

NOTE: THIS IS A COURTESY COPY OF THIS PLAN AMENDMENT PROPOSAL. THE OFFICIAL VERSION WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE DECEMBER 7, 2020 NEW JERSEY REGISTER. SHOULD THERE BE ANY DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THIS TEXT AND THE OFFICIAL VERSION OF THE AMENDMENT, THE OFFICIAL VERSION WILL GOVERN.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

DIVISION OF WATER MONITORING AND STANDARDS

Proposed Amendment to the Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan

Public Notice

Take notice that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is seeking public comment on a proposed amendment to the Tri-County Water Quality Management (WQM) Plan in accordance with the New Jersey Water Quality Planning Act, N.J.S.A. 58:11A-et seq., and the Water Quality Management Planning rules, N.J.A.C. 7:15. The proposed amendment, identified as “Work Zone Contractors” (Program Interest No. 435433, Activity No. AMD200001), would expand the sewer service area (SSA) of the Gloucester County Utilities Authority by 1.25 acres for a proposed construction equipment storage yard which is to include 3,400 square feet of office space, a warehouse with 51 employees, and other related improvements on portions of Block 6, Lots 1, 6, and 7, Deptford Township, Gloucester County. As calculated in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3, the projected wastewater flow associated with the proposed project is 1,615 gallons per day (gpd) to be received by the Gloucester County Utilities Authority (NJPDES No. NJ0024686). This notice represents the Department’s determination that the amendment is compliant with the regulatory criteria at N.J.A.C. 7:15, as described below.

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.3(b), site specific amendments are limited to modifications of the eligible SSA needed to address a specific project or activity. N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.5(j)2 requires that site specific amendments proposing to add 100 or more acres or generating 20,000 gpd or more of wastewater

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flow must update the wastewater treatment capacity analysis prepared in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.5(b) to include the proposed project or activity. The proposed project involves less than 100 acres and will generate less than 20,000 gpd of wastewater flow, therefore, update of the wastewater treatment plant capacity analysis is not required.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(d), the following are not eligible for delineation as SSAs, except as otherwise provided at N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(i), (j), (k), and (l): environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) identified under N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e), as any contiguous area of 25 acres or larger consisting of alone or in combination the following: endangered or threatened wildlife species habitat, Natural Heritage Priority Sites, riparian zones of Category One (C1) waters and their tributaries, or wetlands; coastal planning areas identified under N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(f); and ESAs subject to 201 Facilities Plan grant conditions under N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(g). The Department conducted an evaluation of the project site using a GIS shapefile provided by the applicant compared to the Department's GIS data layers available at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/listall.html> and/or other information as noted below, to determine the presence of any such areas in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e), (f), and (g) and made the following findings:

- The Department determined that the expanded SSA does not contain any areas mapped as endangered or threatened wildlife species habitat Rank 3, 4 or 5 on the Department's Landscape Map of Habitat for Endangered, Threatened or Other Priority Wildlife based on the "Landscape Project Data" Version 3.3 GIS data layers in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)1.
- The Department determined that the expanded SSA does not contain any areas mapped as Natural Heritage Priority Sites based on the "Natural Heritage Priority Sites" GIS data layer in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)2.

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- The Department determined that the expanded SSA does not contain any C1 waters or 300-foot riparian zones along any C1 waters or upstream tributaries within the same HUC 14 watershed of any C1 waters based on the "Surface Water Quality Standards" GIS data layer in accordance with and N.J.A.C. 7:13-4.1(c)1 and N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)3.
- The Department determined that, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)4; a review of the "Wetlands 2012" GIS data layer identified mapped wetlands located within the expanded SSA. However, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(j)3, the applicant provided a Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation: Line Verification (File #0802-19-0001.1; FWW190001), confirming that the proposed SSA will not include any delineated wetlands.
- The Department determined that the expanded SSA does not contain any areas mapped as Fringe Planning Areas, Rural Planning Areas, or Environmentally Sensitive Planning Areas within the Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA) zone based on the "CAFRA (polygon)" GIS layer and the "State Plan Data" GIS layer, in accordance with 7:15-4.4(f).
- The Department determined that there are no 201 Facilities Plan grant conditions applicable to the project site based on the USEPA list of New Jersey Counties with ESA Grant Conditions at <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/environmentally-sensitive-area-esa-grant-condition-waiver-program-region-2> in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(g).

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(h)1 and 2, the Department considered the land uses allowed in zoning ordinances and future land uses shown in municipal or county master plans and determined that the expanded sewer service area is consistent with land uses allowed by local zoning and the county and local master plans.

This notice is to inform the public that a plan amendment has been proposed for the Tri-County WQM Plan. All information related to the WQM Plan and the proposed amendment is located at:

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Water Monitoring and Standards

Bureau of Environmental Analysis, Restoration and Standards

Water Quality Management Planning Program

P.O. Box 420, Mail Code 401-041

401 East State Street

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

The Department's file is available for inspection between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. An appointment to inspect the file may be arranged by calling the Bureau of Environmental Analysis, Restoration and Standards at (609) 633-1441.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed amendment to the Department at the address cited above or at the email: wqmp.publiccomments@dep.nj.gov. Comments should reference Program Interest No. 435433, Activity No. AMD200001 and must be submitted within 60 days of the date of this public notice.

Interested persons may request in writing that the Department hold a non-adversarial public hearing on the amendment or extend the public comment period specified in this notice. Such requests should reference Program Interest No. 435433, Activity No. AMD200001 and must demonstrate sufficient public interest for the public hearing or extension of the comment period, as defined under N.J.A.C. 7:1D-5.2(d). The request must be submitted within 30 days of the date of this notice to the Department address cited above. Should the Department decide to hold a public hearing, additional notice will be published in a future issue of the New Jersey Register and the comment period will be extended to 15 days after the public hearing date. All comments submitted prior to the close of the comment period shall be considered by the Department before making a final decision on the proposed amendment.

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Sewer service is not guaranteed by adoption of this amendment since it 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 adoption 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.

10/8/2020

Date

SIGNED

Kimberly Cenno, Bureau Chief
Bureau of Environmental Analysis, Restoration and Standards
Division of Water Monitoring and Standards