

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Adopted Amendment to the Lower Delaware Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP)

Public Notice

Take notice that on MAY 13 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 Lower Delaware WQMP was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). This amendment, submitted on behalf of Pennsville Sewerage Authority (PSA), adopts a Wastewater Management Plan (WMP) for Pennsville Township in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.2(b). The Pennsville WMP identifies wastewater management for the entire Township of Pennsville and a small portion of Carney's Point Township adjacent to the northern boundary of Pennsville. Sewer service within the Township is primarily provided by the Pennsville Wastewater Treatment Plant (WTP), which is located on Industrial Park Road, Pennsville, Salem County, and is currently permitted to discharge 1.875 million gallons per day (MGD) to the Delaware River under New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Permit number NJ0021598. Some expansion of the Pennsville WTP Sewer Service Area (SSA) is adopted, yet there are also areas removed from the previously approved SSA. SSA was expanded to accurately identify a small number of lots where existing development is currently connected to the Pennsville WTP. Other areas of SSA expansion include lots in the southern portion of Carneys Point Township: the NJDOT Facility along with a motel, trailer park, and approximately 3.5 acres of developable commercial space. This WMP also removes environmentally sensitive areas from the future SSA. The environmental review is discussed in more detail further in this notice. The projected PSA SSA buildout does not exceed the current permitted flow of the WTP. Therefore, no expansion of the permitted flow of the Pennsville WTP is necessary.

A portion of the Deepwater section of Pennsville north of the Salem Canal as well as the Deepwater Generating Plant, located on Block 301, Lots 1 and 3, contribute process and sanitary wastewater to the Dupont Chamber Works WTP, which is located in Carneys Point Township. The Dupont Chamber Works WTP holds NJPDES Permit number NJ0005100. No increase in the SSA of the Dupont Chamber Works WTP within Pennsville Township has been adopted. There are additionally three existing NJPDES permitted wastewater treatment facilities serving individual sites within the Planning Area. No expansions of flow for these facilities are adopted. The remainder of the Township is served by individual subsurface sewage disposal systems (ISSDS) with design flows of 2,000 gallons per day or less which discharge to ground water.

This amendment has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 109 (2000) and N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.18. As part of this process, the applicant has performed an Environmental Constraints/Buildout Analysis, Ground Water Point Source Pollutant Loading Analysis, Nonpoint Source Pollutant Loading/Hydromodification Analysis, Depletive/Consumptive Water Use Analysis, Riparian Corridor Analysis, and Endangered and Threatened Species Analysis. A Surface Water Point Source Pollutant Loading Antidegradation Analysis was not necessary as there is no proposed expansion of any WTP discharging to surface water beyond the WTP's current permitted capacity. The Environmental Constraints/Buildout Analysis projected a total future planning flow of 1.643 MGD for the Pennsville WTP, which is currently permitted at 1.875 MGD.

The Ground Water Point Source Pollutant Loading Analysis was met through adoption of Ordinance # A-34-2009 on December 3, 2009. The ordinance, which amended Pennsville Township Ordinance # A-7-2005 entitled "The Pennsville Township Land Development Ordinance" by adding Section 9.13 entitled "Nitrate Dilution Model Requirements", lays out requirements for a site-specific Nitrate Dilution Analysis to be completed for each new subdivision within the Township. Each subdivision must meet the 2 mg/L nitrate standard onsite.

The Nonpoint Source Pollutant Loading/Hydromodification Analysis has been addressed through the adoption of a Municipal Stormwater Ordinance (# A-32-2006), which assures that any future development in Pennsville Township addresses Stormwater Management in accordance with the Stormwater Management Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:8.

The majority of Pennsville Township is to be served by the Pennsville Water Department. The Depletive/Consumptive Water Use Analysis demonstrated that sufficient water supply is available within the existing water allocation permit to serve the future development of the Township.

The Township has amended Ordinance # A-7-2005 entitled "The Pennsville Township Land Development Ordinance" by adding a new Section 9.14 entitled "Riparian Buffer Conservation Zone." This ordinance amendment successfully addresses the requirements of the Riparian Corridor Analysis by designating and protecting riparian zones, the width of which depends upon the classification of the waterbody under the Surface Water Quality Standards, N.J.A.C. 7:9B.

The Endangered and Threatened Species Analysis utilized the Department's Landscape Project Mapping Version 2.1 to identify all areas classified as Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat Rank 3, 4, or 5. Natural Heritage Priority Sites were also identified using Department mapping. Areas identified in this analysis have been removed from the future SSA.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on March 1, 2010 at 42 N.J.R. 641(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.

SIGNED

Lawrence J. Baier, Director
Division of Watershed Management
Department of Environmental Protection

May 13, 2010

Date