

PUBLIC NOTICE

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF COASTAL AND LAND USE PLANNING**

**Adopted Amendments to the Upper Raritan Water Quality Management
Plan**

Public Notice

Take notice that on **JUL 30 2013**, pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Water Quality Planning Act, N.J.S.A. 58:11A-1 et seq., the Statewide Water Quality Management (WQM) Planning rules, N.J.A.C. 7:15, and P.L. 2011, c. 203, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) adopted an amendment to the Upper Raritan WQM Plan. Notice of the amendment proposal was published in the New Jersey Register on May 20, 2013, at 45 N.J.R. 1263(a). This amendment removes a B-2 Commercial District and the B-5 Low Intensity commercial District along Route 202/31 in the southern portion of Raritan Township from sewer service area (SSA) and designates it as Septic Area (Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal System [ISSDS] of less than 2,000 gallons per day [gpd]).

The adopted amendment that is the subject of this notice was submitted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Hunterdon County as the responsible wastewater management planning agency for Hunterdon County. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.24, the wastewater management planning agency may exclude areas from SSA based on local planning objectives.

Please note that the Hunterdon County Future Wastewater Service Area (FWSA) Map was adopted on April 22, 2013, and the B-2 Commercial District and the B-5 low Intensity commercial District along Route 202/31 in the southern portion of Raritan Township was included in SSA as a result.

During the public comment period for the Hunterdon County FWSA map, Raritan Township submitted information demonstrating that inclusion of the B-2 Commercial District and the B-5 Low Intensity Commercial District along Route 202/31 in the southern portion of Raritan Township within SSA was inconsistent with the Raritan Township Master Plan and zoning ordinance, and would require expansion of the Raritan Township Municipal Utilities Authority (MUA) treatment plant due to capacity constraints and entail substantial costs. Raritan Township also stated that other areas of Raritan Township with failing septic systems and a redevelopment area are a higher priority for sewer service, pursuant to the Raritan Township Master Plan. In addition, Raritan Township adopted Resolution #12-169A specifically noting that it did not consent to the adoption of the area in question as SSA in the proposed Hunterdon County FWSA map.

Specifically, Raritan Township submitted Master Plan and zoning documentation to demonstrate that the inclusion of the area in question in SSA is inconsistent with local planning objectives. An analysis by Hunterdon County demonstrated that future development of the majority of parcels in the area in question would not generate wastewater flows greater than 2,000 gallons per day (gpd), and so is more appropriately designated as wastewater service area to be served by septic systems with design flows of equal to or less than 2,000 gpd.

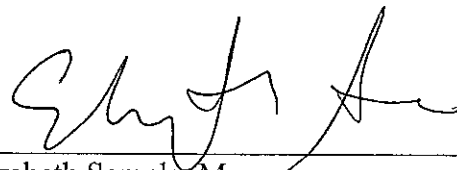
Further, the Raritan Township MUA submitted information showing that the area addressed in this amendment would result in a build out flow of 4.251 million

gallons per day (mgd), resulting in a capacity deficit of 0.45 mgd over the current permitted capacity (NJ0022047) for the Raritan Township MUA treatment plant of 3.80 mgd. The Raritan Township MUA also provided a cost estimate to accommodate the additional flow of \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000.

The notice of this amendment proposal was published in the New Jersey Register on May 20, 2013, at 45 N.J.R. 1263(a), beginning a public comment period, which ended 30 days later on June 19 2013. No comments were received on this amendment during the public comment period.

Adoption of this amendment does not eliminate the need for any permits, approvals, or certifications required by any Federal, State, county, or municipal review agency with jurisdiction over any project/activity. Adoption of this amendment does not provide any implied approval for any other aspects of any project or needed permits and approvals.

The adopted amendment is available at the Department, Division of Coastal and Land Use Planning, 401 East State Street, Trenton, New Jersey, 08625.



Elizabeth Semple, Manager
Division of Coastal and Land Use Planning
Department of Environmental Protection

7/30/13

Date

