



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner



December 19, 2022

Lynne Jennings, Chief
Water Permits Branch
Water Division
EPA New England
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (06-1)
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Subject: Schiller Station
Certification of Modification to NPDES Permit No. NH0001473

Dear Ms. Jennings:

By letter received by NHDES on October 4, 2022, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requested state certification from NHDES, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, of a proposed modification to the individual National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for Schiller Station. The proposed permit modification replaces the requirement for the Permittee to install a fine mesh wedgewire screen intake system with requirements limiting intake flow of the cooling water intake structures and a requirement to operate a system of technologies, management practices, and operational measures optimized to minimize impingement mortality.

EPA gave public notice of the availability of the draft permit modification, including the statement of basis, on October 4, 2022. The public notice provided a public comment period until November 2, 2022, and stated that the draft permit modification and statement of basis could be obtained at the EPA New England website at <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/new-hampshire-draft-individual-npdes-permits>. The public notice period was later extended through November 17, 2022 and on October 26, 2022, EPA issued a corresponding extension on the state certification due date until December 19, 2022.

After review of the draft permit modification transmitted to NHDES on August 25, 2022, state certification is hereby granted pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The permit modification will ensure that the requirements in Title L RSA 485-A and New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Env-Wq 1700 (Surface Water Quality Standards) are met.

Per EPA's October 26, 2022 correspondence, EPA has given NHDES until December 19, 2022 to certify this permit modification, but has not yet provided the final permit modification for NHDES review. As such, NHDES is required to provide this certification without the opportunity to view the final permit modification. Therefore, this certification is for the above-referenced draft permit modification provided during the public comment period.

Upon final issuance by EPA, NHDES may adopt all terms and conditions of the permit modification, as applicable, in its State Surface Water Discharge Permit for the facility, pursuant to RSA 485-A:13.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rene Pelletier", written in a cursive style.

Rene Pelletier, P.G., Director
Water Division

cc: Ellen Weitzler, Wastewater Permits Section Chief, EPA-Region 1
Ted Diers, Assistant Director, NHDES WD
Tracy Wood, P.E., Administrator, NHDES WD-WWEB
Erin Holmes, P.E., Administrator, NHDES WD-WMB
Christian Williams, Program Coordinator, NHDES Coastal Program