



**Draft Massachusetts North Coastal Small MS 4 General Permit**

**Glen Edwards** to: Thelma Murphy

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CC: "Buxton Michael", "Jack McGrail", "Lori Cahill", "Mark Hamel",  
"Neal Campbell", "Tom Bomil"

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Thelma Murphy,

This email constitutes the comments of **the Dracut, MA** Stormwater Coordinator.

Though Dracut, Ma is not listed in Appendix C and therefore will not immediately be subject to the decisions made in regards to North Coastal Small MS4 communities, the requirements will eventually spread to our region.

Dracut has demonstrated its commitment to improving its stormwater handling with a limited budget. With that limited budget, it is imperative that funds be spent wisely. As MS4 General Permit requirements become more stringent one of our growing concerns is where is the funding going to come from?

Even during the early years of our MS4 General Permit with a robust economy funding was difficult, but since the economy has struggled we are finding that we must scale back on our funding commitments. When communities are losing police, fire, teachers, DPW personnel, etc. lower priority is given to funding to address stormwater issues.

Currently stormwater funding is not to be tied to changes to the inevitable ups and downs of the economy. A dedicated, consistent funding source is needed. Voluntary adoption of dedicated stormwater utility fees by local jurisdictions would be difficult to achieve.

If the federal government determines that proposed stormwater measures are a requirement for local governments to fulfill then it would seem to be incumbent upon them to provide local governments with the means to meet the mandate.

Sincerely,

*Glen Edwards*

Dracut Assistant Town Manager/Town Planner (Stormwater Coordinator)

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