DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED AMENDMENT TO THE LOWER RARITAN/MIDDLESEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN
Public Notice

Take notice that on SEP 2 3 2003 , pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Water Quality Planning Act, N.J.S.A. 58:11A-1 et seq., and the Statewide Water Quality Management Planning rules (N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.4), an amendment to the Lower Raritan/Middlesex County Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). This amendment modifies the Lower Raritan/Middlesex County Wastewater Management Plan to expand the Middlesex County Utilities Authority Sewage Treatment Plant sewer service area to include the 17 single-family home development known as Bennetts Village located at Block 86.01, Lot 9.39, to the northeast of the intersection of Bennetts Lane and Dahmer Road in Franklin Township, Somerset County. This proposed development will produce a projected wastewater flow of 5,100 gallons per day to the Middlesex County Utilities Authority Treatment Plant from an additional 29 acres of land.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on April 7, 2003 at 35 N.J.R. 1593 (c) and no comments were received during the comment period.

Although this project does not exceed the thresholds to be evaluated in accordance with Executive Order 109 (2000) and N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.18, the applicant's design addressed some of the analyses of potential concern. A 100- foot buffer will be established beyond the stream encroachment line and approximately seven acres will be dedicated and deeded to the Township for open space along the stream corridor. There will be no road crossings of the stream or buffers and buffer disturbance is limited to one stormwater outfall. There are no threatened and endangered species documented in the project area.

This amendment represents only one part of the permit process and other issues may need to be addressed prior to final permit issuance. Additional issues which may need to be addressed may include, but are not limited to, the following: antidegradation; effluent limitations; water quality analysis; exact locations and designs of future treatment works (pump stations, interceptors, sewers, outfalls, wastewater treatment plants); and development in wetlands, flood prone areas, designated Wild and Scenic River areas, or other environmentally sensitive areas which are subject to regulation under Federal or State statutes or rules.

Lawrence J. Baier, Director

Division of Watershed Management

Department of Environmental Protection

Date