



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

October 18, 2007

DAVID P. LITTELL
COMMISSIONER

Ms. Sophia Wilson
Town Manager
586 Main Road
Brownville, Maine 04414

**RE: *Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit #ME0102784
Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) Application #W000829-5L-E-R
MEPDES Permit / WDL Minor Revision***

Dear Ms. Wilson:

It has come to the attention of the Department that the MEPDES permit/WDL issued for the Town of Brownville Wastewater Treatment System on October 15, 2007, utilized a MEPDES permit number that would cause a data management problem. The 10/15/07 permit utilized the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit number of ME0100099, which had been assigned to your facility by the US Environmental Protection Agency. The Department's data management staff has requested that a new MEPDES permit number of ME0102784 be utilized as the primary reference number for your 10/15/07 permit.

Enclosed, please find a revised copy of your final MEPDES permit and Maine WDL. The revision is limited to changing the MEPDES permit number from ME0100099 to ME0102784. All other terms and conditions of the 10/15/07 permit remain in effect and enforceable.

If you have any questions regarding the matter, please feel free to call Bill Hinkel, Project Manager for your 2007 permit renewal, at 287-7659.

Sincerely,

Andrew Fisk
Director
Bureau of Land and Water Quality

Enc.

cc: Clarissa Trasko, DEP; Lori Mitchell, DEP
Sandy Lao, USEPA; Roger Janson, USEPA
File #829

AUGUSTA
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826
RAY BLDG., HOSPITAL ST.

BANGOR
106 HOGAN ROAD
BANGOR, MAINE 04401
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PORTLAND
312 CANCO ROAD
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769-2094
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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
STATE HOUSE STATION 17 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

DEPARTMENT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

TOWN OF BROWNVILLE)	MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
BROWNVILLE, PISCATAQUIS COUNTY)	ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL)	AND
PERIMETER DRAIN WASTE WATERS)	
#ME0102784)	WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE
#W000829-5L-E-R APPROVAL)	RENEWAL

Pursuant to the provisions of the *Federal Water Pollution Control Act*, Title 33 USC, §1251, *Conditions of licenses*, 38 M.R.S.A. § 414-A, and applicable regulations, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has considered the application of the TOWN OF BROWNVILLE (Town), with its supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

APPLICATION SUMMARY

The Town has applied to the Department for a renewal of Waste Discharge License (WDL) #W000829-5L-D-R, which was issued on August 14, 2002 and expired August 14, 2007. The 8/14/02 WDL authorized the operation of eleven (11) subsurface waste water disposal systems for the treatment of domestic wastewater generated from residential dwellings, municipal buildings and businesses in Brownville, Maine, and the disposal of an unspecified quantity of secondary treated waste waters to ground water, Class GW-A, in Brownville, Maine. The design flow for all 11 systems is 82,110 gallons per day (GPD).

The Town has also applied to the Department for authorization to discharge an unspecified quantity of ground water associated with a perimeter drain established around the Town's largest subsurface system (referred to as System K in this permitting action) to the Pleasant River, Class B, in Brownville, Maine. This discharge had been regulated in WDL #W000829-59-B-R issued by the Department on July 19, 1991; however, in WDL #W000829-59-C-R issued on September 13, 1996, the Department made a best professional judgment determination to not establish effluent limitations or monitoring requirements for this discharge based on monitoring results, which indicated the perimeter drain waste waters were not contaminated by infiltration-bed effluent. WDL #W000829-59-C-R did not specify that discharges of ground water from the perimeter drain collection system to the Pleasant River were authorized, and the only reference to this outfall point in the 8/14/02 licensing action was a Department recommendation (in the fact sheet section) that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) retire National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit #ME0100099 for this facility. The Department stated in the fact sheet of the 8/14/02 WDL that the discharge from the perimeter drain system was consistent in quality to that of ground water. The USEPA did not retire the 12/31/85 NPDES permit for this facility during the effective term of the previous licensing action.

