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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

AMENDMENT TO THE UPPER RARITAN AND UPPER DELAWARE WATER
QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

Public Notice

Take notice that on **AUG 11 1995**, 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 Raritan and Upper Delaware Water Quality Management Plans was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). This amendment, submitted by Washington Township Municipal Utilities Authority (WTMUA) amends the Township of Washington, Morris County Wastewater Management Plan (WMP). A new wastewater treatment plant (WTP) discharging to the South Branch of the Raritan River is proposed. The facility will be owned and operated by the WTMUA and serve the Village Area of Long Valley and the Parker Acres area. The projected wastewater flow to be discharged is 243,993 gallons per day (gpd). The existing Old Farmer's Road School, Long Valley Middle School, and Long Valley Inn on-site ground water disposal systems will be abandoned and their flows conveyed to the proposed Long Valley Village WTP. Additionally, while no expansion of the WTMUA Schooley's Mountain WTP is proposed, the amendment provides for modifications to the service area to delete some areas and add others.

Note that following public notice, but prior to adoption of this amendment, the future sewer service area of the proposed Long Valley Village WTP was corrected to include Block 36, Lot 42 at the easterly end of Overlook Drive. This 9.63 acre parcel is owned by the Township and has been designated as a site for a Council on Affordable Housing project. One building is proposed which will house 6 residents. The flow from this proposed development has already been included in the total flows projected for the Long Valley Village WTP. Therefore, the mapping of the WMP has been corrected to include the property.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on May 15, 1995. Comments on this amendment were received during the public comment period and are summarized below with the Department's responses.

COMMENT: The Elizabethtown Water Company (EWC), a regional water supplier which shares the same watershed as the proposed WTMUA WTP, requested that once the WTP becomes operational they be immediately notified of any problems which may be experienced which may effect their operation.

RESPONSE: As stakeholders within the same watershed the Department agrees with EWC and would expect WTMUA to cooperatively communicate any problems which may effect the downstream water supplier. Immediate notification to EWC would afford them maximum opportunity to avoid detrimental impacts.

COMMENT: Comments were received on behalf of Welsh Farms stating that corrections should be made to the information provided in the WMP on permitted capacity and discharge location for the Welsh Farms treatment facility. Specifically, the permitted capacity should be changed to 150,000 gpd and the discharge location to an unnamed tributary to the South Branch of the Raritan River.

RESPONSE: The WMP has been corrected to identify the discharge location as an unnamed tributary to the South Branch Raritan River. The WMP has not been corrected to specify a permitted capacity of 150,000 gpd, however, since as per the current New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, the permitted flow for this facility is "not limited". The WMP has therefore been corrected to specify the actual permitted flow as "not limited".

COMMENT: Welsh Farms is currently making plans to divert their discharge outfall from this unnamed tributary directly to the South Branch of the Raritan River.

RESPONSE: The proposed change in discharge location should have been addressed as part of this Township amendment proposal. As it was not, prior to receiving any Department permits for the change in discharge location an amendment will be required to the Water Quality Management Plan. This amendment should also address any proposed modifications to the projected wastewater flow of 130,000 gpd originally specified in the WMP. The Department highly recommends that in the future the Township and affected parties openly communicate all wastewater management proposals both among themselves and to the Department so as to prepare comprehensive proposals for Department and public review as well as provide for efficient use of all parties' time and effort.

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.



Martin A. Bierbaum
Administrator
Office of Environmental
Planning
Department of Environmental
Protection

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Date

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