

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY Region 1 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

## CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

SEP 2 9 2015

Bill Smagula, Vice President Public Service Company of New Hampshire 780 North Commercial Street Manchester, NH 03101

Re: Public Notice

NPDES Reapplication No. NH0001473

(for) PSNH Schiller Station

Dear Mr. Smagula:

In accordance with Section 402 of the Clean Water Act, as amended, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region I, intends to issue a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to your facility in the near future.

The enclosed draft permit, developed by this office and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Water Division (NHDES-WD) contains effluent limitations and conditions to assure that the discharge receives adequate treatment and will not violate State water-quality standards. Also, enclosed is the Fact Sheet which briefly describes the basis for the permit conditions. You are encouraged to closely review all terms and conditions contained in this draft.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this draft permit or if you believe the draft permit does not accurately describe your discharge or contain a reasonable compliance schedule (where appropriate), you should notify each office, in writing, no later than the last day of the public comment period.

The law requires public notice to be given of the preparation of a draft permit to allow opportunity for public comments and, if necessary, a public hearing. Public notice of the preparation for all draft permits must be given by notification to the applicant and all interested parties, as specified in 40 Code of Federal Regulations [C.F.R.] §124.10(c)(1). Additionally, for major NPDES permits, 40 C.F.R. §124.10(c)(2)(i) requires publication of a notice in a daily or weekly local newspaper of the preparation of a draft permit.

In order to preserve the right to contest provisions in a final permit, all persons, including the applicant, who believe any condition of the draft is inappropriate must raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonable available arguments supporting their position by the close of the public comment period (40 C.F.R. § 124.13).

The period for public comment is on the enclosed fact sheet. Following the close of the public comment period, your final permit will be issued provided no new substantial questions are raised. If new questions develop during the comment period, it may be necessary to draft a new permit, revise the Fact Sheet, and/or reopen the public comment period.

You should be aware that, if you discharge in the coastal zone, under the provisions of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), U.S.C. § 1451 et seq., and its implementing regulations, EPA cannot issue an NPDES permit for your facility until you submit a CZMA federal consistency certification that your activities will be consistent with the enforceable policies of the New Hampshire Coastal Program (NHCP) and the NHCP concurs with your certification. Please see 15 C.F.R. § 930 et seq. and 40 C.F.R. § 122.49(d). If you discharge in the coastal zone, you should therefore provide EPA and the NHCP with the following statement: "The proposed activity complies with the enforceable policies of the New Hampshire Coastal Program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such program". In addition, please submit to the NHCP a copy of your completed permit application, the enclosed draft permit and fact sheet, and an evaluation that includes a set of findings relating the coastal effects of the proposal to the relevant enforceable policies of the NHCP. Additional information regarding New Hampshire's CZMA federal consistency process may be obtained from Christian Williams, Federal Consistency Coordinator, New Hampshire Coastal Program, Pease Field Office, 222 International Drive, Suite 175, Portsmouth, NH 03801, telephone number (603) 559-0025 and is available on-line at http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/coastal/cfcp/index.htm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss any of the conditions contained in this draft permit, do not hesitate to contact Michael Cobb of my staff at (617) 918-1369.

Sincerely,

David M. Webster, Chief

Water Permits Branch

Office of Ecosystem Protection

Enclosures: Draft Permit and Fact Sheet with related Attachments

cc: New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Water Division

Christian Williams, NHCP