

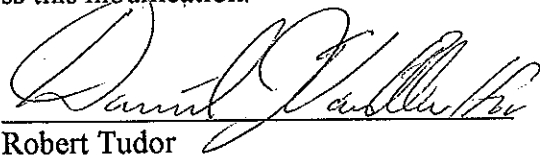
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

REVISION TO THE UPPER RARITAN WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

TAKE NOTICE that on **NOV 10 1997**, 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 Upper Raritan Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department. This revision modifies the Chester Township and Chester Borough Wastewater Management Plans (WMPs) regarding the Dickerson and Bragg Elementary Schools' existing and future wastewater management proposals. The Chester Township WMP presently identifies the Dickerson and Bragg Schools as separate facilities discharging sanitary wastewater via septic systems with projected future flows of 5,760 gallons per day (gpd) and 5,325 gpd, respectively. The Chester Borough WMP does not acknowledge either school presumably due to an oversight since the existing Dickerson School only very minimally crosses the municipal boundary into the Borough. This revision will correct the information regarding the existing systems serving the schools and the proposed changes to the systems.

The Chester Township Board of Education (BOE) is presently proposing an expansion and upgrade of the two existing elementary schools which are located almost entirely on Block 25.01, Lot 38.01 (Chester Township) and minimally on Block 27, Lot 9 (Chester Borough) along Highway 24. The combined functional capacity of the existing schools is 748 students, with a present enrollment of 650 students. The existing wastewater treatment and disposal for the school site is provided by two on-site septic systems. The main system located to the southeast of the Dickerson School consists of five septic tanks followed by five seepage pits. The majority of wastewater from the Dickerson School as well as all the wastewater from the Bragg School is discharged to this system. The second system serving the site consists of three septic tanks followed by two seepage pits and is located west of Dickerson School. This facility handles the remainder of the flow from the Dickerson School. The BOE plans to expand both schools to allow an increase in the combined functional capacity to 900 students. Based on water usage data the BOE has requested, and the Department accepted, the use of 6 gpd/student rather than the standard 15 gpd/student associated with schools having cafeterias. The BOE proposes to replace the existing septic systems and seepage pits with a new septic system and subsurface disposal field. The proposed discharge is an average of 5,400 gpd with peak flows of 8,100 gpd. Upon completion and activation of the proposed subsurface disposal system, the existing systems will be abandoned.

Since both schools are located on the same property, the septic systems serving the schools are not completely separate facilities as implied in the present WMP, the proposed flow is within the combined flows projected in the present WMP, the proposed system is a replacement system for the two existing systems which will be abandoned, and the method of wastewater disposal, via discharge to ground water, remains the same, the Department feels that a revision is appropriate to address this modification.



Robert Tudor
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Department of Environmental Protection

10 November 1997

Date

dab:notices/bragg