# AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. §§1251 et seq.; the "CWA"), and the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, as amended, (M.G.L. Chap. 21, §§ 26-53),

U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Coast Guard 427 Commercial Street Boston, MA 02109

is authorized to discharge from the facility located at

Light Station Boston U.S. Coast Guard Little Brewster Island Hull, MA 02045

to receiving water named

Massachusetts Bay (Boston Harbor, MA70)

in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth herein.

This permit will become effective on the first day of the calendar month immediately following sixty days after signature.\*

This permit and the authorization to discharge expire at midnight five years from the last day of the month preceding the effective date.

This permit supersedes the permit issued on September 30, 2005.

This permit consists of **Part I** (8 pages including effluent limitations and monitoring requirements); and **Part II** (25 pages including NPDES Part II Standard Conditions).

Signed this day of

Boston, MA

Lynne Hamjian, Acting Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection
Environmental Protection Agency

Lealdon Langley, Director
Massachusetts Wetlands and Wastewater Programs
Department of Environmental Protection

Department of Environmental Protection Commonwealth of Massachusetts Boston, MA

<sup>\*</sup> Pursuant to 40 CFR 124.15(b)(3), if no comments requesting a change to the draft permit are received, the permit will become effective upon the date of signature.

#### PART I

A.1. During the period beginning on the effective date and lasting through expiration, the permittee is authorized to discharge treated effluent from outfall serial number **001** to Boston Harbor between the dates of April 1 and September 30. No discharge is permitted outside this seasonal period. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored as specified below. Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified below shall be taken at a location that provides a representative analysis of the effluent.

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTIC	EFFLUENT LIMITS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS		
PARAMETER	AVERAGE <u>MONTHLY</u>	AVERAGE <u>WEEKLY</u>	MAXIMUM <u>DAILY</u>	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE <u>TYPE<sup>7</sup></u>
FLOW <sup>1</sup>	500 GPD	******	******	Daily	Recorder
BOD <sub>5</sub> <sup>2</sup>	30 mg/l	45 mg/l	******	1/Month	Grab
$TSS^2$	30 mg/l	45 mg/l	******	1/Month	Grab
pH³ (SEE PERMIT PARAGRAPH I.A.1.b)	6.5 – 8.5 SU			1/Month	Grab
DISSOLVED OXYGEN <sup>3</sup>	$\geq$ 6.0 mg/l			1/Month	Grab
FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA <sup>3,4</sup>	14 cfu/100 ml	******	28 cfu/100 ml	1/Month	Grab
ENTEROCOCCI BACTERIA <sup>3, 5</sup>	35 cfu/100 ml	******	104 cfu/100 ml	1/Month	Grab
TOTAL RESIDUAL CHLORINE <sup>3,6</sup>	******	******	1.0 mg/l	1/Month	Grab

#### Footnotes:

- 1. Flow shall be recorded daily by the lighthouse keeper and confirmed once a month by the licensed operator. The limit is a six-month rolling average. The value will be calculated as the arithmetic mean of the monthly average flow for the reporting month and the monthly average flows of the previous five permitted months of discharge (April through October).
- 2. Sampling required for influent and effluent in order to determine percent removal under part I.A.1.d.
- 3. Required for State Certification.
- 4. Fecal coliform discharges shall not exceed a monthly geometric mean of 14 colony forming units (cfu) per 100 ml or a daily maximum of 28 cfu per 100 ml.
- 5. Enterococci samples shall be taken concurrently with the required fecal coliform samples. No single enterocci sample shall exceed 104 cfu per 100 ml. The units may be expressed as MPN for samples tested using the Most Probable Number method, or CFU when using the Membrane Filter method.
- 6. For the purposes of this permit, TRC analysis must be completed using Method 4500 CL E, Method 4500 CL G, or a test method in 40 C.F.R. § 136, Table IB, that achieves a detection limit (DL) less than or equal to 20 μg/L. These methods may be found in the most recent publication of <u>Standard Methods</u> for the Examination of Water and Wastewater.
- 7. When a parameter is not detected above the detection limit (DL), the Permittee must report on the Discharge Monitoring Report using the data qualifier signifying less than the DL for that parameter (i.e.  $<50~\mu g/L$ , if the DL for a parameter is  $50~\mu g/L$ ). For the purposes of this permit, the DL is the lowest concentration that can be reliably measured within specified limits of precision and accuracy for a specific laboratory analytical method during routine laboratory operating conditions (i.e., the level above which an actual value is reported for an analyte, and the level below which an analyte is reported as non-detect).
- 8. Effluent samples shall be taken after appropriate treatment and prior to discharge to Outfall 001. All sampling shall be representative of the effluent that is discharged through Outfall 001 to Boston Harbor in Massachusetts Bay. A routine sampling program shall be developed in which samples are taken at the same location, same time and same day(s) of every month. Any deviations from the routine sampling program shall be documented in correspondence appended to the applicable discharge monitoring report that is submitted to EPA. In addition, all samples shall be analyzed using the analytical methods found in 40 CFR §136, or alternative methods approved by EPA in accordance with the procedures in 40 CFR §136.