REGULATORY SUMMARY

On January 12, 2001, the Department received authorization from the USEPA to administer the NPDES permit program in Maine, excluding areas of special interest to Maine Indian Tribes. From that point forward, the program has been referred to as the MEPDES permit program. The Department is issuing a combined Maine WDL (for the discharge of sanitary waste waters to ground water) and MEPDES permit (for the discharges of ground water from the perimeter drain to the Pleasant River) for this facility. This permitting action is utilizing a MEPDES permit number of ME0102784 as the primary reference number for the Town's discharges. Upon issuance of this MEPDES permit, all terms and conditions of NPDES permit #ME0100099, last issued by the USEPA on December 31, 1985, and modified on January 26, 1988, will be null and void.

PERMIT SUMMARY

This permitting action is similar to the 8/14/02 licensing action in that it is:

1. Carrying forward authorization to operate and discharge treated waste waters from eleven town-owned subsurface wastewater disposal systems;
2. Carrying forward the influent flow monitoring requirement for System "K" (Brownville Junction System); and
3. Carrying forward certain operational requirements and inspection requirements.

This permitting action is different from the 8/14/02 licensing action in that it is:

1. Assigning an administrative identification number of #001B for influent monitoring associated with the Brownville Junction System (System K) to assist in the management of data in the Permit Compliance System database;
2. Incorporating the requirements of the MEPDES permit program for the discharge of perimeter drain waste waters to the Pleasant River and assigning this outfall point an identification number of Outfall #002A;
3. Establishing daily maximum and quarterly total discharge flow reporting requirements for Outfall #002A;
4. Establishing a quarterly monitoring and reporting requirement and a daily maximum concentration limit of 427 colonies per 100 ml for *Escherichia coli* bacteria for Outfall #002A; and
5. Establishing Special Condition E, *General Operational Requirements*, and Special Condition F, *System Inspections*, which replace or revise several special conditions established in the previous license.

CONCLUSIONS

BASED on the findings in the attached Fact Sheet dated October 10, 2007, and subject to the Conditions listed below, the Department makes the following CONCLUSIONS:

1. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification.
2. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any unclassified body of water below the classification which the Department expects to adopt in accordance with state law.
3. The provisions of the State's antidegradation policy, *Classification of Maine waters*, 38 M.R.S.A. § 464(4)(F), will be met, in that:
 - (a) Existing in-stream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect and maintain those existing uses will be maintained and protected;
 - (b) Where high quality waters of the State constitute an outstanding national resource, that water quality will be maintained and protected;
 - (c) The standards of classification of the receiving water body are met or, where the standards of classification of the receiving water body are not met, the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet the standards of classification;
 - (d) Where the actual quality of any classified receiving water body exceeds the minimum standards of the next highest classification that higher water quality will be maintained and protected; and
 - (e) Where a discharge will result in lowering the existing water quality of any water body, the Department has made the finding, following opportunity for public participation, that this action is necessary to achieve important economic or social benefits to the State.
4. The discharge will be subject to effluent limitations that require application of best practicable treatment as defined in 38 M.R.S.A. § 414-A(1)(D).

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. INFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Influent monitoring to System "K" (Brownville Junction System), identified as **Pipe #001B** in this permitting action, shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below⁽¹⁾:

Parameter	Influent Limitations				Minimum Monitoring Requirements	
	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow [50050]	0.065 MGD [03]	---	---	---	Continuous [99/99]	Recorder [RC]

The italicized numeric values bracketed in the table above are code numbers that Department personnel utilized to code the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports. See **Page 6 of this permit for applicable footnotes.**

B. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The permittee is authorized to discharge perimeter drain waste water from the perimeter drain associated with Subsurface Treatment System K (Brownville Junction System) via **Outfall #002A** to the Pleasant River and shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below⁽¹⁾:

	Quarterly Total	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
	Flow [50050]	Report Total Gallons [57]	---	---	---	---	Continuous [99/99]
<i>E. coli</i> Bacteria [31633]	---	---	---	---	427 col/100 ml [13]	1/Quarter ⁽²⁾ [01/90]	Grab [GR]

The italicized numeric values bracketed in the table above are code numbers that Department personnel utilized to code the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports. See **Page 6 of this permit for applicable footnotes.**

