

NPDES Permit No NH0100978

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NEW ENGLAND REGION
ONE CONGRESS STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023**

FACT SHEET

**DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)
PERMIT TO DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES**

NPDES PERMIT NO.: NH0100978

PUBLIC NOTICE START/FINISH DATE:

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Woodsville Wastewater Treatment Plant
P.O. Box 53
Woodsville, New Hampshire 03785

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Woodsville Wastewater Treatment Plant
9 Armory Lane
Woodsville, New Hampshire 03785

RECEIVING WATER: Connecticut River (Hydrologic Unit Code: 01080101)

CLASSIFICATION: B

I. Proposed Action, Type of Facility and Discharge Location.

The above named applicant has applied to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) for reissuance of its NPDES permit to discharge treated effluent into the designated receiving water (Connecticut River). The facility collects and treats domestic and commercial wastewater from the Town of Woodsville. The wastewater treatment facility is designed as an extended aeration activated sludge secondary (biological) treatment plant that uses chlorine for disinfection. This facility has a design flow of 0.33 million gallons per day (“mgd”) and discharges the treated effluent to the Connecticut River.

The Town’s previous permit was issued on May 28, 1999 and expired May 28, 2004. The expired permit (hereafter referred to as the “existing permit”) has been administratively extended pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §122.6.

The location of the facility, Outfall 001, and receiving water are shown in Attachment A.

II. Description of Discharge.

A quantitative description of significant effluent parameters based on Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) is shown in Attachment B. The data are from January 2004 through December 2005.

III. Limitations and Conditions.

Effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and any implementation schedule (if required) are found in PART I of the draft NPDES permit.

IV. Permit Basis and Explanation of Effluent Limitation Derivation.

A. General Regulatory Background

Congress enacted the Clean Water Act (CWA), “to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters.” CWA §101(a). To achieve this objective, the CWA makes it unlawful for any person to discharge any pollutant into waters of the United States from any point source, except as authorized by specified permitting section of the CWA, one of which is Section 402. See CWA §§301(a), 402(a). Section 402 establishes one of the CWA’s principal permitting programs, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). Under this section of the CWA, EPA may “issue a permit for the discharge of any pollutant, or combination of pollutants” in accordance with certain conditions. See CWA §402(a). NPDES permits generally contain discharge limitations and establish related monitoring and reporting requirements. See CWA §402(a)(1)-(2).

Section 301 of the CWA provides for two types of effluent limitations to be included in NPDES permits: “technology based” limitations and “water quality based” limitations. See CWA §§ 301, 303, 304(b); 40 C.F.R. Parts 122, 125, and 131. Technology based limitations, generally developed on an industry by industry basis, reflect a specified level of pollutant reducing technology available and economically achievable for the type of facility being permitted. See CWA §301(b). As a class, POTWs must meet performance based requirements based on available wastewater treatment technology. CWA §301(b)(1)(B). The performance level for POTWs is referred to as “secondary treatment”. Secondary treatment is comprised of technology based requirements expressed in terms of BOD₅, TSS, and pH. 40 C.F.R. Part 133.

Water quality based effluent limits are designed to ensure that state water quality standards are met regardless of the decision made with respect to technology and economics in establishing technology based limitations. In particular, Section 301(b)(1)(C) requires achievement of, “any more stringent limitation, including those necessary to meet water quality

NPDES Permit No NH0100978

standards.....established pursuant to any state law or regulation....”. See 40 C.F.R. §§122.4(d), 122.44(d)(1) (providing that a permit must contain effluent limits as necessary to protect state water quality standards, “including state narrative criteria for water quality”) (emphasis added) and 122.45(d)(5) (providing in part that a permit incorporate any more stringent limits required by Section 301(b)(1)(C) of the CWA).