#### Part I.A.1. (Continued)

- a. The discharge shall not cause a violation of the water quality standards of the receiving waters.
- b. The pH of the effluent shall not be less than 6.5 or greater than 8.5 standard units (s.u.) at any time.
- c. The discharge shall not cause objectionable discoloration, color, turbidity or a visible

- sheen in the receiving waters.
- d. The effluent shall not contain floating, suspended, or settleable solids or oil and grease, petrochemicals, or other volatile organics.
- e. The permittee's treatment facility shall maintain a minimum of 85 percent removal of both total suspended solids and biochemical oxygen demand. The percent removal shall be based on monthly average values.
- f. The results of sampling for any parameter done in accordance with EPA approved methods at a frequency greater than required by the permit must also be reported.
- g. If the average annual flow in any calendar year exceeds 80 percent of the facility's design flow, the permittee shall submit a report to MassDEP by **March 31**<sup>st</sup> of the following calendar year describing its plans for further flow increases and describing how it will maintain compliance with the flow limit and all other effluent limitations and conditions.
- 2. The WWTF must provide adequate notice (pursuant to Section I.D.5 below) to the EPA and MassDEP of the following:
  - a. Any new introduction of pollutants into the WWTF from an indirect discharger that would be subject to section 301 or 306 of the Clean Water Act if it were directly discharging those pollutants; and
  - b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the WWTF by a source introducing pollutants into the WWTF at the time of issuance of the permit.
  - c. For purposes of this paragraph, adequate notice shall include information on:
    - (1) The quantity and quality of effluent introduced into the WWTF; and
    - (2) Any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the WWTF.

#### 3. Toxics Control

- a. The permittee shall not discharge any pollutant or combination of pollutants in toxic amounts.
- b. Any toxic components of the effluent shall not result in any demonstrable harm to aquatic life or violate any state or federal water quality standard which has been or may be promulgated. Upon promulgation of any such standard, this permit may be revised or amended in accordance with such standards.
- 4. Numerical Effluent Limitations for Toxicants

EPA or MassDEP may use the results of the toxicity tests and chemical analyses conducted pursuant to this permit, as well as national water quality criteria developed pursuant to Section 304(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), state water quality criteria, and any other appropriate information or data, to develop numerical effluent limitations for any pollutants, including but not

limited to those pollutants listed in Appendix D of 40 CFR Part 122.

#### Part I.B. UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGES

This permit authorizes discharges only from the outfall(s) listed in Part I.A.1, in accordance with the terms and conditions of this permit. Discharges of wastewater from any other point sources, including sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), are not authorized by this permit and shall be reported to EPA and MassDEP in accordance with Part II.D.1.e.(1) of the General Requirements of this permit (Twenty-four-hour reporting).

Notification of SSOs to MassDEP shall be made on its SSO Reporting Form (which includes MassDEP Regional Office telephone numbers). The reporting form and instruction for its completion may be found on-line at <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/service/approvals/sanitary-sewer-overflow-bypass-backup-notification.html">http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/service/approvals/sanitary-sewer-overflow-bypass-backup-notification.html</a>.

#### Part I.C. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SEWER SYSTEM

Operation and maintenance (O&M) of the sewer system shall be in compliance with the General Requirements of Part II and the following terms and conditions. The permittee is required to complete the following activities for the collection system which it owns:

#### 1. Maintenance Staff

The permittee shall provide an adequate staff to carry out the operation, maintenance, repair, and testing functions required to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit.

#### 2. Preventive Maintenance Program

The permittee shall maintain an ongoing preventive maintenance program to prevent overflows and bypasses caused by malfunctions or failures of the sewer system infrastructure. The program shall include an inspection program designed to identify all potential and actual unauthorized discharges.

#### 2. Alternate Power Source

In order to maintain compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit, the permittee shall continue to provide an alternate power source with which to sufficiently operate its treatment works (as defined at 40 CFR §122.2).

#### Part I.D. MONITORING AND REPORTING

The monitoring program in the permit specifies sampling and analysis, which will provide continuous information on compliance and the reliability and effectiveness of the installed pollution abatement equipment. The approved analytical procedures found in 40 CFR Part 136 are required unless other procedures are explicitly required in the permit. The Permittee is obligated to monitor and report sampling results to EPA and the MassDEP within the time specified within the permit.

Unless otherwise specified in this permit, the permittee shall submit reports, requests, and information and provide notices in the manner described in this section.

#### 1. Submittal of DMRs and the Use of NetDMR

The permittee shall continue to submit its monthly monitoring data in discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) to EPA and MassDEP no later than the 15th day of the month electronically using NetDMR. When the permittee submits DMRs using NetDMR, it is not required to submit hard copies of DMRs to EPA or MassDEP.

#### 2. Submittal of Reports as NetDMR Attachments

The permittee shall electronically submit all reports to EPA as NetDMR attachments rather than as hard copies, unless otherwise specified in this permit. Permittees shall continue to send hard copies of toxicity reports to MassDEP until further notice from MassDEP. (See Part I.G.5. for more information on state reporting.) Because the due dates for reports described in this permit may not coincide with the due date for submitting DMRs (which is no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month), a report submitted electronically as a NetDMR attachment shall be considered timely if it is electronically submitted to EPA using NetDMR with the next DMR due following the particular report due date specified in this permit.

#### 3. Submittal of Requests and Reports to EPA/OEP

The following requests, reports, and information described in this permit shall be submitted to the EPA/OEP NPDES Applications Coordinator in the EPA Office of Ecosystem Protection (OEP).