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

FOOTNOTES FOR SPECIAL CONDITIONS A AND B:

1. **Sampling** – Sampling and analysis must be conducted in accordance with; a) methods approved by 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 136, b) alternative methods approved by the Department in accordance with the procedures in 40 CFR Part 136, or c) as otherwise specified by the Department. Samples that are sent out for analysis shall be analyzed by a laboratory certified by the State of Maine’s Department of Health and Human Services. Samples that are sent to a POTW licensed pursuant to *Waste discharge licenses*, 38 M.R.S.A. § 413 are subject to the provisions and restrictions of *Maine Comprehensive and Limited Environmental Laboratory Certification Rules*, 10-144 CMR 263 (last amended February 13, 2000).

All detectable analytical test results shall be reported to the Department including results which are detected below the respective reporting limits (RLs) specified by the Department. If a non-detect analytical test result is below the respective RL, the concentration result shall be reported as <Y where Y is the actual detection limit achieved by the laboratory for each respective parameter. Reporting a value of <Y that is greater than an established RL is not acceptable and will be rejected by the Department.

2. **Bacteria Monitoring** – For instances when there is no effluent flow via Outfall #001B for an entire reporting period during normal Town business hours, the permittee shall enter “NODI-9” on the Discharge Monitoring Report. The Department reserves the right to impose year-round or seasonal numeric *E. coli* bacteria limitations for Outfall #002A based on the results of monitoring and to protect the designated uses for Class B waters.

C. NARRATIVE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

1. The effluent shall not contain a visible oil sheen, foam or floating solids at any time which would impair the usages designated by the classification of the receiving waters.
2. The effluent shall not contain materials in concentrations or combinations which are hazardous or toxic to aquatic life, or which would impair the usages designated by the classification of the receiving waters.
3. The discharge shall not cause visible discoloration or turbidity in the receiving waters, which would impair the usages designated by the classification of the receiving waters.
4. Notwithstanding specific conditions of this permit the effluent must not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification, or lower the existing quality of any body of water if the existing quality is higher than the classification.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

D. AUTHORIZED DISCHARGES

The permittee is authorized to discharge only in accordance with: 1) the permittee's General Application for Waste Discharge Permit, accepted for processing on July 23, 2007; 2) the terms and conditions of this permit; and 3) only from Outfall #002A and the eleven (11) subsurface wastewater disposal systems identified in Attachment B of the fact sheet associated with this permitting action. Discharges of wastewater from any other point source are not authorized under this permit and shall be reported in accordance with Standard Condition B(5), *Bypasses*, of this permit. The collection, treatment or discharge of waste water which has constituents unlike that or significantly higher in strength than that of domestic waste water is prohibited without written authorization from the Department.

E. GENERAL OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. The permittee shall operate the system consistent with the requirements of the *Maine Subsurface Waste Water Disposal Rules*, 10-144 CMR 241 (effective August 1, 2005) and other pertinent regulations, as well as the limitations of the design.
2. All upgrades, replacements or authorized expansions of the treatment systems shall be in accordance with 10-144 CMR 241 and be approved by the Department.
3. The permittee shall maintain a file on the location of all system components and relevant features. Each component shall be mapped and field-located sufficiently to allow adequate inspections and monitoring by both the permittee and the Department. Septic tanks and distribution box covers shall be accessible for inspections and pumping.
4. All septic tanks shall be watertight and tanks must be constructed of materials approved by the Department and in accordance with 10-144 CMR 241.
5. Septic tanks and other treatment tanks (including grease traps) shall be regularly inspected and maintained to ensure that they are providing best practicable treatment.
6. Septic tank contents shall be removed whenever the sludge and scum occupies one-third of the tank's liquid capacity, or at any level that impairs the proper function of the unit. The permittee shall maintain a log of septic tank pumping activities, including the dates of pumping events and system identifier and other relevant observations.
7. The permittee shall require any commercial or institutional food preparation facility to install a grease interceptor in accordance with 10-144 CMR 241. Grease interceptors serving year-round facilities shall be inspected by the permittee at least two times per year and seasonal facilities shall be inspected at least twice per year to determine the volume of grease present. Tanks shall be cleaned, at a minimum, when the volume of grease equals more than 50% of the liquid capacity of the tank or at any level that impairs the proper function of the unit.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

