## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

# WATERSHED AND LAND MANAGEMENT

#### DIVISION OF WATERSHED PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

## 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. 58:11-1 et seq., and the Water Quality Management Planning rules, N.J.A.C. 7:15. The proposed amendment, identified as the "Vanco Warehouse Commercial (AKA NFI and Turnpike Crossings IV, LLC)" (Program Interest No. 435433, Activity No. AMD210004) is to accommodate a proposed 698,500 square foot warehouse building, of which 17,160 square feet is office space, with 400 employees, located on Block 45.01 and Lots 2.01, 3.01 and 3.02, in Mansfield Township, Burlington County. The amendment would expand the sewer service area (SSA) by 0.83 acres on Lot 3.02 and change the current SSA designation of the site from SSA to the Burlington County Resource Recovery Wastewater Treatment Plant (WTP) (NJPDES No. NJ0055395) to SSA of the Burlington Township Central Ave WTP (NJPDES No. NJ0021709). The project will generate a projected wastewater flow of 10,000 gallons per day based on flow calculated in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3. This notice represents the

Department's determination that the proposed amendment is compliant with the applicable 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 proposed alterations to 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 flow shall include a proposed modification to 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 capacity analysis is not required.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(d), the following are not eligible for delineation as SSA, except as otherwise provided at N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(i), (j), (k) and (l): environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) identified pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e), as any contiguous area of 25 acres or larger consisting of any of the following, alone or in combination: 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 at N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(f), and; ESAs subject to 201 Facilities Plan grant conditions pursuant to 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 proposed SSA does not contain any areas mapped as endangered or threatened wildlife species habitat Rank 3, 4, or 5 on the Department's Landscape Maps 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 proposed 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.
- The Department determined that the proposed SSA does not contain any C1 waters or 300foot 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 N.J.A.C. 7:13-4.1(c)1 and 7:15-4.4(e)3.
- The Department determined that there are wetlands located on the project site based on the "Wetlands 2012" GIS data layer in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(e)4; however, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(j)3, the applicant provided a Freshwater Wetlands Individual Permit number 0300-15-0003.2 FWW180002 confirming that no contiguous area of wetlands, alone or in combination with other ESAs, of 25 acres or more are located within the proposed SSA. An isolated wetland less than the 25-acre criteria threshold does exist within the proposed SSA.

- The Department determined that the proposed 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 N.J.A.C. 7:15-4.4(f).
- The Department determined that there are no 201 Facilities Plan grant conditions applicable to the project based on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) list of New Jersey Grantees with ESA Grant Conditions at https://www.epa.gov/npdespermits/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 adopted zoning ordinances, future land uses shown in adopted municipal and county master plans, and other local land use objectives. The proposed project is consistent with the township redevelopment plan and received final site plan approval on July 26, 2021 (Turnpike Crossings-Resolution No. 2021-7-16). Burlington County confirmed in an email on October 15, 2021, that the proposed change in SSA designation is acceptable. Burlington County does not have a Master Plan.

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

> New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Division of Watershed Protection & Restoration

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Bureau of NJPDES Stormwater Permitting and Water Quality Management Water Quality Management Planning Program PO Box 420, Mail Code 501-02A 501 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, upon request. An appointment to inspect the file must be arranged by calling the Bureau of NJPDES Stormwater Permitting & Water Quality Management (609) 633-7021.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed amendment to the Department at the address cited above or at the email: <u>wqmp.publiccomments@dep.nj.gov.</u> Comments should reference Program Interest No. 435433, Activity No. AMD210004 and must be submitted within 30 days of the date of this public notice.

Interested persons may request in writing that the Department hold a nonadversarial 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. AMD210004 and must demonstrate sufficient public interest for the public hearing or extension of the comment period, as defined at 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 Department's public hearing. 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.

Sewer service is not guaranteed should this amendment be adopted as it represents only

one part of the permit process and other issues may need to be addressed. Inclusion in the SSA

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.

2/15/2022 SIGNED Date Gabriel Mahon, Bureau Chief Bureau of NJPDES Stormwater Permitting and Water Quality Management Division of Watershed Protection and Restoration NJ Department of Environmental Protection