- A. Transfer of permit notice
- B. Request for changes in sampling location
- C. Request for reduction in testing frequency

These reports, information, and requests shall be submitted to EPA/OEP electronically at R1NPDES.Notices.OEP@epa.gov or by hard copy mail to the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Ecosystem Protection EPA/OEP NPDES Applications Coordinator 5 Post Office Square - Suite 100 (OEP06-03) Boston, MA 02109-3912

#### 4. Submittal of Reports in Hard Copy Form

The following notifications and reports shall be submitted as hard copy with a cover letter describing the submission. These reports shall be signed and dated originals submitted to EPA.

- A. Written notifications required under Part II
- B. Notice of unauthorized discharges, including Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) reporting

This information shall be submitted to EPA/OES at the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Environmental Stewardship (OES) Water Technical Unit 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OES04-SMR) Boston, MA 02109-3912

#### 5. State Reporting

Unless otherwise specified in this permit, duplicate signed copies of all reports, information, requests or notifications described in this permit, including the reports, information, requests or notifications described in Parts I.G.3 and I.G.4 also shall be submitted to the State at the following addresses:

#### MassDEP – Northeast Regional Office Bureau of Water Resources 205 B Lowell Street Wilmington, MA 01887

6. Verbal Reports and Verbal Notifications

Any verbal reports or verbal notifications, if required in Parts I and/or II of this permit, shall be made to both EPA and to MassDEP. This includes verbal reports and notifications which require reporting within 24 hours. (As examples, see Part II.B.4.c. (2), Part II.B.5.c. (3), and Part II.D.1.e.) Verbal reports and verbal notifications shall be made to:

EPA's Office of Environmental Stewardship: 617-918-1510

and to

MassDEP's Emergency Response: 888-304-1133

#### Part I.E. STATE PERMIT CONDITIONS

- 1. This authorization to discharge includes two separate and independent permit authorizations. The two permit authorizations are (i) a federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pursuant to the Federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§1251 et seq.; and (ii) an identical state surface water discharge permit issued by the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) pursuant to the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, M.G.L. c. 21, §§ 26-53, and 314 CMR 3.00. All of the requirements contained in this authorization, as well as the standard conditions contained in 314 CMR 3.19, are hereby incorporated by reference into this state surface water discharge permit.
- 2. This authorization also incorporates the state water quality certification issued by MassDEP under § 401(a) of the Federal Clean Water Act, 40 CFR 124.53, M.G.L. c. 21, § 27 and 314 CMR 3.07. All of the requirements (if any) contained in MassDEP's water quality certification for the permit are hereby incorporated by reference into this state surface water discharge permit as special conditions pursuant to 314 CMR 3.11.
- 3. Each agency shall have the independent right to enforce the terms and conditions of this permit. Any modification, suspension or revocation of this permit shall be effective only with respect to the agency taking such action, and shall not affect the validity or status of this permit as issued by the other agency, unless and until each agency has concurred in writing with such modification, suspension or revocation. In the event any portion of this permit is declared invalid, illegal or otherwise issued in violation of state law such permit shall remain in full force and effect under federal law as a NPDES Permit issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In the event this permit is declared invalid, illegal or otherwise issued in violation of federal law, this

permit shall remain in full force and effect under state law as a permit issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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#### PART II. A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

#### 1. Duty to Comply

The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or for denial of a permit renewal application.

- a. The permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the sludge use or disposal established under Section 405(d) of the CWA within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirements.
- b. The CWA provides that any person who violates Section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the CWA or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under Section 402, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under Section 402 (a)(3) or 402 (b)(8) of the CWA is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$25,000 per day for each violation. Any person who negligently violates such requirements is subject to a fine of not less than \$2,500 nor more than \$25,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both. Any person who knowingly violates such requirements is subject to a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or both.
- c. Any person may be assessed an administrative penalty by the Administrator for violating Section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the CWA, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under Section 402 of the CWA. Administrative penalties for Class I violations are not to exceed \$10,000 per violation, with the maximum amount of any Class I penalty assessed not to exceed \$25,000. Penalties for Class II violations are not to exceed \$10,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues, with the maximum amount of any Class II penalty not to exceed \$125,000.

Note: See 40 CFR §122.41(a)(2) for complete "Duty to Comply" regulations.

#### 2. Permit Actions

This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or notifications of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any permit condition.

#### 3. <u>Duty to Provide Information</u>

The permittee shall furnish to the Regional Administrator, within a reasonable time, any information which the Regional Administrator may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit, or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the Regional Administrator, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

#### 4. Reopener Clause

The Regional Administrator reserves the right to make appropriate revisions to this permit in order to establish any appropriate effluent limitations, schedules of compliance, or other provisions which may be authorized under the CWA in order to bring all discharges into compliance with the CWA.

For any permit issued to a treatment works treating domestic sewage (including "sludge-only facilities"), the Regional Administrator or Director shall include a reopener clause to incorporate any applicable standard for sewage sludge use or disposal promulgated under Section 405 (d) of the CWA. The Regional Administrator or Director may promptly modify or revoke and reissue any permit containing the reopener clause required by this paragraph if the standard for sewage sludge use or disposal is more stringent than any requirements for sludge use or disposal in the permit, or contains a pollutant or practice not limited in the permit.

