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## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

### **OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COORDINATION**

### **Adopted Amendment to the Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan**

#### **Public Notice**

**Take notice** that on **FEBUARY 22, 2018** , 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, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) adopted an amendment (Program Interest No. 435433, Activity No. AMD170003) to the Tri-County Water Quality Management (WQM) Plan. This amendment, submitted by K2 Consulting Engineers on behalf of Christal Properties, LLC expands the sewer service area (SSA) of the Burlington Township Sewage Treatment Plant by 44.19 acres. The project, identified as Burlington Bridge Site, consists of a proposed 486,540 sq. ft. warehouse. The proposed project site is on Block 154.02, Lot 9 in Burlington Township, Burlington County, East of the Delaware River and North of County Route 659, at the foot of the Burlington-Bristol Bridge. The Department published preliminary notice of the proposed amendment in the New Jersey Register on November 20, 2017, at 49 N.J.R. 3621(a). No comments were received during the comment period.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(d), sewer service may only be provided to areas that are not identified as environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs), certain coastal planning areas, or areas subject to US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 201 Facilities Plan grant conditions, except as otherwise provided at N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(i) through (l).

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Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e), Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) are any contiguous area, based on a composite Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis, of 25 acres or larger consisting of any of the following features alone or in combination: areas mapped as threatened and endangered wildlife species habitat as identified on the Department's Landscape Maps of Habitat for Endangered, Threatened or Other Priority Wildlife (Landscape Maps) as Rank 3, 4, or 5; Natural Heritage Priority Sites; Category One waters designated in the Department's Surface Water Quality Standard, N.J.A.C. 7:9B, based on the Department's maps of such waters and their corresponding 300 foot riparian zone based upon the Flood Hazard Area Control Act Rules, N.J.A.C 7: 13; and wetlands as mapped pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:19A-1 and 13:9B-25.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(d), areas shall only be eligible for SSA if they are not identified as environmentally sensitive areas, such as threatened and endangered wildlife species habitat identified pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)1. Areas identified by the Landscape Maps as being suitable habitat for threatened and endangered species Ranks 3 (State threatened), Rank 4 (State endangered), or Rank 5 (Federal endangered or threatened) are not to be included in proposed SSAs except as provided under N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(i) through (l). To evaluate areas mapped as threatened or endangered wildlife habitat pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)1, the Department utilized its Landscape Maps, version 3.3 at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/listall.html>. Review of the Landscape Maps determined that the site includes no mapped threatened or endangered species habitat within the proposed sewer service area.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(d), areas shall only be eligible for SSA if they are not identified as environmentally sensitive areas, such as Natural Heritage Priority sites identified pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)2. Areas mapped as Natural Heritage Priority Sites are not to be

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included in proposed SSAs, except as provided under N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(i) through (l). To evaluate areas mapped as Natural Heritage Priority Sites pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)2, the Department utilized its GIS data at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/listall.html>. There are no Natural Heritage Priority sites located on the subject site.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(d), areas shall only be eligible for SSA if they are not identified as environmentally sensitive areas, such as Category One waters and their corresponding 300-foot riparian zones pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)3. Areas identified as Category One waters and their corresponding 300-foot riparian zones are not to be included in SSAs, except as provided under N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(i) through (l). To evaluate the existence of Category One waters and their corresponding 300-foot riparian zones pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)3, the Department utilized its GIS data at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/listall.html>. There are no Category One waters and their corresponding 300-foot riparian zones located on the subject site.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(d), areas shall only be eligible for SSA if they are not identified as environmentally sensitive areas, such as mapped wetlands pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)4. Areas mapped as wetlands pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:9A-1 and 13:9B-25 are not to be included in proposed SSAs, except as provided under N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(i) through (l). To evaluate the existence of mapped wetlands pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)4, the Department utilized its GIS data at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/listall.html>. There are no wetlands within the designated SSA of the subject site.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(d), areas shall only be eligible for SSA if they are not identified as coastal planning areas pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(f). Areas mapped as Coastal Fringe Planning Areas, Coastal Rural Planning Areas, and Coastal Environmentally Sensitive

