

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

AMENDMENT TO THE **NORTHEAST** WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

Take notice that on **APR 24 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 Northeast Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). The amendment updates the West Milford Township Wastewater Management Plan (WMP) with regard to the **West Milford Shopping Plaza** and an adjacent property in West Milford Township, Passaic County. The West Milford Shopping Plaza is located on Lot 10, Block 6701 and is proposed to be expanded from approximately 93,000 square feet to approximately 105,000 square feet. Adjacent Lot 13, Block 6701 is included in this proposal as a possible wastewater disposal area for the effluent from the West Milford Shopping Plaza or as an area for potential commercial development served by a treatment system discharging to ground water. The projected wastewater flow from the expanded West Milford Shopping Plaza is approximately 13,125 gallons per day (gpd). Potential development on Lots 10 and 13, Block 6701 may include an additional 22,000 square feet of commercial development and/or a fast food restaurant. The total projected wastewater flow of 19,875 gpd from the existing and proposed development will be treated by new on-site ground water disposal systems. The WMP is modified to designate Lots 10 and 13, Block 6701 as within a service area for on-site ground water disposal systems with wastewater planning flows of less than 20,000 gpd.

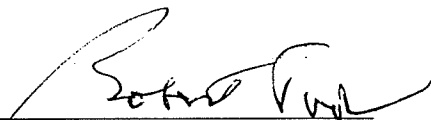
This amendment was noticed in the New Jersey Register on January 21, 1997. A comment on the amendment was received during the public comment period and is summarized below with the Department's response.

COMMENT: The West Milford Township Municipal Utilities Authority (MUA) requested additional time to review the amendment. Also, the MUA objected to the amendment indicating that demonstration needed to be made that the site can satisfactorily absorb the projected flow without impacting the ground or surface water.

RESPONSE: The MUA has withdrawn their objections. Note that while the amendment allows for an increase in the amount of wastewater which can be discharged on-site, the impact to Cooley Brook, classified as Freshwater 2-Trout Production (Category 1), will be reduced due to removal of existing discharges located approximately 200 feet from the brook and relocation of these discharges to approximately 600-700 feet from the brook. The applicant is currently in the process of demonstrating to the Department, through the New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit process, that the existing and projected flows can be discharged on-site while meeting the ground water quality standards.

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.



Robert Tudor
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Department of Environmental
Protection

4/24/97

Date

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