



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner



February 24, 2023

Damien Houlihan, Acting Manager
Water Permits Branch
Water Division
EPA New England
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (06-1)
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Subject: Small Wastewater Treatment Facility General Permit Modification
Certification of Modification to NPDES Permit No. NHG580000

Dear Mr. Houlihan:

By letter dated October 27, 2022, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requested state certification, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, of a modification to the Small Wastewater Treatment Facility General Permit (WWTF GP).

EPA gave public notice of the availability of the draft permit modification, including the statement of basis, on October 27, 2022. The public notice provided a public comment period until January 25, 2023, and stated that the draft permit and fact sheet could be obtained at the EPA New England website at <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/region-1-draft-small-wastewater-treatment-facilities-general-permit-modification>.

After review of the draft permit modification transmitted to NHDES on July 27, 2022, state certification is hereby granted pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The draft permit modification meets the requirements in Title L RSA 485-A and New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Env-Wq 1700 (Surface Water Quality Standards).

Per EPA's October 27, 2022 correspondence, EPA has given NHDES 120 days to certify this permit modification, but EPA 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 responses to public comments or the final permit modification. Therefore, this certification is for the above-referenced draft permit modification provided during the public comment period.

Upon final issuance of the permit modification by EPA, NHDES may adopt any new authorization or any modification to an existing authorization under this permit, including all terms and conditions, as a State Surface Water Discharge Permit pursuant to RSA 485-A:13.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rene Pelletier". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "R".

Rene Pelletier, P.G., Assistant Director
Water Division

cc: Lynne Jennings, Water Permits Branch 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