The CWA requires that states develop water quality standards for all water bodies within the state. CWA § 303. These standards have three parts: (1) one or more “designated uses” for each water body or water body segment in the state; (2) water quality “criteria”, consisting of numerical concentration levels and/or narrative statements specifying the amounts of various pollutants that may be present in each water body without impairing the designated uses of that water body; and (3) an antidegradation provision, focused on protecting high quality waters and protecting and maintaining water quality necessary to protect existing uses. CWA §303(c)(2)(A); 40 C.F.R. §131.12. The limits and conditions of the permit reflect the goal of the CWA and EPA to achieve and then to maintain water quality standards.

The applicable New Hampshire water quality standards can be found in Surface Water Quality Regulations, Chapter Env-Ws 1700 et seq. See generally, Title 50, Water and Management and Protection, Chapter 485A, Water Pollution and Waste Disposal Section 485-A.

Receiving stream requirements are established according to numerical and narrative standards adopted under state law for each stream classification. When using chemical specific numeric criteria from the state’s water quality standards to develop permit limits, both the acute and chronic life criteria are used and expressed in terms of maximum allowable in stream pollutant concentrations. Acute aquatic life criteria are generally implemented through maximum daily limits and chronic aquatic life criteria are generally implemented through average monthly limits. Where a state has not established a numeric water quality criteria for a specific chemical pollutant that is present in the effluent in a concentration that causes or has a reasonable potential to cause a violation of narrative water quality standards, the permitting authority must establish effluent limits in one of three ways: based on a “calculated numeric criteria for the pollutant which the permitting authority demonstrates will attain and maintain applicable narrative water quality criteria and fully protect the designated use”; on a “case by case basis” using CWA Section 304(a) recommended water quality criteria, supplemented as necessary by other relevant information; or, in certain circumstances, based on an “indicator parameter”. 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(vi)(A-C).

All statutory deadlines for meeting various treatment technology based effluent limitations established pursuant to the CWA have expired. When technology based effluent limits are included in a permit, compliance with those limitations is the date the issued permit becomes effective. See 40 C.F.R. §125.3(a)(1). Compliance schedules and deadlines not in accordance with the statutory provisions of the CWA cannot be authorized by an NPDES permit. The regulations governing EPA’s NPDES program are generally found in 40 CFR Parts 122, 124, 125, and 136.

B. Introduction

The permit must limit any pollutant parameter (conventional, non-conventional, toxic, and whole effluent toxicity) that is or may be discharged at a level that causes or has “reasonable potential” to cause or contribute to an excursion above any water quality criterion, see 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i). An excursion occurs if the projected or actual in-stream concentration exceeds the applicable criterion.

Reasonable Potential

In determining reasonable potential, EPA considers: 1) existing controls on point and non-point sources of pollution; 2) pollutant concentration and variability in the effluent and receiving water as determined from the permit’s reissuance application, DMRs, and State and Federal Water Quality Reports; 3) sensitivity of the species to toxicity testing; 4) the statistical approach outlined in *Technical Support Document for Water Quality-Based Toxics Control*, March 1991, EPA/502/2-90-001 in Section 3; and, where appropriate, 5) dilution of the effluent in the receiving water. In accordance with the New Hampshire statutes and administrative rules [RSA 485-A:8, VI, Env-Ws 1705], available dilution is based on a known or estimated value of the lowest average annual flow which occurs for seven (7) consecutive days with a recurrence interval of once in ten (10) years (7Q10) for aquatic life or the mean annual flow for human health (carcinogens only) in the receiving water at the point just upstream of the outfall. Furthermore, 10 percent of the assimilative capacity of the receiving water is held in reserve for future needs in accordance with New Hampshire’s Surface Water Quality Regulations, Env-Ws 1705.01.

Anti-Backsliding

Section 402(o) of the CWA and 40 C.F.R. 122.44(l) generally provides that the effluent limitation of a renewed, reissued, or modified permit must be at least as stringent as the comparable effluent limitations in the previous permit. Unless certain limited exceptions are met, “backsliding” from effluent limitations contained in previously issued permits is prohibited.