Federal regulations pertaining to permit modification, revocation and reissuance, and termination are found at 40 CFR §122.62, 122.63, 122.64, and 124.5.

#### 5. Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from responsibilities, liabilities or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under Section 311 of the CWA, or Section 106 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA).

#### 6. Property Rights

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, nor any exclusive privileges.

#### 7. Confidentiality of Information

- a. In accordance with 40 CFR Part 2, any information submitted to EPA pursuant to these regulations may be claimed as confidential by the submitter. Any such claim must be asserted at the time of submission in the manner prescribed on the application form or instructions or, in the case of other submissions, by stamping the words "confidential business information" on each page containing such information. If no claim is made at the time of submission, EPA may make the information available to the public without further notice. If a claim is asserted, the information will be treated in accordance with the procedures in 40 CFR Part 2 (Public Information).
- b. Claims of confidentiality for the following information will be denied:
  - (1) The name and address of any permit applicant or permittee;
  - (2) Permit applications, permits, and effluent data as defined in 40 CFR §2.302(a)(2).
- c. Information required by NPDES application forms provided by the Regional Administrator under 40 CFR §122.21 may not be claimed confidential. This includes information submitted on the forms themselves and any attachments used to supply information required by the forms.

#### 8. Duty to Reapply

If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after its expiration date, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit. The permittee shall submit a new application at least 180 days before the expiration date of the existing permit, unless permission for a later date has been granted by the Regional Administrator. (The Regional Administrator shall not grant permission for applications to be submitted later than the expiration date of the existing permit.)

#### 9. State Authorities

Nothing in Part 122, 123, or 124 precludes more stringent State regulation of any activity covered by these regulations, whether or not under an approved State program.

#### 10. Other Laws

The issuance of a permit does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, nor does it relieve the permittee of its obligation to comply with any other applicable Federal, State, or local laws and regulations.

#### PART II. B. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF POLLUTION CONTROLS

#### 1. Proper Operation and Maintenance

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit and with the requirements of storm water pollution prevention plans. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

#### 2. Need to Halt or Reduce Not a Defense

It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.

#### 3. Duty to Mitigate

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

#### 4. Bypass

#### a. Definitions

(1) *Bypass* means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.

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(2) Severe property damage means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can be reasonably expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production.

#### b. Bypass not exceeding limitations

The permittee may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provision of Paragraphs B.4.c. and 4.d. of this section.

#### c. Notice

- (1) Anticipated bypass. If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice, if possible at least ten days before the date of the bypass.
- (2) Unanticipated bypass. The permittee shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in paragraph D.1.e. of this part (Twenty-four hour reporting).

#### d. Prohibition of bypass

Bypass is prohibited, and the Regional Administrator may take enforcement action against a permittee for bypass, unless:

- (1) Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;
- (2) There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventative maintenance; and
- (3) i) The permittee submitted notices as required under Paragraph 4.c. of this section.
  - ii) The Regional Administrator may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Regional Administrator determines that it will meet the three conditions listed above in paragraph 4.d. of this section.

#### 5. Upset

- a. Definition. *Upset* means an exceptional incident in which there is an unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology-based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation.
- b. Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology-based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of paragraph B.5.c. of this section are met. No determination made during

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administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review.

- c. Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:
  - (1) An upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset;
  - (2) The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated;
  - (3) The permittee submitted notice of the upset as required in paragraphs D.1.a. and 1.e. (Twenty-four hour notice); and
  - (4) The permittee complied with any remedial measures required under B.3. above.
- d. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding the permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

#### PART II. C. MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

#### 1. Monitoring and Records

- a. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.
- b. Except for records for monitoring information required by this permit related to the permittee's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years (or longer as required by 40 CFR Part 503), the permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application except for the information concerning storm water discharges which must be retained for a total of 6 years. This retention period may be extended by request of the Regional Administrator at any time.
- c. Records of monitoring information shall include:
  - (1) The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
  - (2) The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
  - (3) The date(s) analyses were performed;
  - (4) The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
  - (5) The analytical techniques or methods used; and
  - (6) The results of such analyses.
- d. Monitoring results must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or, in the case of sludge use or disposal, approved under 40 CFR Part 136 unless otherwise specified in 40 CFR Part 503, unless other test procedures have been specified in the permit.
- e. The CWA provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this permit shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by

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imprisonment for not more than 2 years, or both. If a conviction of a person is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such person under this paragraph, punishment is a fine of not more than \$20,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 4 years, or both.

#### 2. Inspection and Entry

The permittee shall allow the Regional Administrator or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a representative of the Administrator), upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

- a. Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- c. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit; and
- d. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the CWA, any substances or parameters at any location.

#### PART II. D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

#### 1. Reporting Requirements

- a. Planned Changes. The permittee shall give notice to the Regional Administrator as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is only required when:
  - (1) The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR§122.29(b); or
  - (2) The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantities of the pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to the effluent limitations in the permit, nor to the notification requirements at 40 CFR§122.42(a)(1).
  - (3) The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition or change may justify the application of permit conditions different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan.
- b. Anticipated noncompliance. The permittee shall give advance notice to the Regional Administrator of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.
- c. Transfers. This permit is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Regional Administrator. The Regional Administrator may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the permit to change the name of the permittee and

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incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the CWA. (See 40 CFR Part 122.61; in some cases, modification or revocation and reissuance is mandatory.)

