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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED AMENDMENT TO THE UPPER RARITAN WATER QUALITY
MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

Take notice that on **APR 28 2003**, 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 Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). This amendment, submitted on behalf of the Willow School, allows for the construction of a private elementary school with a total future population of 216 students. The Willow School will be located on Block 5, Lot 8, a 35.5 acre parcel within Bedminster Township, Somerset County and includes Block 34, Lot 1, a smaller 0.33 acre parcel located in the Borough of Peapack-Gladstone, Somerset County. No construction activity has been proposed on the parcel located in Peapack-Gladstone Borough. These properties are situated west of the intersection of State Highway Route 206 and Pottersville Road. The on-site wastewater treatment system will discharge to groundwater. The total projected wastewater design flow for this system is 4,670 gallons per day (gpd). This amendment will identify the portion of Block 5, Lot 8, Bedminster Township, Somerset County as defined by the metes and bounds description dated February 21, 2003 as the Discharge to Groundwater service area for The Willow School. The smaller 0.33 acre parcel, Block 34, Lot 1, located in the Borough of Peapack-Gladstone, Somerset County has been proposed to remain as a sewer service area of Environmental Disposal Corporation (EDC).

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on February 18, 2003 at 35 N.J.R. 1156(a). One comment was received on this amendment from


Bedminster Township, Somerset County during the public comment period and is summarized below with the Department's response.

Comment: A final form of the Water Quality Management Plan Amendment must include a metes and bounds description of the facilities to be served in Lot 8, Block 5, Bebminster Township, Somerset County. The service area of the on-site treatment facility should be adequately delineated as required by Township General Ordinance Section 9-2.10.


Response: To satisfy Bebminster Township General Ordinance Section 9-2.10., the applicant provided a metes and bounds description for the area containing facilities to be served by the onsite wastewater treatment facility. The Department has placed this metes and bounds description in the WQMP plan amendment and it has been reflected in the Wastewater Management Plan, Future Wastewater Treatment Facilities, Sewer Service Areas map as the Discharge to Groundwater Area for the Willow School as requested.

This proposed amendment has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 109 (EO-109, 2000) and N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.18. Due to the scope, the proposed project was not subject to the additional environmental analysis required by EO-109. However, if approved by the Department, an innovative on-site treatment and disposal system has been proposed that will employ a constructed wetland system to recirculate subsurface flow as an additional water quality treatment. The proposed project is designed in accordance with the Leaders in Energy and Environmental Design (LEEDS) certification program developed by the United States Green Building Council. This certification establishes the performance standards that emphasize sustainable site development, water savings and energy efficiency. The site design plans have additionally employed Department recommended Best Management Practices for on-site stormwater management, including reuse of roof runoff, vegetated swales, and the use of wet basins to promote stormwater treatment.

This amendment represents only one part of the permit process and other issues may need to be addressed prior to final permit issuance. Additional issues 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.



Lawrence J. Baier, Director
Division of Watershed Management
Department of Environmental Protection



Date