State Certification

Section 401(a)(1) of the CWA requires all NPDES permit applicants to obtain a certification from the appropriate state agency stating that the permit will comply with all applicable federal effluent limitations and state water quality standards. See CWA §401(a)(1). The regulatory provisions pertaining to state certification provide that EPA may not issue a permit until a certification is granted or waived by the state in which the discharge originates. 40 C.F.R. §124.53(a). The regulations further provide that, “when certification is required...no final permit shall be issued...unless the final permit incorporates the requirements specified in the certification under §124.53(e).” 40 C.F.R. 124.55(a)(2). Section 124.53(e) in turn provides that

the state certification shall include “any conditions more stringent than those in the draft permit which the state finds necessary” to assure compliance with, among other things, state water quality standards, see 40 C.F.R. §124.53(e)(2), and shall also include “[a] statement of the extent to which each condition of the draft permit can be made less stringent without violating the requirements of state law, including water quality standards,” see 40 C.F.R. §124.53(e)(3).

However, when EPA reasonably believes that a state water quality standard requires a more stringent permit limitation than that reflected in a state certification, it has an independent duty under CWA §301(b)(1)(C) to include more stringent permit limitations. See 40 C.F.R. §§ 122.44(d)(1) and (5). It should be noted that under CWA §401, EPA’s duty to defer to considerations of state law is intended to prevent EPA from relaxing any requirements, limitations, or conditions imposed by state law. Therefore, “[a] State may not condition or deny a certification on the grounds that state law allows a less stringent permit condition.” 40 C.F.R. §124.55(c). In such an instance, the regulation provides that, “The Regional Administrator shall disregard any such certification conditions or denials as waivers of certification.” Id. EPA regulations pertaining to permit limits based upon water quality standards and state requirements are contained in 40 C.F.R. §122.4(d) and 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d).

C. Flow

The Woodsville Wastewater Treatment Plant has a design flow rate of 0.33 mgd. This flow rate is used to calculate mass limits for Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅), Total Suspended Solids, and Available Dilution as discussed below. If the average monthly effluent flow rate exceeds 80 percent of the 0.33 mgd design flow (0.26 mgd) for a period of three consecutive months then the permittee must notify EPA and the NHDES-WD and implement a program to maintain satisfactory treatment levels.

D. Conventional Pollutants

Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅) and Total Suspended Solids

Average monthly and average weekly concentration (i.e. mg/l) effluent limits in the draft permit for Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) are based on requirements of Section 301(b)(1)(B) of the CWA as defined in 40 C.F.R. §133.102. The average monthly, average weekly and maximum daily concentration limits for BOD₅ and TSS are also based upon limits in the existing permit in accordance with the anti-backsliding requirement found in 40 C.F.R. §122.44.

The draft permit also contains average monthly, average weekly, and maximum daily mass (i.e. lbs/day) for BOD₅ and TSS. Mass limits are incorporated into the permit based on 40 C.F.R. §122.45(f). These mass limits were calculated using the appropriate concentration limits and the design flow of the facility. Refer to Attachment C for the calculation of these limits.

pH

Pursuant to NH RSA 485-A:8.II, Class B waters shall have a pH range of 6.5 to 8.0 except when due to natural causes. However, language under State Permit Conditions (PART I.E.1.a.) allows for a change in the pH limit under certain conditions. A change would be considered if the applicant can demonstrate to the satisfaction of NHDES-WD that the pH standard of the receiving water will be protected when the discharge is outside the permitted range, then the applicant or NHDES-WD may request (in writing) that the permit limits be modified by EPA to incorporate the results of the demonstration. Anticipating the situation where NHDES-WD grants a formal approval changing the pH limit to outside 6.5 to 8.0 Standard Units (S.U.), EPA has added a provision to the draft permit (see SPECIAL CONDITIONS section). That provision will allow EPA to change the pH limit using a certified letter approach. This change will be allowed only if it is demonstrated that the revised pH limit range does not alter the naturally occurring receiving water pH. However, the pH limit range cannot be less restrictive than 6.0 to 9.0 S.U. found in the applicable National Effluent Limitation Guideline (Secondary Treatment Regulations in 40 C.F.R. Part 133) for the facility.

