

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
1 WINTER STREET  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION AGENCY  
OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION  
REGION I  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109

EXTENSION PUBLIC NOTICE OF 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,  
AS AMENDED, AND UNDER SECTIONS 27 AND 43 OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN  
WATERS ACT, AS AMENDED, AND REQUEST FOR STATE CERTIFICATION UNDER  
SECTION 401 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT.

DATE OF NOTICE: May 20, 2011

PERMIT NUMBER: **MA0030350**

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: MA-017-11

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Governor's Academy  
Elm Street  
Byfield, Massachusetts 01922

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Governor's Academy Wastewater Treatment Facility  
Elm Street  
Byfield, Massachusetts 01922

RECEIVING WATER: unnamed intermittent freshwater tributary to the Mill River  
(Parker River Watershed, MA91-09)

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: Class B

This draft permit authorizes the discharge of treated wastewater from the Governor's Academy Wastewater Treatment Facility. The plant uses membrane bioreactor technology (MBR) units which consist of hollow fiber strand membrane modules and permeate pumps. The MBR installation consists of one 27,000 gallon tank holding 14 treatment modules. The permeate pumps draw the wastewater through the membrane while the solids are kept in suspension by coarse air at the bottom of the membrane. Recycling with this system provides biological treatment and solids reduction and also ammonia reduction by establishment of high levels of nitrification. This treatment process does not require secondary clarification. The decanted effluent from the MBR tank is pumped directly to the existing UV disinfection units. The effluent from the UV units is piped to a nearby outfall which then discharges to an unnamed intermittent stream, a tributary to the Mill River. Sludge is removed from the facility and trucked by hauler to the Fitchburg WWTF or Upper Blackstone WWTF for final disposal. The

facility has a design flow of 0.052 million gallons per day.

The proposed permit contains wastewater discharge limitations consistent with the State's Surface Water Quality Regulations, appropriate conditions as adopted from the existing permit, and other Act regulations. The proposed permit also contains sludge conditions consistent with Section 405 of the Act. In addition, the proposed permit contains other effluent limitations and conditions necessary to ensure that the discharge receives adequate treatment and that the State's Class B water-quality standards are maintained. Specific effluent limitations in the proposed permit are for biochemical oxygen demand, total suspended solids, pH, ammonia nitrogen as N, fecal coliform, enterococci bacteria, copper, lead, dissolved oxygen and whole effluent toxicity.

#### PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT PERMIT:

The Public Notice is hereby extended (40 CFR Section 124.10) to June 18, 2011. Please note that any comments submitted during the initial public notice period of April 29, 2011 through May 28, 2011 are considered to be valid and part of the official record. There is no need to resubmit any comments during the extended period. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) have cooperated in the development of a permit for the above identified facility. The effluent limits and permit conditions imposed have been drafted to assure compliance with the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. sections 1251 et seq., the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, G.L. c. 21, §§ 26-53, 314 CMR 3.00 and State Surface Water Quality Standards at 314 CMR 4.00. EPA has formally requested that the State certify this draft permit pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and expects that the draft permit will be certified. However, sludge conditions in the draft permit are not subject to State certification requirements.

#### 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\\_ma.html](http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/draft_permits_listing_ma.html) or by writing or calling EPA's contact person named below:

Michael Cobb  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 1  
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OEP06-1)  
Boston, MA 02109-3912  
Telephone: (617) 918-1369

The administrative record containing all documents relating to this 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 COMMENT AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of this draft permit is inappropriate,

must raise all issues and submit all available arguments and all supporting material for their arguments in full by **June 18, 2011**, to the U.S. EPA, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, Massachusetts 02109-3912. Any person, prior to such date, may submit a request in writing to EPA and the State Agency for a public hearing to consider this draft permit. Such requests shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. A public hearing may be held after at least thirty days public notice whenever the Regional Administrator finds that response to this notice indicates significant public interest. In reaching a final decision on this draft permit, the Regional Administrator will respond to all significant comments and make the 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, if such hearing is held, 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.

DAVID FERRIS, DIRECTOR  
MASSACHUSETTS WASTEWATER  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

STEPHEN S. PERKINS, DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AGENCY – REGION 1