, to November 30, 2011. EPA, in response to requests for an extension of the public comment period, has extended that period to February 28, 2012. Therefore, all persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of the draft permit is inappropriate, must raise all issues and submit all available arguments and all supporting material for their arguments in full by midnight **February 28, 2012**, to the U.S. EPA, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, Massachusetts 02109-3912. In reaching a final decision on the draft permit, the Regional Administrator will respond to all significant comments and make these responses available to the public at EPA's Boston office.

FINAL PERMIT DECISION:

Following the close of the comment period, and after a public hearing, the Regional Administrator will issue a final permit decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice.

HARRY T. STEWART, P.E., DIRECTOR
WATER DIVISION
NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

STEPHEN S. PERKINS, DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION
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