Escherichia coli Bacteria

The average monthly and maximum daily limitations for Escherichia coli bacteria are based upon limitations in the existing permit in accordance with the anti-backsliding requirements mentioned above and on Class B water Quality standards established by the State of New Hampshire in RSA 485-A:8.II. The average monthly limit for Escherichia coli is determined by calculating the geometric mean. The criteria have been incorporated as end of pipe effluent limitations (i.e no dilution) in accordance with water quality standards (see NH Code of Administrative Rules, Part Env-Ws 1703.06)

E. Non-Conventional and Toxic Pollutants

Water quality based limits for specific toxic pollutants such as chlorine are determined from numeric chemical specific criteria derived from extensive scientific studies. The EPA has summarized and published specific toxic pollutants and their associated toxicity criteria in *Quality Criteria for Water*, 1986, EPA440/5-86-001 as amended, commonly known as the federal "Gold Book". Each pollutant generally includes an acute aquatic life criteria to protect against short term effects, such as death, and a chronic aquatic life criteria to protect against long term effects, such as poor reproduction or impaired growth. New Hampshire adopted these "Gold Book" criteria, with certain exceptions, and included them as part of the State's Surface Water Quality Regulations adopted on December 10, 1999. EPA uses these pollutant specific criteria along with available dilution in the receiving water to determine pollutant specific draft permit limits.

Available Dilution

The available dilution of the receiving water is determined using the design flow of the facility and the annual 7 day mean flow at the 10 year recurrence interval (7Q10) in the receiving water just above the facility outfall. The 7Q10 for the Connecticut River at the outfall was found to be 442.1 mgd. The available dilution is reduced by 10 percent to account for the State's reserve capacity rule. For this facility a dilution factor of 1207 was used. The derivation of the 7Q10 flow and the available dilution is shown in Attachment D.

Total Residual Chlorine

Env-Ws 1703.1 specifies the chronic and acute aquatic-life criterion for chlorine at 0.011 mg/L and 0.019 mg/L respectively for freshwater. With a dilution factor of 1207, the calculated limits would be 13.28 mg/L and 22.93 mg/L respectively. However, chlorine and chlorine compounds produced by the chlorination of wastewater can be extremely toxic to aquatic life. Section 101(a)(3) of the CWA and Env-Ws 1703.21 prohibit the discharge of toxic pollutants in toxic amounts. Therefore, to reduce the potential for the formation of chlorinated compounds during the wastewater disinfection process and to be protective of the State's narrative standard, EPA-New England has historically established a maximum total residual chlorine (TRC) limit of 1.0 mg/L for both the average monthly and maximum daily limitations. These limits are based on Best Professional Judgement (BPJ) which is allowed under the authority granted in Section 402(a)(1) of the CWA and 40 CFR 125.3

The draft permit establishes a TRC limit of 1.0 mg/L for the daily maximum concentration. The BPJ limits are protective of the state's narrative standards.

F. Whole Effluent Toxicity

EPA's **Technical Support Document for Water Quality Based Toxics Control**, EPA/505/2-90-001, March 1991, recommends using an "integrated strategy" containing both pollutant (chemical) specific approaches and whole effluent (biological) toxicity approaches to control toxic pollutants in effluent discharges from entering waters of the U.S. EPA-New England adopted this "integrated strategy" on July 1, 1991, for used in permit development and issuance. These approaches are designed to protect aquatic life and human health. Pollutant specific approaches such as those in the Gold Book and State Regulations address individual chemicals, whereas whole effluent toxicity (WET) approaches evaluate interactions between pollutants thus rendering an "overall" or "aggregate" toxicity assessment of the effluent. Furthermore, WET measures the "additive" and/or "antagonistic" effects of individual chemical pollutants, which pollutant specific approaches do not, and thus the need for both approaches. In addition, the presence of an unknown toxic pollutant can be discovered and addressed through this process.

