DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

AMENDMENT TO THE NORTHEAST WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

Take notice that on MAY 1) 2 1996, 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 Northeast Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). This amendment, submitted on behalf of Speciale Enterprises, Inc., modifies the Pequannock, Lincoln Park and Fairfield Sewerage Authority (PLPFSA) Wastewater Management Plan with regard to Lots 2.01 and 5.01, Block 208 in Pequannock Township, Morris County. These two properties, located within the floodplain of the Fompton River and adjacent to the Wayne Township boundary line, are to be served by the Wayne Township Mountain View Sewage Treatment Plant (STP). The properties will be served by the Mountain View STP until such time that sewers are available to transport the wastewater to the PLPFSA STP located in Lincoln Park The Mountain View STP discharges to Singac Brook (also known as Preakness Brook) classified by the New Jersey Surface Water Quality Standards as FW2-NT (fresh water 2-nontrout). The PLPFSA STP discharges to the Pompton River also classified as FW2-NT.

Lot 2.01 is proposed to include a 130 seat fast food restaurant and a 220 seat restaurant for a projected wastewater flow of 9,650 gallons per day (gpd). Lot 5.01 includes an existing Miniature Golf and Golf Driving Range with a current wastewater flow of 400 gpd which is treated by an individual subsurface sewage disposal system. The total projected wastewater flow from this project to be served by the Mountain View STP is 10,050 gpd. The proposed pump station and force main to serve the project will be sized to handle only the flows from the two properties. The existing disposal system on Lot 5.01 will be abandoned upon connection of this property to the Mountain View STP. Wastewater management plan responsibility for the project area will remain with the Pequannock, Lincoln Park and Fairfield Sewerage Authority.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on January 16, 1996. Comments on this amendment were received during the public comment period and are summarized below with the Department's responses.

COMMENT: The North Jersey District Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC) and United Water New Jersey, partners in the Wanaque South Project, objected to the proposed amendment for Speciale Enterprises based on the amendment proposing wastewater treatment at the Mountain View STP. The Mountain View STP discharges to Singac Brook which empties into the Passaic River approximately one-half mile downstream from the purveyors' Wanaque South Project Pumping Station in Wayne Township. Under the proposed amendment, the project's wastewater flow of 10,050 gpd would bypass the Wanaque South Project Pumping Station and thus not be available to the purveyors for diversion to their water supply reservoirs. The purveyors indicated that this proposal would adversely affect the public water supply and that it is in contravention of the purveyors' water diversion permits. United Water New Jersey also stated that it is inconsistent with the Water Supply Management Act, Water Quality Planning Act, Statewide Water Quality Management Planning rules, Statewide Water Quality Management Program Plan and the Statewide Water Supply Plan requiring that

all such Water Quality Management Plan amendments be coordinated and integrated with existing relevant planning activities, programs, and policies, including existing water diversion rights.

RESPONSE: Based on the small amount of flow addressed by this amendment (10,050 gpd) and the temporary nature of the connection to the Mountain View STP (until such time as sewers are available to transport the flow to the PLPFSA STP), the Department considers the proposed amendment to be deminimus in terms of its effect on the amount of water available for the Wanaque South Project. In addition, once sewers are available in Pequannock Township for the project, this minimal flow will then be treated by the PLPFSA STP and discharged so as to be available to the Wanaque South Project Pumping Station. The diversion rights previously granted to the purveyors by the Department in existing water allocation permits will therefore be maintained. Consequently, the Department has approved the amendment in accordance with, and consistent with, the rules and policies in effect at this time.

This amendment represents only one part of the permit process and other issues will be addressed prior to final permit issuance. Additional issues which were not reviewed in conjunction with this amendment but 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.

Robert Tudor Administrator

Office of Environmental

Planning

Department of Environmental

Protection

Date

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