

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF LAND USE REGULATION

ADOPTED AMENDMENT TO THE CAPE MAY COUNTY WATER
QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN (WQMP)

Public Notice

Take notice that on **AUG 17 2010** 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 Cape May County WQMP was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). This amendment, submitted on behalf of Ocean City, allows for the expansion of the Ocean City Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (WTP) Sewer Service Area (SSA) to serve the proposed expansion of the Ocean City Visitors Center. The proposed project, located on Block 1750, Lot 16 on Garrett's Island in Ocean City, Cape May County, will increase the WTP's SSA by 0.25 acres. The current visitor's center is a single story structure of 1,364 sq. ft with a 5,700 sq ft parking area that accommodates approximately 15 cars. The proposed visitor's center would include a two story structure of 2,290 sq ft for the first floor and 1,390 sq ft for the second floor. A proposed parking lot and through lane of 22,000 sq ft would include parking for 43 cars and 9 buses. The WMP currently identifies the proposed project site as an Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal Service (ISSDS) area. The current visitor's center is served by a failing septic system that has been replaced with a temporary waste holding system that is pumped out on a frequent basis as needed throughout the year. The projected wastewater flow, calculated in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3, is 2,500 gallons per day (gpd) (500 visitors times 5 gpd per visitor). Potable water would be provided by the New Jersey American Water Company. Due to the environmentally sensitive nature of Garrett's Island, the proposed sewer service

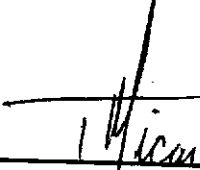
area would be limited to the building footprint of the expanded visitor's center. The proposed project site is located adjacent to the southbound side of Route 52 on Garrett's Island.

The expansion of the Ocean City Visitor's Center is part of the larger Route 52 Causeway Replacement Project currently under construction by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT). This project will provide enhanced public facilities and public recreation access to the adjacent Green Acres parkland including newly constructed fishing piers and ecological restoration areas. The Route 52 Causeway Replacement Project has received Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA), Waterfront Development, and Coastal Wetland permits as well as a Water Quality Certificate from the Department's Land Use Regulation Program on July 27, 2005 under file number 0000-04-0017.1. The plans for the proposed sewer line are referenced in the above mentioned file under the following sections: "Permit Plans, NJ Route 52 (1) Causeway & Somers Point Circle Elimination Project", Sheets PP-1 through PP-15 of PP-15" and "Construction Plans NJ Route 52 (1) Causeway Contract No. 00961653", Sheets C-1 through C-29 of C-29". The proposed sewer connection to the visitor's center would be accomplished via a directional bore beneath the Beach Thorofare portion of the Intracoastal Waterway and would tie in to the existing sewer line at Revere Place in Ocean City. This amendment does not exempt Ocean City nor the NJDOT from obtaining and meeting all applicable permits and/or requirements of the Land Use Regulation Program or other programs' permits that may be required.

This amendment has been reviewed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.18. This evaluation determined that the threshold for N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.18 was not triggered, therefore alternative and environmental impact analyses were not required.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on April 5, 2010 at 42 N.J.R. 734(a) and no comments were received during the comment period.

This amendment represents only one part of the permit process and other issues may need to be addressed prior to final permit issuance. Additional issues which may need to be addressed may include, but are not limited to, the following: compliance with stormwater regulations; 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.



Thomas Micai, Director
Division of Land Use Regulation
Department of Environmental Protection

8/17/10

Date