Section 101(a)(3) of the CWA specifically prohibits the discharge of toxic pollutants in toxic amounts and New Hampshire law states that, "all waters shall be free from toxic substances or chemical constituents in concentrations or combination that injure or are inimical to plants, animals, humans, or aquatic life; ..." (NH RSA 485-A:8, VI and the NH Code of Administrative Rules, PART Env-Ws 1703.21). The federal NPDES regulations at 40 CFR §122.44(d)(1)(v)

require whole effluent toxicity limits in a permit when a discharge has a “reasonable potential” to cause or contribute to an excursion above the State’s narrative criteria for toxicity. Inclusion of the whole effluent toxicity limit in the draft permit will demonstrate the compliance with narrative water quality criteria of “no toxics in toxics amounts” found in both the CWA and State of New Hampshire regulations.

The current policy of EPA New England for minor POTWs with dilution factors greater than 1000:1 is that in the absence of any specific information indicating toxicity is a concern, EPA-New England assumes “no reasonable potential” exists to cause or contribute to an excursion above the State’s water quality criteria. Consequently, the draft permit limit does not contain limits or monitoring requirements for WET testing.

G. Pretreatment

The permittee is presently not required to administer a pretreatment program based on the authority granted under 40 C.F.R. §122.44(j), 40 C.F.R. Part 403, and Section 307 of the Clean Water Act. However, the draft permit contains conditions which are necessary to allow EPA and NHDES-WD to ensure that pollutants from industrial users will not pass through the facility and cause water quality standards violations and/or sludge use and disposal difficulties or cause interference with the operation of the treatment facility.

The permittee is required to notify EPA and NHDES-WD whenever a process wastewater discharge to the facility from a primary industrial category (see 40 C.F.R. §122 Appendix A for list) is planned or if there is any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being discharged into the facility by a source that was discharging at the time of issuance of the permit. The permit also contains the requirements to: 1) report to EPA and NHDES-WD the name(s) of all industrial users subject to Categorical Pretreatment Standards (see 40 C.F.R. §403 Appendix C as amended) pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §403.6 and 40 C.F.R. Chapter I, Subchapter N (Parts 405-415, 417-436, 439-440, 446-667, 454-455, 457-461, 463-469, and 471 as amended) and/or New Hampshire Pretreatment Standards (Env-Ws 904) who commence discharge to the POTW after the effective date of the finally issued permit; and 2) submit to EPA and NHDES-WD copies of Baseline Monitoring Reports and other pretreatment reports submitted by industrial users.

H. Sludge

Section 405(d) of the CWA requires that EPA develop technical standards regulating the use and disposal of sewage sludge. These regulations were signed on November 25, 1992, published in the Federal Register on February 19, 1993, and became effective on March 22, 1993. Domestic sludge which is land applied, disposed of in a surface disposal unit, or fired in a sewage sludge incinerator are subject to Part 503 technical standards. Part 503 regulations have a self implementing provision, however, the CWA requires implementation through permits. Domestic sludge which is disposed of in a municipal solid waste landfill is in compliance with Part 503 regulations provided that the sludge meets the quality criteria of the landfill and the

NPDES Permit No NH0100978

landfill meets the requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 258.

The draft permit requires that sewage sludge use and disposal practices meet Section 405(d) Technical Standards of the CWA. In addition, the EPA Region I – NPDES Permit Sludge Compliance Guidance document dated November 4, 1999 is included with the draft permit for use by the permittee in determining their appropriate sludge conditions for their chosen method of sludge disposal. The permittee is required to submit to EPA and to NHDES-WD annually, by February 19th, the various sludge reporting requirements as specified in the guidance document for the chosen method of sludge disposal.

Sludge generated from the Woodsville Wastewater Treatment Facility ships its sludge to New England Organics in Unity, Maine for treatment and disposal. The facility generates approximately 39 dry metric tons of sludge per year.