F. SYSTEM INSPECTIONS

1. The permittee shall conduct at least one inspection per year for disposal fields treating solely domestic wastewater. The permittee shall conduct at least three inspections per year for systems treating waste waters (in whole or in part) generated by commercial entities.
2. The inspection report or log shall include the date of the inspection, the names of the person performing the inspection, and other relevant system observations.
3. Disposal field inspections shall include: any signs of hydraulic failure; condition of the surface vegetation; level of ponding within the chamber and on the disposal area; physical encroachments into the disposal area; and other sources of hydraulic loading.

G. MAINTENANCE LOGS

Maintenance logs shall be maintained for each system component including pumps, dosing chambers, distribution boxes, septic tanks and absorption fields. This shall include for each system: 1) the alphanumeric ID; 2) a summary of the results of all inspections; 2) a summary of all significant maintenance activities and repairs, and other specific action(s) taken to ensure the proper functioning of the systems; 3) a listing of all additions and deletions to the system or individual system components; 4) a summary of pumping activity for all septic tanks and other treatment components; 5) a summary of relevant performance observations; and 6) the volumes of wastewater directed to each disposal field.

H. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (O & M) PLAN

This facility shall have a current written comprehensive Operation & Maintenance (O & M) Plan. The plan shall provide a systematic approach by which the permittee shall at all times, properly operate and maintain all facilities and the systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit.

By December 31 of each year, or within 90 days of any process changes or minor equipment upgrades, the permittee shall evaluate and modify the O& M Plan including site plan(s) and schematic(s) for the wastewater treatment facility to ensure that it is up-to-date. The O& M Plan shall be kept on-site at all times and made available to Department personnel upon request.

Within 90 days of completion of new and substantial upgrades of the wastewater treatment facility, the permittee shall submit the updated O&M Plan to their Department inspector for review and comment.

The site plan(s) and schematic(s) should be suitable for reproduction on 11" x 17" paper and shall include but not limited to all manholes, septic tanks and other treatment tanks including holding and polishing tanks, pump stations and disposal fields. Each system component shall be provided with a unique alphanumeric identifier.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

I. MONITORING AND REPORTING

Monitoring results obtained during the previous calendar quarter shall be summarized for each calendar quarter and reported on separate Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) forms provided by the Department and **postmarked on or before the thirteenth (13th) day of the month or hand-delivered to the Department's Regional Office such that the DMR's are received by the Department on or before the fifteenth (15th) day of the month** following the completed reporting period. A signed copy of the DMR and all other reports required herein shall be submitted to the following address:

Department of Environmental Protection
Eastern Maine Regional Office
Bureau of Land and Water Quality
Division of Engineering, Compliance and Technical Assistance
106 Hogan Road
Bangor, Maine 04401

J. REOPENING OF PERMIT FOR MODIFICATION

Upon evaluation of the tests results in the Special Conditions of this permitting action, new site specific information, or any other pertinent test results or information obtained during the term of this permit, the Department may, at any time and with notice to the permittee, modify this permit to: (1) include effluent limits necessary to control specific pollutants or whole effluent toxicity where there is a reasonable potential that the effluent may cause water quality criteria to be exceeded; (2) require additional monitoring if results on file are inconclusive; or (3) change monitoring requirements or limitations based on new information.

K. SEVERABILITY

In the event that any provision, or part thereof, of this permit is declared to be unlawful by a reviewing court, the remainder of the permit shall remain in full force and effect, and shall be construed and enforced in all aspects as if such unlawful provision, or part thereof, had been omitted, unless otherwise ordered by the court.

