

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

REVISION TO THE MERCER COUNTY WATER QUALITY
MANAGEMENT PLAN

TAKE NOTICE that on June 25, 2007, pursuant to the provisions of the 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. 7:15-3.5, a revision to the Mercer County Water Quality Management Plan, was adopted by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department). This revision modifies the Pennington Borough and Hopewell Township Wastewater Management Plans (WMP's) by expanding the Stony Brook Regional Sewerage Authority's (SBRSA) Pennington Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) (NJPDES #NJ0035319) sewer service area to include a portion of Block 46, Lot 13 located in Hopewell Township, Mercer County. The expanded sewer service area will encompass 8.5 acres of the approximately 19.5 acre parcel. The expanded sewer service area will allow for the completion of the construction of the new Borough Pennington Department of Public Works (DPW) facility consisting of the maintenance building with vehicle wash bay, road salt dome and associated infrastructure. The project location is bounded to the south by North Main Street and to the west by ~~Old North Main Street and State Highway Route 31.~~ The DPW facility will employ up to seven persons. The projected wastewater flow for the proposed new development, calculated in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3 is 420 gallons per day (gpd).

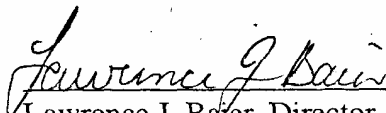
The SBRSA Pennington STP currently serves the existing DPW facility, located on Block 4.01 Lot 15 in Pennington Borough. This existing DPW facility is currently staffed by seven employees. Therefore, no expansion of the SBRSA Pennington STP is proposed to accommodate this project.

Prior to the development of the proposed project property, all required Division of Land Use Regulation (DLUR) permits for disturbance within a designated stream encroachment area as identified by, Letter of Interpretation, (LOI) file number 1106-99-0002.1 were issued. Construction of Phase I, for the grading and installation of the stormwater detention basin were completed before the permit expiration date of May 15, 2006. Therefore, the proposed project activity was exempt from the current stormwater management rules at N.J.A.C. 7:8-1 et seq.

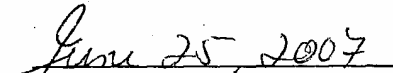
Consequently, a 300-foot special water resource area associated with Baldwin's Creek, an on-site Category 1 waterway, did not apply.

However, all on-site land area within 100 feet of the top of the bank of the on-site State open waters are designated as a Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission (D&RC) stream corridor buffer. With the exception of the minimum permitted disturbances within this 100 buffer required for the construction of a stormwater retention basin, this corridor will be maintained. Measures developed to meet the stormwater quantity and stormwater quality standards as required at the time of submittal for review by the LURP as a component of their permitting process have been met. The property location is identified by the Department's Endangered and Non-Game Species Program as Rank 3 critical habitat for the red headed woodpecker. As a result, the 10.5-acre portion of the project property not included in this sewer service area expansion is to be preserved as open space and conveyed to the D&R Greenway Land Preservation Trust as adopted by Hopewell Township Planning Board Resolution Number 07-011.

As provided under N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.5(b)4, the Department has determined that the proposed project activity qualifies as a revision for the expansion of a future sewer service area to contiguous lots where the expansion involves less than 100 areas and contributes less than 8,000 gpd of additional wastewater and that a significantly new pattern of sewered development or incentive for additional revisions or amendments to open new areas to sewered development will not be created. ~~The Department has concluded that, whereas a substantial portion of the project property containing on-site state open waters and adjacent wetlands is to be maintained as open space, no significant impacts will occur to environmentally sensitive areas as a result of this revision.~~


Lawrence J. Bauer, Director

Division of Watershed Management
Department of Environmental Protection


Date