I. Essential Fish Habitat and Endangered Species

Essential Fish Habitat

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104267), established a new requirement to describe and identify (designate) “essential fish habitat” (EFH) in each federal fishery management plan. Only species managed under a federal fishery management plan are covered. Fishery Management Councils determine which area will be designated as EFH. The Councils have prepared written descriptions and maps of EFH, and include them in fishery management plans or their amendments. EFH designations for New England were approved by the Secretary of Commerce on March 3, 1999.

The 1996 Sustainable Fisheries Act broadly defined EFH as “waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity.” Waters include aquatic areas and their associated physical, chemical, and biological properties. Substrate includes sediment, hard bottom, and structures underlying the waters. Necessary means the habitat required to support a sustainable fishery and the managed species’ contribution to a healthy ecosystem. Spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity covers all habitat types utilized by a species throughout its life cycle. Adversely affect means any impact which reduces the quality and/or quantity of EFH. Adverse impacts may include direct (i.e. contamination, physical disruption), indirect (i.e. loss of prey), site specific or habitat wide impacts including individual, cumulative, or synergistic consequences of actions.

According to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) the Connecticut River is EFH for Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*). The NH Department of Fish and Game (NHDFG) has been stocking Ammonoosuc and the Wild Ammonoosuc Rivers since 1996 and 1993, respectively. Both of these rivers are located above the stretch of the Connecticut River which receives the effluent from the Woodsville WWTP. This stretch of the Connecticut River has not been surveyed to determine what specific kinds of habitat are present (i.e. spawning, rearing, feeding) but it is at least used for

NPDES Permit No NH0100978

upstream and downstream passage.

EPA has concluded that the limits and conditions contained in the draft permit minimize adverse effects to EFH for the following reasons:

- The facility has a dilution factor of 1207.
- Chlorine is limited to a daily maximum of 1.0 mg/l.
- The permit prohibits the discharge to cause a violation of state water quality standards.

EPA believes the draft permit adequately protects EFH and therefore additional mitigation is not warranted. NMFS will be notified and an EFH consultation will be reinitiated if adverse impacts to EFH are detected as a result of this permit action or if new information is received that changes the basis for these conclusions.-

Endangered Species

The Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq), Section 7, requires the EPA to ensure, in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and/or NMFS, as appropriate, that any action authorized by EPA is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species, or adversely affect its critical habitat.

According to the USFWS the dwarf wedge mussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*), an endangered species, is present in the area of the discharge from the Woodsville WWTP. It is EPA's opinion that the limits and conditions in the draft permit are consistent with New Hampshire State Water Quality Standards and protective of sensitive aquatic organisms. Therefore, EPA believes that the authorized discharge from this facility is not likely to adversely affect the dwarf wedge mussel and is currently seeking concurrence from the USFWS with this opinion.

V. Antidegradation.

This draft permit is being reissued with limitations that are as stringent as those in the existing permit and there is no change in the outfall location. The State of New Hampshire has indicated that there is no lowering of water quality and no loss of existing water uses and that no additional antidegradation review is warranted at this time.

VI. State Certification Requirements.

EPA may not issue a permit unless the State Water Pollution Control Agency with jurisdiction over the receiving water(s) either certifies that the effluent limitations and/or conditions contained in the permit are stringent enough to assure, among other things, that the discharge will not cause the receiving water to violation NH standards or waives its right to certify as set forth in 40 C.F.R. §124.53.

NPDES Permit No NH0100978

Upon public noticing of the draft permit, EPA is formally requesting that the State's certifying authority make a written determination concerning certification. The State will be deemed to have waived its right to certify unless certification is received within 60 days of receipt of this request.

The NHDES-WD, Wastewater Engineering Bureau is the certifying authority. EPA has discussed this draft permit with the staff of the Wastewater Engineering Bureau and expects that the draft permit will be certified. Regulations governing state certification are set forth in 40 C.F.R. §§ 124.53 and 124.55.

