

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEPARTMENT)  
DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

REVISION TO THE TRI-COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

TAKE NOTICE that on **MAR 16 2009**, 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 Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) and Gloucester County Utilities Authority Wastewater Management Plan (WMP) was adopted by the Department. This revision modifies the WQMP and WMP to identify changes in the operation of the West Deptford Energy Station (WDES), formerly known as the PG&E Corporation Mantua Creek Generating Station, as a proposed Reclaimed Water for Beneficial Reuse (RWBR) treatment facility. Construction of this dual-fuel combined-cycle electric generating facility on Block 328, Lot 1.02, adjacent to the existing Gloucester County Utilities Authority's sewage treatment plant (GCUA) in West Deptford Township, Gloucester County, was approved in an amendment adopted September 25, 2001.

As originally approved in the 2001 amendment, the GCUA would supply up to 10.0 million gallons per day (MGD) of treated effluent, primarily for use in non-contact cooling tower and boiler make-up water. Following use in the electric generating process, an estimated 2.9 MGD of pretreated wastewater (the remainder being lost through cooling) would be directed back to the GCUA headworks, increasing influent volume. The GCUA operates under New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Permit Number NJ0024686 and has a permitted flow of 27 MGD, discharging to the Delaware River.

There are two technological changes proposed under this current revision: 1) Modification of the estimated process flows: Based on new calculations, it is estimated that an average 7.5 MGD (9.6 MGD maximum) of treated effluent from GCUA will be necessary for the WDES process, resulting in an average 2.0 MGD (2.6 MGD maximum) post process return flow; and 2) Modification of the proposed process water discharge site: The 2.0 MGD process water from WDES will be discharged directly to the existing GCUA discharge outfall structure, instead of the headworks. Prior to combining with the GCUA effluent, the WDES discharge will be

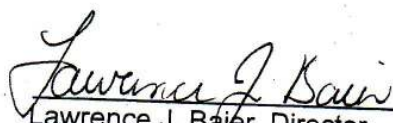
monitored separately as it enters the GCUA pipe via a new outfall, regulated under a new NJPDES Permit (NJ0171905).

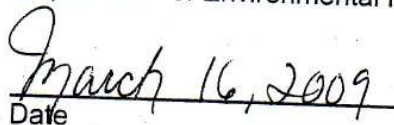
In addition, this revision corrects GCUA's future sewer service area to include the facilities' footprint at the previously disturbed WDES site. This service area, totaling approximately 32 acres, was inadvertently omitted from the recently adopted GCUA WMP.

This proposed RWBR project does not increase GCUA's permitted effluent discharge. There is no change in the proposed conveyance of an estimated 2,500 gallons per day of sanitary wastewater from the WDES to the GCUA for treatment. The sanitary wastewater flow from the proposed site has already been accounted for in the GCUA WMP projections.

As previously set forth in the 2001 adopted Amendment, this revision allows for the beneficial reuse of wastewater, thereby deterring increased water demand in a state-designated Critical Water Supply Area 2, per New Jersey Water Supply Management Act, N.J.S.A.58:1A-1 et seq.

The new discharge qualifies as a revision in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.5(b)vii, which allows for "the utilization of an RWBR project to reduce either existing or proposed wastewater discharges to surface waters below the head of tide or ground water discharges located within HUC 14 drainage areas which are wholly below the head of tide;."

  
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Department of Environmental Protection

  
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