- d. Monitoring reports. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified elsewhere in this permit.
  - (1) Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) or forms provided or specified by the Director for reporting results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices.
  - (2) If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by the permit using test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or, in the case of sludge use or disposal, approved under 40 CFR Part 136 unless otherwise specified in 40 CFR Part 503, or as specified in the permit, the results of the monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the Director.
  - (3) Calculations for all limitations which require averaging or measurements shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified by the Director in the permit.
- e. Twenty-four hour reporting.
  - (1) The permittee shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances.
    - A written submission shall also be provided within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.
  - (2) The following shall be included as information which must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph.
    - (a) Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit. (See 40 CFR §122.41(g).)
    - (b) Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit.
    - (c) Violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the Regional Administrator in the permit to be reported within 24 hours. (See 40 CFR §122.44(g).)
  - (3) The Regional Administrator may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis for reports under Paragraph D.1.e. if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.

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- f. Compliance Schedules. Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this permit shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date.
- g. Other noncompliance. The permittee shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Paragraphs D.1.d., D.1.e., and D.1.f. of this section, at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in Paragraph D.1.e. of this section.
- h. Other information. Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Regional Administrator, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

#### 2. Signatory Requirement

- a. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Regional Administrator shall be signed and certified. (See 40 CFR §122.22)
- b. The CWA provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 2 years per violation, or by both.

#### 3. Availability of Reports.

Except for data determined to be confidential under Paragraph A.8. above, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the State water pollution control agency and the Regional Administrator. As required by the CWA, effluent data shall not be considered confidential. Knowingly making any false statements on any such report may result in the imposition of criminal penalties as provided for in Section 309 of the CWA.

#### PART II. E. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

#### 1. Definitions for Individual NPDES Permits including Storm Water Requirements

Administrator means the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, or an authorized representative.

Applicable standards and limitations means all, State, interstate, and Federal standards and limitations to which a "discharge", a "sewage sludge use or disposal practice", or a related activity is subject to, including "effluent limitations", water quality standards, standards of performance, toxic effluent standards or prohibitions, "best management practices", pretreatment standards, and "standards for sewage sludge use and disposal" under Sections 301, 302, 303, 304, 306, 307, 308, 403, and 405 of the CWA.

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Application means the EPA standard national forms for applying for a permit, including any additions, revisions, or modifications to the forms; or forms approved by EPA for use in "approved States", including any approved modifications or revisions.

Average means the arithmetic mean of values taken at the frequency required for each parameter over the specified period. For total and/or fecal coliforms and Escherichia coli, the average shall be the geometric mean.

Average monthly discharge limitation means the highest allowable average of "daily discharges" over a calendar month calculated as the sum of all "daily discharges" measured during a calendar month divided by the number of "daily discharges" measured during that month.

Average weekly discharge limitation means the highest allowable average of "daily discharges" measured during the calendar week divided by the number of "daily discharges" measured during the week.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of "waters of the United States." BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

Best Professional Judgment (BPJ) means a case-by-case determination of Best Practicable Treatment (BPT), Best Available Treatment (BAT), or other appropriate technology-based standard based on an evaluation of the available technology to achieve a particular pollutant reduction and other factors set forth in 40 CFR §125.3 (d).

Coal Pile Runoff means the rainfall runoff from or through any coal storage pile.

Composite Sample means a sample consisting of a minimum of eight grab samples of equal volume collected at equal intervals during a 24-hour period (or lesser period as specified in the section on Monitoring and Reporting) and combined proportional to flow, or a sample consisting of the same number of grab samples, or greater, collected proportionally to flow over that same time period.

Construction Activities - The following definitions apply to construction activities:

- (a) <u>Commencement of Construction</u> is the initial disturbance of soils associated with clearing, grading, or excavating activities or other construction activities.
- (b) <u>Dedicated portable asphalt plant</u> is a portable asphalt plant located on or contiguous to a construction site and that provides asphalt only to the construction site that the plant is located on or adjacent to. The term dedicated portable asphalt plant does not include facilities that are subject to the asphalt emulsion effluent limitation guideline at 40 CFR Part 443.
- (c) <u>Dedicated portable concrete plant</u> is a portable concrete plant located on or contiguous to a construction site and that provides concrete only to the construction site that the plant is located on or adjacent to.

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- (d) <u>Final Stabilization</u> means that all soil disturbing activities at the site have been complete, and that a uniform perennial vegetative cover with a density of 70% of the cover for unpaved areas and areas not covered by permanent structures has been established or equivalent permanent stabilization measures (such as the use of riprap, gabions, or geotextiles) have been employed.
- (e) <u>Runoff coefficient</u> means the fraction of total rainfall that will appear at the conveyance as runoff.

*Contiguous zone*\_means the entire zone established by the United States under Article 24 of the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone.

Continuous discharge means a "discharge" which occurs without interruption throughout the operating hours of the facility except for infrequent shutdowns for maintenance, process changes, or similar activities.

CWA means the Clean Water Act (formerly referred to as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972) Pub. L. 92-500, as amended by Pub. L. 95-217, Pub. L. 95-576, Pub. L. 96-483, and Pub. L. 97-117; 33 USC §§1251 et seq.

Daily Discharge means the discharge of a pollutant measured during the calendar day or any other 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurements, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the day.