The State's certification should include the specific conditions necessary to assure compliance with applicable provisions of the CWA, Sections 208(e), 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 and with appropriate requirements of State law. In addition, the State should provide a statement of the extent to which each condition of the draft permit can be made less stringent without violating the requirements of State law. Since the State's certification is provided prior to permit issuance, any failure by the State to provide this statement waives the State's right to certify or object to any less stringent condition. These less stringent conditions may be established by EPA during the permit issuance process based on information received following the public notice of the draft permit. If the State believes that any conditions more stringent than those contained in the draft permit are necessary to meet the requirements of either the CWA or State law, the State should include such conditions and, in each case, cite the CWA or State law reference upon which that condition is based. Failure to provide such a citation waives the right to certify as to that condition.

Reviews and appeals of limitations and conditions attributable to State Certification shall be made through the applicable procedures of the State and may not be made through the applicable procedures set forth in 40 C.F.R. Part 124.

VII. Comment Period, Hearing Requests, and Procedures for Final Decisions.

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 the close of the public comment period to:

Dan Arsenault
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
One Congress Street
Suite 1100 (Mail Code CMP)
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023
Telephone: (617) 918-1562
Fax: ((617) 918-1505

Any person, prior to such date, may submit a request in writing for a public hearing to consider the draft permit to EPA and the State Agency. Such Requests shall state the nature of the issue proposed to be raised at the hearing. A public hearing may be held after at least thirty (30) days public notice

NPDES Permit No NH0100978

whenever the Regional Administrator finds that response to this notice indicates significant public interest. 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.

Following the close of the comment period, and after a public hearing (if applicable), 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.

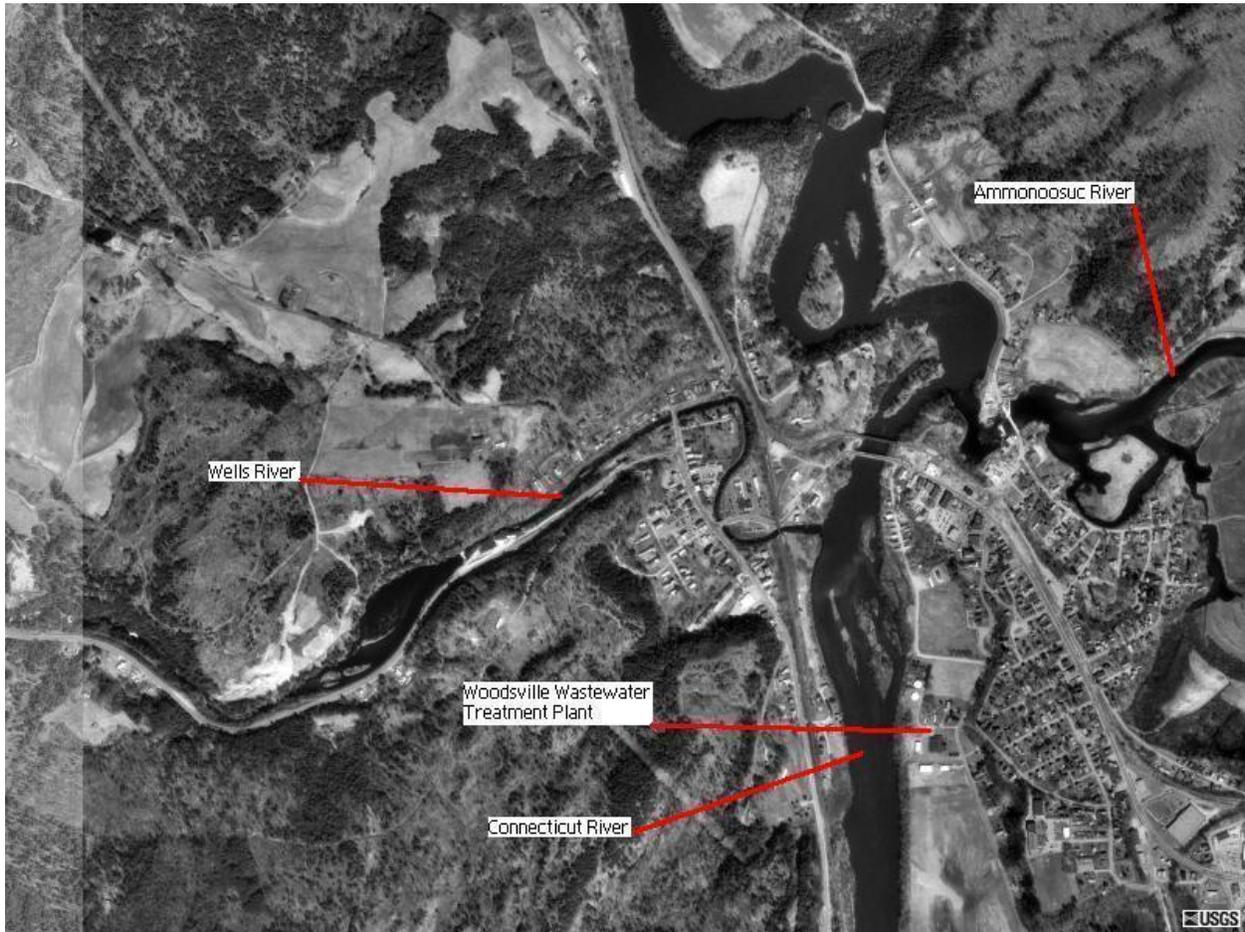
Information concerning the draft permit may be obtained between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Date