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Planning Areas are not to be included in SSA, except, as provided under N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(f)1 and 2, to abate an existing imminent public health and safety issue, to accommodate infill development or as necessary to create a linear boundary that coincides with recognizable geographic, political, or environmental features depicted in the Department's GIS coverage. To evaluate the existence of any coastal planning areas identified in N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(f), the Department evaluated the presence of coastal planning areas identified on the CAFRA Planning Map available at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/install.html>. The subject site is not located within any Coastal Fringe Planning Areas, Coastal Rural Planning Areas, or Coastal Environmentally Sensitive Planning Areas.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(d), areas shall only be eligible for SSA if they are not identified as areas subject to 201 Facilities Plan grant conditions pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(g). Areas with Federal 201 grant limitations that prohibit the extension of sewers into specified ESAs are excluded from SSA, unless documentation can be provided demonstrating that a mapping revision or waiver has been obtained from EPA, as provided under N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(g). To evaluate the existence of 201 Facilities Plan grant conditions that prohibit the expansion of SSA to ESAs, the Department reviewed the EPA list of New Jersey Counties with ESA Grant Conditions at <https://www3.epa.gov/region02/water/sewer.html>. There are no 201 Facilities Plan grant conditions for the proposed site.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(h)1 and (h)2, the Department shall consider in the delineation of areas eligible for sewer service, the land uses allowed in zoning ordinances and future land uses shown in municipal or county master plans. On August 1, 2017, Burlington Township issued a letter stating that the proposed project was consistent with Township zoning

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Regulations, and was not inconsistent with the Township's master plan. On August 3, 2017, the Burlington County Department of Economic Planning and Regional Development issued an email stating that the proposed project is consistent with the Route 130/Delaware Corridor Strategic Plan, which Burlington County uses as the County Master Plan for this portion of the county.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.5(j)2, for projects that propose to add 100 or more acres to the SSA, or where the additional SSA would generate 20,000 gallons per day (gpd) or more of wastewater, the applicant must prepare a modification to the wastewater treatment capacity analysis to include the proposed project or activity, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.5(b). The project plans to add 44.19 acres to the SSA, and the projected wastewater flow for the proposed project to be received by the Burlington Township Sewer System, is 14,500 gallons per day (gpd), based on flow calculated pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3. Therefore, no wastewater treatment capacity analysis is required for this proposed amendment.

N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.5(g)6 requires the applicant to request a written statement of consent from all identified governmental entities, sewerage agencies, and BPU related sewer and water utilities that may be affected by, or otherwise have a substantial interest in, approval of the amendment proposal. Accordingly, the Department instructed the applicant to request written statements of consent from the Township of Burlington, the Burlington County Board of Freeholders, and the Burlington Township Sewer System. On December 19, 2017, the Township of Burlington adopted Resolution 2017-R-244 in support of the proposed amendment. On December 27, 2017, the Burlington County Board of Freeholders adopted Resolution 2017-00668 opposing the amendment on the basis that the proposed project may create additional traffic in the area. On December 12, 2016, the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC)

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communicated via email that it no longer administers the review of amendments and issuance of letters of consent. On January 8, 2018, the Burlington Township Department of Public Works and Utilities issued a letter for the referencing Township Resolution 2017-R-244 and acknowledging that the subject property may be provided sewer service. As the proposed project is consistent with both local zoning and the Route 130/Delaware Corridor Strategic Plan, the Department has decided to adopt this parcel into SSA.

Sewer service is not guaranteed by this amendment. This amendment represents only one part of the permit process and other issues may need to be addressed. Inclusion in the sewer service area as a result of the approval of this amendment does not eliminate the need to obtain all necessary permits, approvals or certifications required by any Federal, State, County or municipal review agency with jurisdiction over this project/activity.

SIGNED  
Alan Miller, Manager  
Office of WRM Coordination  
Department of Environmental Protection

February 22, 2018  
Date