**MAINE POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
MAINE WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE**

FACT SHEET

DATE: OCTOBER 10, 2007

**PERMIT COMPLIANCE TRACKING NUMBER: #ME0102784
WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE NUMBER: #W000829-5L-E-R**

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

**TOWN OF BROWNVILLE
586 MAIN ROAD
BROWNVILLE, MAINE 04414**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

**BROWNVILLE SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS
BROWNVILLE JUNCTION SYSTEM K PERIMETER DRAIN OUTFALL
BROWNVILLE, MAINE**

REGION WHERE FACILITY DISCHARGE OCCURS: PISCATAQUIS COUNTY

**RECEIVING WATER/ CLASSIFICATION: GROUND WATER/CLASS GW-A
PLEASANT RIVER, CLASS B**

**COGNIZANT OFFICIAL AND TELEPHONE NUMBER: MR. STEVEN JAY
TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR
(207) 965-2561**

1. APPLICATION SUMMARY

Application: #W000829-5L-D-R, which was issued on August 14, 2002 and expired August 14, 2007. The 8/14/02 WDL authorized the operation of eleven (11) subsurface waste water disposal systems for the treatment of domestic wastewater generated from residential dwellings, municipal buildings and businesses in Brownville, Maine, and the disposal of an unspecified quantity of secondary treated waste waters to ground water, Class GW-A, in Brownville, Maine. The design flow for all 11 systems is 82,110 gallons per day (GPD).

1. APPLICATION SUMMARY (cont'd)

The Town has also applied to the Department for authorization to discharge an unspecified quantity of ground water associated with a perimeter drain established around the Town's largest subsurface system (referred to as System K in this permitting action) to the Pleasant River, Class B, in Brownville, Maine. This discharge had been regulated in WDL #W000829-59-B-R issued by the Department on July 19, 1991; however, in WDL #W000829-59-C-R issued on September 13, 1996, the Department made a best professional judgment determination to not establish effluent limitations or monitoring requirements for this discharge based on monitoring results, which indicated the perimeter drain waste waters were not contaminated by infiltration-bed effluent. WDL #W000829-59-C-R did not specify that discharges of ground water from the perimeter drain collection system to the Pleasant River were authorized, and the only reference to this outfall point in the 8/14/02 licensing action was a Department recommendation (in the fact sheet section) that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) retire National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit #ME0100099 for this facility. The Department stated in the fact sheet of the 8/14/02 WDL that the discharge from the perimeter drain system was consistent in quality to that of ground water. The USEPA did not retire the 12/31/85 NPDES permit for this facility during the effective term of the previous licensing action.

2. REGULATORY SUMMARY

Regulatory: On January 12, 2001, the Department received authorization from the USEPA to administer the NPDES permit program in Maine, excluding areas of special interest to Maine Indian Tribes. From that point forward, the program has been referred to as the MEPDES permit program. The Department is issuing a combined Maine WDL (for the discharge of sanitary waste waters to ground water) and MEPDES permit (for the discharges of ground water from the perimeter drain to the Pleasant River) for this facility. This permitting action is utilizing a MEPDES permit number of ME0102784 as the primary reference number for the Town's discharges. Upon issuance of this MEPDES permit, all terms and conditions of NPDES permit #ME0100099, last issued by the USEPA on December 31, 1985, and modified on January 26, 1988, will be null and void.

3. PERMIT SUMMARY

- a. Terms and Conditions: This permitting action is similar to the 8/14/02 licensing action in that it is:
1. Carrying forward authorization to operate and discharge treated waste waters from eleven town-owned subsurface wastewater disposal systems;
 2. Carrying forward the influent flow monitoring requirement for System "K" (Brownville Junction System); and
 3. Carrying forward certain operational requirements and inspection requirements.

3. PERMIT SUMMARY (cont'd)

This permitting action is different from the 8/14/02 licensing action in that it is:

1. Assigning an administrative identification number of #001B for influent monitoring associated with the Brownville Junction System (System K) to assist in the management of data in the Permit Compliance System database;
 2. Incorporating the requirements of the MEPDES permit program for the discharge of perimeter drain waste waters to the Pleasant River and assigning this outfall point an identification number of Outfall #002A;
 3. Establishing daily maximum and quarterly total discharge flow reporting requirements for Outfall #002A;
 4. Establishing a quarterly monitoring and reporting requirement and a daily maximum concentration limit of 427 colonies per 100 ml for *Escherichia coli* bacteria for Outfall #002A; and
 5. Establishing Special Condition E, *General Operational Requirements*, and Special Condition F, *System Inspections*, which replace or revise several special conditions established in the previous license.
- b. History: This section provides a summary of significant licensing actions and milestones that have been completed for the Brownville Subsurface System.

