

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENERGY
OFFICE OF LAND AND WATER PLANNING

AMENDMENT TO THE UPPER DELAWARE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT
PLAN

Public Notice

MAR 28 1994

Take notice that on _____, 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 Upper Delaware Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department. This amendment submitted on behalf of the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders, modifies the Washington Township and Franklin Township Wastewater Management Plans. The amendment allows the future Warren County Community College building, which is to be located in Washington Township, to utilize the existing Warren County Vocational-Technical School sewage treatment plant, located in Franklin Township, for its wastewater disposal. The Warren County Community College building will be on a 13 acre parcel of the 130 acre Warren County Educational Park. This amendment request is specific to the 13 acre Warren County Community College, consisting of one building (Block 69, portion of Lot 1).

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on November 1, 1993. Comments on this amendment were received during the public comment period and are summarized below with the DEPE's response.

COMMENT: Because supporting documentation was not issued to the Township of Franklin in a timely manner, therefore, not allowing them an opportunity to thoroughly review the proposed amendment, they had expressed concern that the long term plans for the continued use of the Warren County Vocational-Technical School sewage treatment plant may have far reaching consequences on the quality of the environment in their municipality and surrounding region.

RESPONSE: The Warren County Vocational-Technical School sewage treatment plant (STP) is currently permitted by the Department to discharge up to 12,000 gallons per day (gpd) to the Pohatcong Creek (New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System [NJPDES] #NJ0020711). Their STP is currently receiving between 3,000 gpd and 4,000 gpd. During

the summer months, the flow falls to approximately 1,300 gpd. The additional flow (6,000 gpd) from the proposed Warren County Community College (one building) will not exceed the 12,000 gpd capacity the Warren County Vocational-Technical School STP was designed to handle.

COMMENT: On behalf of the Township of Franklin, a comment was received concerning whether the allocation of wastewater loadings to the proposed Washington Township STP, which is conceptual at the present time, would conflict with the existing wasteload allocation of the Borough of Washington's STP.

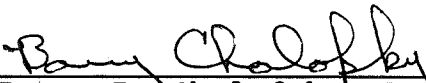
RESPONSE: The Department shares the Township of Franklin's concern. However, this proposed amendment only addresses the Vocational-Technical School. Approval of the proposed Washington Township STP's wasteload allocation and its affect on the Borough of Washington STP's wasteload allocation is a separate issue and will require its own Department review.

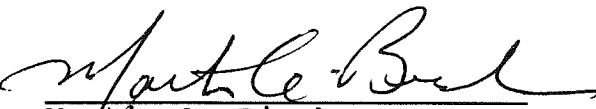
COMMENT: The Warren County Vocational-Technical School had concerns about the legal responsibility for their sewage treatment plant NJPDES permit and plant operations in relationship to the current NJPDES permit #NJ0020711.


RESPONSE: Legal ownership of the Warren County Vocational-Technical School STP is being acquired by the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders (WCBCF). However, until such time as the legal binding ownership takes place, and NJPDES permit #NJ0020711 is modified by the Warren County Board Chosen Freeholders to reflect their legal ownership of the plant, Warren County Vocational-Technical School will remain responsible for the operation of the plant in conformance with conditions currently mandated by NJPDES permit #NJ0020711. Once ownership is legally transferred from the Vocational-Technical School to the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders, plant operations and NJPDES permit limitations will then be the legal responsibility of the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Regulations addressing ownership transfer of permits are codified at N.J.A.C. 7:14A-2.11.

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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Date

MEG/WCCC