Linda M. Murphy, Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

ATTACHMENT A

WOODSVILLE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT LOCATION



* Aerial photo taken April 13, 1998 and obtained through <http://www.terraserver.microsoft.com>.

ATTACHMENT B

SUMMARY OF EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS AT OUTFALL 001

The following effluent characteristics were derived from analysis of discharge monitoring data collected from Outfall 001 from January 2004 through December 2005. All data is taken from the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports. These effluent values characterize the treated wastewater discharged from the Woodsville Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Parameter	Average of Monthly Averages	Range of Monthly Averages	Maximum Daily¹ Or Minimum Daily²
BOD₅ (lb/day)	8.33	3.3 - 15.6	15.6, 14.0, 13.9
BOD₅ (% Removal)	97.59	95.2 – 98.7	96.3, 96.4 96.5 ²
TSS (mg/l)	12.2	5 – 28.5	5.0, 19.7, 17.7
TSS (% Removal)	92.68	90.9 – 98.8	90.9, 93.7, 94.0 ²
Flow (mgd)	0.19	0.113 – 0.439	0.141, 0.397, 0.409
E. Coli (Colonies/100 ml)	13.83	1 - 54	320, 260, 294
pH (Standard Units)	---	6.5 – 7.1 ³	---

1. More than one value represents the second and third highest values.
2. More than one value represents the second and third lowest values.
3. Numbers listed are the minimum and maximum daily readings.

ATTACHMENT D

DERIVATION OF 7Q10 LOW-FLOW AND DILUTION FACTOR AT OUTFALL 001

The 7Q10 at Outfall 001 at the Woodsville WWTP is using the nearest U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) gage at the Connecticut River and at the Wells River. The USGS gaging station is located within 4,000 feet upstream of the treatment plant outfall, and the gage on the Wells River is located approximately 1.5 miles from the river's mouth. The wells River empties into the Connecticut River approximately 2,000 feet upstream of the plant' outfall. The combined flow of the Wells River and the Connecticut River immediatedly downstream of the plant is 684.4 cubic feet per second (442.1 mgd).

Equation used to calculate dilution factor at Outfall 001.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Dilution Factor} &= \{Q_{001} + (Q_{PDF}) \div (Q_{PDF})\} \times 0.9 \\ &= \{(442.1 + 0.33) \div 0.33\} \times 0.9 = \mathbf{1207} \end{aligned}$$

where:

Q_{001} = Estimated 7Q10 flow at Outfall 001, in CFS.

Q_{PDF} = Treatment plant's design flow, in MGD.

0.9 = Factor to reserve of 10 % of river's assimilative capacity