December 31, 1985 – The USEPA issued NPDES renewal permit #ME0100099 to the Town for a five-year term. At the time of issuance, the Town's wastewater treatment system discharged to the Pleasant River in Brownville.

January 26, 1988 - The USEPA issued a NPDES permit modification to the Town to reduce monitoring frequencies associated with the discharge to the Pleasant River.

November 1989 – The Town completed construction of the subsurface wastewater disposal system and eliminated the discharge of treated waste waters to surface waters. It is noted that the largest subsurface system, the Brownville Junction System K, was designed with a perimeter ground water drain that maintained an outfall to the Pleasant River.

August 14, 2002 – The Department issued WDL #W000829-5L-D-R to the Town for a five-year term. The 8/14/02 WDL did not establish numeric effluent limitations for the discharge of secondary treated sanitary waste waters from the eleven (11) Town-owned subsurface disposal systems or for the discharge of waste waters from the perimeter drain system. The 8/14/02 WDL superseded WDL #W000829-59-C-R issued on September 13, 1996, WDL Amendment #W000829-59-C-A issued on October 19, 1992, WDL #W000829-59-B-R issued on July 19, 1991, and WDL #W000829-59-A-R issued on January 31, 1986 (earliest Order on file with the Department).

2. PERMIT SUMMARY (cont'd)

July 19, 2007 – The Town submitted a timely and complete General Application to the Department for renewal of the 8/14/02 WDL. The application was accepted for processing on July 23, 2007 and was assigned WDL #W000829-5L-E-R. It is noted that the Department has replaced the compliance tracking system number of MEU5000829 with a MEPDES permit number of ME0102784 as the facility will now have a combined Maine WDL and MEPDES permit for the discharges to ground water and surface waters.

- c. Source Description: Sanitary waste waters are generated by residential and light commercial users in the Town of Brownville. There are no industrial users connected to the collection or treatment systems. The facility is not authorized to receive septage. A map showing the location of the Town of Brownville is included as Attachment A of this fact sheet. The source of waste waters discharged via Outfall #002A is a perimeter drain that was constructed around the Brownville Junction System (System K) to divert and collect ground water in order to prevent excessive hydraulic loading of the infiltration bed.
- d. Wastewater Treatment: The Town provides a secondary level of wastewater treatment via eleven (11) subsurface wastewater disposal systems. Systems A-J specified on "Town of Brownville Subsurface Systems" included as Attachment B of this fact sheet are located in the Brownville Village area while System K, the Brownville Junction system, is located to the north of the village area in Brownville Junction. Each system provides a primary level of treatment via septic tanks and secondary treatment via subsurface wastewater disposal fields. The design capacity of the 11 systems is 82,110 gallons per day. See Attachment B of this fact sheet for individual treatment system specifications. It is noted that System K was designed and constructed with an emergency bypass structure to allow for primary treated waste waters to bypass the subsurface system in the event of mechanical failures at the facility. The Town reported that the valve-controlled bypass pipe was mechanically plugged in the spring of calendar year 2007 such that bypasses from this point are not possible. This permit does not authorize bypasses of wastewater from this emergency bypass point.

3. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

Classification of ground water, 38 M.R.S.A. § 470 states "All ground water shall be classified as not less than Class GW-A, except as otherwise provided in this section." Standards of classification of ground water, 38 M.R.S.A. § 465-C(1) contains the standards for the classification of ground waters. "Class GW-A shall be the highest classification and shall be of such quality that it can be used for public drinking water supplies. These waters shall be free of radioactive matter or any matter that imparts color, turbidity, taste or odor which would impair usages of these waters, other than that occurring from natural phenomena."

