

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

AMENDMENT TO THE TRI-COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

Take notice that on **SEP 16 1999** 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 Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). This amendment proposal, submitted on behalf of the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), modifies the Township and the City of Burlington Wastewater Management Plan. The amendment allows NJDOT to close the existing wastewater treatment plant that serves the rest areas along both sides of Interstate-295, which is Block 303, Lot 8.02, in Springfield Township, Burlington County and places this roughly 95 acre site within the sewer service area of the Burlington Township and Burlington City Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs). Approximately 7,500 gallons per day of wastewater flow will be conveyed to the Burlington City STP via the Burlington Township and Burlington City collection systems. The sewer line in Springfield Township will lie solely within the Interstate-295 right-of-way. The remainder of the sewer line will fall within future sewer service area of the Burlington Township and Burlington City STPs.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on June 21, 1999. Comments on this amendment were received during the public comment period and are summarized below with the Department's response.

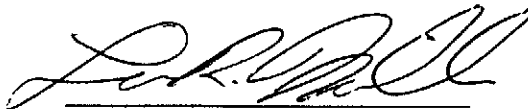
Comment: John E. Harrington, an attorney representing Springfield Township, commented that Springfield Township withheld its consent to this proposed amendment. Springfield Township's policy is that public water and sewer is not permitted in the Township. The Township requested specific information from NJDOT's consultant regarding the size of the pipe which will be utilized for the facility and the estimated flow that the pipe could handle. If the size of the pipe is only to handle the I-295 wastewater flows and not be available for connections for other Springfield Township properties, then the Township of Springfield may reconsider its withholding of the consent.

Response: This amendment only allows the NJDOT property of the I-295 rest areas and right-of-way to connect to the Burlington Township and Burlington City STPs. Provisions have not been made nor approvals granted to allow any additional connections within Springfield Township as part of this amendment.

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.

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

9/16/99
Date