*Director* normally means the person authorized to sign NPDES permits by EPA or the State or an authorized representative. Conversely, it also could mean the Regional Administrator or the State Director as the context requires.

Discharge Monitoring Report Form (DMR) means the EPA standard national form, including any subsequent additions, revisions, or modifications for the reporting of self-monitoring results by permittees. DMRs must be used by "approved States" as well as by EPA. EPA will supply DMRs to any approved State upon request. The EPA national forms may be modified to substitute the State Agency name, address, logo, and other similar information, as appropriate, in place of EPA's.

*Discharge of a pollutant\_*means:

- (a) Any addition of any "pollutant" or combination of pollutants to "waters of the United States" from any "point source", or
- (b) Any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the "contiguous zone" or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation (See "Point Source" definition).

This definition includes additions of pollutants into waters of the United States from: surface runoff which is collected or channeled by man; discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances owned by a State, municipality, or other person which do not lead

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to a treatment works; and discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances leading into privately owned treatment works.

This term does not include an addition of pollutants by any "indirect discharger."

Effluent limitation means any restriction imposed by the Regional Administrator on quantities, discharge rates, and concentrations of "pollutants" which are "discharged" from "point sources" into "waters of the United States", the waters of the "contiguous zone", or the ocean.

Effluent limitation guidelines means a regulation published by the Administrator under Section 304(b) of CWA to adopt or revise "effluent limitations".

EPA means the United States "Environmental Protection Agency".

Flow-weighted composite sample means a composite sample consisting of a mixture of aliquots where the volume of each aliquot is proportional to the flow rate of the discharge.

Grab Sample – An individual sample collected in a period of less than 15 minutes.

*Hazardous Substance* means any substance designated under 40 CFR Part 116 pursuant to Section 311 of the CWA.

*Indirect Discharger* means a non-domestic discharger introducing pollutants to a publicly owned treatment works.

*Interference* means a discharge which, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, both:

- (a) Inhibits or disrupts the POTW, its treatment processes or operations, or its sludge processes, use or disposal; and
- (b) Therefore is a cause of a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit (including an increase in the magnitude or duration of a violation) or of the prevention of sewage sludge use or disposal in compliance with the following statutory provisions and regulations or permits issued thereunder (or more stringent State or local regulations): Section 405 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), the Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA) (including Title II, more commonly referred to as the Resources Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and including State regulations contained in any State sludge management plan prepared pursuant to Subtitle D of the SDWA), the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, and the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act.

Landfill means an area of land or an excavation in which wastes are placed for permanent disposal, and which is not a land application unit, surface impoundment, injection well, or waste pile.

Land application unit means an area where wastes are applied onto or incorporated into the soil surface (excluding manure spreading operations) for treatment or disposal.

Large and Medium municipal separate storm sewer system means all municipal separate storm sewers that are either: (i) located in an incorporated place (city) with a population of 100,000 or more as determined by the latest Decennial Census by the Bureau of Census (these cities are listed in Appendices F and 40 CFR Part 122); or (ii) located in the counties with unincorporated urbanized

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populations of 100,000 or more, except municipal separate storm sewers that are located in the incorporated places, townships, or towns within such counties (these counties are listed in Appendices H and I of 40 CFR 122); or (iii) owned or operated by a municipality other than those described in Paragraph (i) or (ii) and that are designated by the Regional Administrator as part of the large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system.

Maximum daily discharge limitation means the highest allowable "daily discharge" concentration that occurs only during a normal day (24-hour duration).

Maximum daily discharge limitation (as defined for the Steam Electric Power Plants only) when applied to Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) or Total Residual Oxidant (TRO) is defined as "maximum concentration" or "Instantaneous Maximum Concentration" during the two hours of a chlorination cycle (or fraction thereof) prescribed in the Steam Electric Guidelines, 40 CFR Part 423. These three synonymous terms all mean "a value that shall not be exceeded" during the two-hour chlorination cycle. This interpretation differs from the specified NPDES Permit requirement, 40 CFR § 122.2, where the two terms of "Maximum Daily Discharge" and "Average Daily Discharge" concentrations are specifically limited to the daily (24-hour duration) values.

*Municipality* means a city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body created by or under State law and having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, or other wastes, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribe organization, or a designated and approved management agency under Section 208 of the CWA.

*National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System* means the national program for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements, under Sections 307, 402, 318, and 405 of the CWA. The term includes an "approved program".

New Discharger means any building, structure, facility, or installation:

- (a) From which there is or may be a "discharge of pollutants";
- (b) That did not commence the "discharge of pollutants" at a particular "site" prior to August 13, 1979;
- (c) Which is not a "new source"; and
- (d) Which has never received a finally effective NPDES permit for discharges at that "site".

This definition includes an "indirect discharger" which commences discharging into "waters of the United States" after August 13, 1979. It also includes any existing mobile point source (other than an offshore or coastal oil and gas exploratory drilling rig or a coastal oil and gas exploratory drilling rig or a coastal oil and gas developmental drilling rig) such as a seafood processing rig, seafood processing vessel, or aggregate plant, that begins discharging at a "site" for which it does not have a permit; and any offshore rig or coastal mobile oil and gas exploratory drilling rig or coastal mobile oil and gas developmental drilling rig that commences the discharge of pollutants after August 13, 1979, at a "site" under EPA's permitting jurisdiction for which it is not covered by an individual or general permit and which is located in an area determined by the Regional Administrator in the issuance of a final permit to be in an area of biological concern. In determining whether an area is an area of biological concern, the Regional Administrator shall consider the factors specified in 40 CFR §§125.122 (a) (1) through (10).