Classification of major river basins, 38 M.R.S.A. § 467(8)(2) classifies the Pleasant River at the point of discharge as Class B waters. Standards for classification of fresh surface waters, 38 M.R.S.A. § 465(4) describes the standards for Class B waters.

4. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS

The State of Maine 2004 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report, prepared by the Department pursuant to Sections 303(d) and 305(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, lists 361.6 miles of the Pleasant River and its tributaries (Hydrologic Unit Code #ME0102000404 / Waterbody ID #216R) as, "Category 2: Rivers and Streams Attaining Some Designated Uses – Insufficient Information for Other Uses." The Report lists all of Maine's fresh waters as, "Category 4-B-3: Waters Impaired by Atmospheric Deposition of Mercury. Regional or National TMDL may be Required." Impairment in this context refers to a statewide fish consumption advisory due to elevated levels of mercury in some fish tissues. The Report states, "the impairment is presumed to be from atmospheric contamination and deposition. The advisory is based on probability data that a stream, river, or lake may contain some fish that exceed the advisory action level. Any freshwater may contain both contaminated and uncontaminated fish depending on size, age and species occurrence in that water."

The Department has no information at this time that the discharge from the Town will cause or contribute to the failure of the receiving water to meet the designated uses of its assigned classification.

5. INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

- a. Flow: The previous licensing action established a monthly average influent flow limit of 0.065 million gallons per day (MGD) for the Brownville Junction System (System K) and a daily maximum reporting requirement for influent flow to the subsurface system. The monthly average limitation is being carried forward in this permitting action. The daily maximum reporting requirement is being eliminated. This information is recorded by the facility and is maintained on forms available at the treatment facility. This permitting action is assigning an administrative identification number of Pipe #001B for influent monitoring at the Brownville Junction System for data management purposes.

This permitting actions establishing daily maximum and quarterly total discharge flow reporting requirements for Outfall #002A (System K). The Town currently monitors flow from this system.

- b. Escherichia coli bacteria: This permitting action is establishing a daily maximum *E. coli* bacteria limit of 427 colonies per 100 ml, which is based on the State's Water Classification Program criteria for Class B waters, for the discharge from the Brownville Junction System perimeter drain (Outfall #002A) to the Pleasant River. Fecal coliform monitoring data (performed between calendar years 2001-2006 for compliance demonstration purposes for the Town's NPDES permit) indicates a maximum reported value of <1 col/100ml for fecal coliform bacteria. The perimeter drain was constructed to serve as a ground water diversion and collection system to protect the subsurface disposal field from excessive hydraulic loading. This permitting action is establishing a quarterly monitoring requirement for *E. coli* bacteria for the perimeter drain discharge to ensure only uncontaminated ground waters are being discharged via Outfall #002A. It is noted

5. INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

that the Town reports that Outfall #002A does not discharge continuously and has requested provisions for periods when monitoring cannot be performed due to lack of flow in the outfall pipe. For instances when there is no flow in Outfall #002A for an entire calendar quarter reporting period during normal Town business hours, the permittee shall enter "NODI-9" on the quarterly Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR).

6. DISCHARGE IMPACT ON RECEIVING WATER QUALITY

As permitted, the Department has determined the existing water uses will be maintained and protected and the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet standards for Class GW-A or Class B classifications.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public notice of this application was made in the *Piscataquis Observer* newspaper on or about June 6, 2007. The Department receives public comments on an application until the date a final agency action is taken on the application. Those persons receiving copies of draft permits shall have at least 30 days in which to submit comments on the draft or to request a public hearing, pursuant to *Application Processing Procedures for Waste Discharge Licenses*, 06-096 CMR 522 (effective January 12, 2001).

8. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Additional information concerning this permitting action may be obtained from, and written comments sent to:

William F. Hinkel
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Land & Water Quality
Department of Environmental Protection
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9. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

During the period of August 23, 2007, through September 24, 2007, the Department solicited comments on the proposed draft Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit to be issued to the Town for the proposed discharges. The Department received one significant comment on the proposed draft permit from internal staff to include a numeric limitation for *E. coli* bacteria for System K, which has been included in this final permit.