

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

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY – REGION I
5 POST OFFICE SQUARE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109

JOINT EXTENSION OF THE PUBLIC NOTICE COMMENT PERIOD TO A PARTIALLY REVISED DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT TO DISCHARGE INTO THE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER SECTION 301 AND 402 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT (THE “ACT”), AS AMENDED, AND REQUEST FOR STATE CERTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 401 OF THE ACT.

DATE OF NOTICE: July 18, 2011

PERMIT NUMBER: NH0100871

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: NH-008-11

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Town of Exeter
Exeter Wastewater Treatment Plant
10 Front Street
Exeter, New Hampshire 03833-2792

NAME AND LOCATION OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Town of Exeter
Exeter Wastewater Treatment Plant
13 Newfields Road
Exeter, New Hampshire 03833

RECEIVING WATER: Squamscott River (Hydrologic Unit Code: 01060003)

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: B

REASON FOR EXTENDING THE PUBLIC NOTICE PERIOD:

In response to a request submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by the Great Bay Municipal Coalition for additional time to review the partially revised draft permit and submit comments, this Public Notice is hereby extended (40 CFR § 124.10) to **August 12, 2011**. Please note that any comments submitted during the initial public comment period of March 25 through July 22, 2011 are considered to be valid and part of the official record. There is no need to resubmit comments during the extended comment period.

PREPARATION OF THE PARTIALLY REVISED DRAFT PERMIT:

The EPA and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) have cooperated in the development of a partially revised National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) draft permit authorizing discharges from the Exeter Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Squamscott River. A draft permit was released for public notice comment on October 25, 2007, and comments were accepted until November 23, 2007. This draft permit required that the permittee monitor total nitrogen on a monthly basis, but did not include an effluent limitation. As a result of comments received, the agencies have partially revised the draft permit to include a monthly average total nitrogen concentration limit of 3.0 mg/l and a monthly average total nitrogen mass limit of 75 lb/day for the months of April through October. Additionally, the partially revised permit requires that the operation of the treatment facility be optimized for the removal of total nitrogen during the months of November through March, using all available treatment equipment in place at the facility.

The agencies have concluded that an opportunity for interested parties to comment on this specific change to the draft permit will assist the agencies in their deliberations and improve the quality of the final permit decision. Therefore, pursuant to 40 CFR § 124.14(b), public comment on the partially revised draft permit has been reopened. In accordance with 40 CFR § 124.14(c), comments filed during the reopened comment period shall be limited to the “substantial new questions that caused its reopening” which in this case pertain only to the implementation of the monthly average limit for total nitrogen.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PARTIALLY REVISED DRAFT PERMIT:

A revised fact sheet (describing the basis for the revised draft permit conditions and significant factual, legal, and policy questions considering in preparing 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:

Dan Arsenault
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
5 Post Office Square, Mail Code: OEP06-1
Boston, MA 02109

Phone: (617) 918-1562
E-Mail: Arseault.Dan@epa.gov

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 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except Holidays.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of the partially revised draft permit is inappropriate, must raise all issues and submit all available arguments and all supporting

material for their arguments in full by **August 12, 2011**, to U.S. EPA, Office of Ecosystem Protection, 5 Post Office Square, Mail Code – OEP06-1, Boston, Massachusetts, 02109. In reaching a final decision on the partially revised 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 DECISIONS AND APPEALS:

Following the close of the comment period, 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 for the requested notice.

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

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