

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

AMENDMENT TO THE ATLANTIC COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT
PLAN

Public Notice

Take notice that on **JUN 13 1997**, 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 Atlantic County Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). This amendment proposal was submitted on behalf of the Galloway National Golf Club and amends the Galloway Township Wastewater Management Plan. The amendment made provisions for the **Galloway National Golf Club** to expand their existing clubhouse on Block 1169.01, Lot 24 in Galloway Township, Atlantic County. The clubhouse expansion proposal provided for discharge to ground water at a projected daily wastewater flow of 7,625 gallons per day. Due to the environmental sensitivity of the project site and its location within the Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA) and the Pinelands National Reserve areas, this amendment limits the total flow from the golf course site east of Route 9 (Block 1169.01, Lots 5, 12.02, 17.04, 17.05, 18.02, 18.03, 23 and 24) to a total wastewater flow of 8,000 gallons per day. Thus the remainder of the property to the east of Route 9, except for the clubhouse, has been designated a non-discharge area.


This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on January 21, 1997. A comment on this amendment was received during the public comment period and is summarized below with the Department's response.

Comment: The Pinelands Commission commented that the area of this amendment which lies within the Pinelands National Reserve has been designated by the Pinelands Commission as partly within a Forest Area and partly within a Rural Development Area. Sewage treatment facilities are only permitted in these areas if they are intended to alleviate an existing public health hazard. However, the Commission would not object to the on-site disposal system if the applicant could show that sufficient acreage existed to ensure that, were the wastewater not treated, the concentration of nitrate/nitrogen would not exceed two parts per million at the property line, as required by the water quality standards of the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP). Several factors need to be considered to determine if this standard could be met but until the projected wastewater flow is verified and the impact of fertilization of the golf course on nitrate/nitrogen levels is determined, the Commission is not able to conclude that the on-site disposal system is consistent with the Commission's water quality standards.

Response: The Pinelands Commission has clarified their comments concerning this proposal by stating that the site on which this development is proposed is not located in

the state designated Pinelands Area; therefore, no applications to the Pinelands Commission will be necessary. As the result of an agreement between the Pinelands Commission and the Department and in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:7E-3.44, the Pinelands Commission would review the clubhouse expansion, including the septic system, if it requires a CAFRA permit application. The purpose of this review is to assist the Department in determining if the development is consistent with N.J.A.C. 7:7E-3.44 which states that "Coastal development shall be consistent with the intent, policies and objectives of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978, P.L. 95-625, Section 502, creating the Pinelands National Reserve, and the State Pinelands Protection Act of 1979 (N.J.S.A. 13:18A-1 et seq.)." The applicant for this development obtained a CAFRA jurisdictional determination from the Department on December 19, 1995 which stated that based on a review of the submitted documentation, a CAFRA permit is not applicable. Without this review, the Pinelands Commission can not state definitively that this proposal is consistent with the Pinelands CMP. As noted above, this approval authorizes a flow of up to 8,000 gallon per day. The Department will ensure through the New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit process, that the projected wastewater flows can be discharged on-site while meeting the applicable Pinelands water quality standards as reflected in the Ground Water Quality Standards (N.J.A.C. 7:9-6).

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.



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6/13/97

Date

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