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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

AMENDMENT TO THE SUSSEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT
PLAN

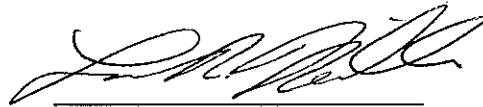
Public Notice

Take notice that on **APR 03 2000**, 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 Sussex County Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection.

This amendment, prepared on behalf of Hardyston Township by Guerin Engineering Inc., and submitted by the Sussex County Department of Planning, Development and Human Services, updates the Hardyston Township Wastewater Management Plan (WMP). The major significant actions in this updated WMP include the designation of a new, discharge to groundwater less than 20,000 gallons per day (gpd), service area for sections of the Township along the Route 94 Corridor and the designation of an expanded sewer service area (totaling approximately 681 acres) that includes the proposed Phase II of the Crystal Springs development. Accordingly, Hardyston Township will purchase 125,000 gpd of Franklin Borough's existing uncommitted sewage flow allocation from the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority (Upper Wallkill Treatment Facility) for use by the proposed golf course and related development proposed for this expanded sewer service area. Hardyston Township's expanded sewer service area strategically excludes known bog turtle (a federally listed threatened species that is afforded protection under the Federal Endangered Species Act) habitats and the corresponding wetlands, that have been delineated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department, with the exception of one small habitat area. The property owner of this habitat, located on Lot 24.01, Block 14 within the expanded service area, was issued a formal advisory letter from Hardyston Township, dated February 16, 2000, notifying him that said habitat is subject to State and Federal threatened and endangered species regulations that must be satisfied prior to any anticipated development or soil disturbance. Hardyston Township's build-out analysis for the expanded sewer service area, utilizing actual sewage flow from the existing Crystal Springs I project, indicates that Hardyston Township's existing (Crystal Springs I) sewage flow allocation of 202,500 gpd in combination with the purchased 125,000 gpd of Franklin Borough's existing uncommitted sewage flow allocation (a sum total of 327,500 gpd) adequately addresses the projected 20 year planning sewer service needs of the entire expanded sewer service area section of Hardyston Township. At no time can the total future sewage flow (existing flow plus the sum total of all pending and future connection permit applications design flows) from this section of Hardyston Township exceed the 327,500 gpd allocation unless additional allocation is procured through the approval of subsequent WMP amendment. Other actions in this WMP include updated service area population projections based upon the 1990 census and updated Zoning and Sanitary Requirements based upon planned modifications to the existing Hardyston Township Zoning.

This amendment was evaluated in accordance with Executive Order 109 and N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.18 and no alternatives analyses are required at this planning stage. 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.



Lance R. Miller
Director
Division of Watershed Management
Department of Environmental Protection

4/3/00
Date