An offshore or coastal mobile exploratory drilling rig or coastal mobile developmental drilling rig will be considered a "new discharger" only for the duration of its discharge in an area of biological concern.

*New source* means any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is or may be a "discharge of pollutants", the construction of which commenced:

- (a) After promulgation of standards of performance under Section 306 of CWA which are applicable to such source, or
- (b) After proposal of standards of performance in accordance with Section 306 of CWA which are applicable to such source, but only if the standards are promulgated in accordance with Section 306 within 120 days of their proposal.

NPDES means "National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System".

Owner or operator means the owner or operator of any "facility or activity" subject to regulation under the NPDES programs.

Pass through means a Discharge which exits the POTW into waters of the United States in quantities or concentrations which, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, is a cause of a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit (including an increase in the magnitude or duration of a violation).

*Permit* means an authorization, license, or equivalent control document issued by EPA or an "approved" State.

*Person* means an individual, association, partnership, corporation, municipality, State or Federal agency, or an agent or employee thereof.

*Point Source* means any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel, or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture or agricultural storm water runoff (see 40 CFR §122.2).

Pollutant means dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, filter backwash, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials (except those regulated under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§2011 et seq.)), heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharged into water. It does not mean:

- (a) Sewage from vessels; or
- (b) Water, gas, or other material which is injected into a well to facilitate production of oil or gas, or water derived in association with oil and gas production and disposed of in a well, if the well is used either to facilitate production or for disposal purposes is approved by the authority of the State in which the well is located, and if the State determines that the injection or disposal will not result in the degradation of ground or surface water resources.

*Primary industry category* means any industry category listed in the NRDC settlement agreement (<u>Natural Resources Defense Council et al. v. Train</u>, 8 E.R.C. 2120 (D.D.C. 1976), modified 12 E.R.C. 1833 (D. D.C. 1979)); also listed in Appendix A of 40 CFR Part 122.

*Privately owned treatment works* means any device or system which is (a) used to treat wastes from any facility whose operation is not the operator of the treatment works or (b) not a "POTW".

*Process wastewater* means any water which, during manufacturing or processing, comes into direct contact with or results from the production or use of any raw material, intermediate product, finished product, byproduct, or waste product.

Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) means any facility or system used in the treatment (including recycling and reclamation) of municipal sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature which is owned by a "State" or "municipality".

This definition includes sewers, pipes, or other conveyances only if they convey wastewater to a POTW providing treatment.

Regional Administrator means the Regional Administrator, EPA, Region I, Boston, Massachusetts.

Secondary Industry Category means any industry which is not a "primary industry category".

Section 313 water priority chemical means a chemical or chemical category which:

- (1) is listed at 40 CFR §372.65 pursuant to Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA) (also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986);
- (2) is present at or above threshold levels at a facility subject to EPCRA Section 313 reporting requirements; and
- (3) satisfies at least one of the following criteria:
  - (i) are listed in Appendix D of 40 CFR Part 122 on either Table II (organic priority pollutants), Table III (certain metals, cyanides, and phenols), or Table V (certain toxic pollutants and hazardous substances);
  - (ii) are listed as a hazardous substance pursuant to Section 311(b)(2)(A) of the CWA at 40 CFR §116.4; or
  - (iii) are pollutants for which EPA has published acute or chronic water quality criteria.

*Septage* means the liquid and solid material pumped from a septic tank, cesspool, or similar domestic sewage treatment system, or a holding tank when the system is cleaned or maintained.

Sewage Sludge means any solid, semisolid, or liquid residue removed during the treatment of municipal wastewater or domestic sewage. Sewage sludge includes, but is not limited to, solids removed during primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment, scum, septage, portable toilet pumpings, Type III Marine Sanitation Device pumpings (33 CFR Part 159), and sewage sludge products. Sewage sludge does not include grit or screenings, or ash generated during the incineration of sewage sludge.

Sewage sludge use or disposal practice means the collection, storage, treatment, transportation, processing, monitoring, use, or disposal of sewage sludge.

Significant materials includes, but is not limited to: raw materials, fuels, materials such as solvents, detergents, and plastic pellets, raw materials used in food processing or production, hazardous substance designated under section 101(14) of CERCLA, any chemical the facility is required to report pursuant to EPCRA Section 313, fertilizers, pesticides, and waste products such as ashes, slag, and sludge that have the potential to be released with storm water discharges.

Significant spills includes, but is not limited to, releases of oil or hazardous substances in excess of reportable quantities under Section 311 of the CWA (see 40 CFR §110.10 and §117.21) or Section 102 of CERCLA (see 40 CFR § 302.4).

Sludge-only facility means any "treatment works treating domestic sewage" whose methods of sewage sludge use or disposal are subject to regulations promulgated pursuant to Section 405(d) of the CWA, and is required to obtain a permit under 40 CFR §122.1(b)(3).

*State* means any of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Storm Water means storm water runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage.

Storm water discharge associated with industrial activity means the discharge from any conveyance which is used for collecting and conveying storm water and which is directly related to manufacturing, processing, or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant. (See 40 CFR §122.26 (b)(14) for specifics of this definition.

*Time-weighted composite* means a composite sample consisting of a mixture of equal volume aliquots collected at a constant time interval.

*Toxic pollutants* means any pollutant listed as toxic under Section 307 (a)(1) or, in the case of "sludge use or disposal practices" any pollutant identified in regulations implementing Section 405(d) of the CWA.

Treatment works treating domestic sewage means a POTW or any other sewage sludge or wastewater treatment devices or systems, regardless of ownership (including federal facilities), used in the storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of municipal or domestic sewage, including land dedicated for the disposal of sewage sludge. This definition does not include septic tanks or similar devices.

For purposes of this definition, "domestic sewage" includes waste and wastewater from humans or household operations that are discharged to or otherwise enter a treatment works. In States where there is no approved State sludge management program under Section 405(f) of the CWA, the Regional Administrator may designate any person subject to the standards for sewage sludge use and disposal in 40 CFR Part 503 as a "treatment works treating domestic sewage", where he or she finds that there is a potential for adverse effects on public health and the environment from poor sludge quality or poor sludge handling, use or disposal practices, or where he or she finds that such designation is necessary to ensure that such person is in compliance with 40 CFR Part 503.

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Waste Pile means any non-containerized accumulation of solid, non-flowing waste that is used for treatment or storage.

Waters of the United States means:

- (a) All waters which are currently used, were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of tide:
- (b) All interstate waters, including interstate "wetlands";
- (c) All other waters such as intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, "wetlands", sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds the use, degradation, or destruction of which would affect or could affect interstate or foreign commerce including any such waters:
  - (1) Which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purpose;
  - (2) From which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce; or
  - (3) Which are used or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce:
- (d) All impoundments of waters otherwise defined as waters of the United States under this definition:
- (e) Tributaries of waters identified in Paragraphs (a) through (d) of this definition;
- (f) The territorial sea; and
- (g) "Wetlands" adjacent to waters (other than waters that are themselves wetlands) identified in Paragraphs (a) through (f) of this definition.

Waste treatment systems, including treatment ponds or lagoons designed to meet the requirements of the CWA (other than cooling ponds as defined in 40 CFR §423.11(m) which also meet the criteria of this definition) are not waters of the United States.

Wetlands means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) means the aggregate toxic effect of an effluent measured directly by a toxicity test. (See Abbreviations Section, following, for additional information.)

2. <u>Definitions for NPDES Permit Sludge Use and Disposal Requirements.</u>

Active sewage sludge unit is a sewage sludge unit that has not closed.

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Aerobic Digestion is the biochemical decomposition of organic matter in sewage sludge into carbon dioxide and water by microorganisms in the presence of air.

Agricultural Land is land on which a food crop, a feed crop, or a fiber crop is grown. This includes range land and land used as pasture.

Agronomic rate is the whole sludge application rate (dry weight basis) designed:

- (1) To provide the amount of nitrogen needed by the food crop, feed crop, fiber crop, cover crop, or vegetation grown on the land; and
- (2) To minimize the amount of nitrogen in the sewage sludge that passes below the root zone of the crop or vegetation grown on the land to the ground water.

Air pollution control device is one or more processes used to treat the exit gas from a sewage sludge incinerator stack.

Anaerobic digestion is the biochemical decomposition of organic matter in sewage sludge into methane gas and carbon dioxide by microorganisms in the absence of air.

Annual pollutant loading rate is the maximum amount of a pollutant that can be applied to a unit area of land during a 365 day period.

Annual whole sludge application rate is the maximum amount of sewage sludge (dry weight basis) that can be applied to a unit area of land during a 365 day period.

Apply sewage sludge or sewage sludge applied to the land means land application of sewage sludge.

Aquifer is a geologic formation, group of geologic formations, or a portion of a geologic formation capable of yielding ground water to wells or springs.

Auxiliary fuel is fuel used to augment the fuel value of sewage sludge. This includes, but is not limited to, natural gas, fuel oil, coal, gas generated during anaerobic digestion of sewage sludge, and municipal solid waste (not to exceed 30 percent of the dry weight of the sewage sludge and auxiliary fuel together). Hazardous wastes are not auxiliary fuel.

*Base flood* is a flood that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year (i.e. a flood with a magnitude equaled once in 100 years).

Bulk sewage sludge is sewage sludge that is not sold or given away in a bag or other container for application to the land.

Contaminate an aquifer means to introduce a substance that causes the maximum contaminant level for nitrate in 40 CFR §141.11 to be exceeded in ground water or that causes the existing concentration of nitrate in the ground water to increase when the existing concentration of nitrate in the ground water exceeds the maximum contaminant level for nitrate in 40 CFR §141.11.

Class I sludge management facility is any publicly owned treatment works (POTW), as defined in 40 CFR §501.2, required to have an approved pretreatment program under 40 CFR §403.8 (a) (including any POTW located in a state that has elected to assume local program responsibilities pursuant to 40 CFR §403.10 (e) and any treatment works treating domestic sewage, as defined in 40 CFR § 122.2,

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classified as a Class I sludge management facility by the EPA Regional Administrator, or, in the case of approved state programs, the Regional Administrator in conjunction with the State Director, because of the potential for sewage sludge use or disposal practice to affect public health and the environment adversely.

Control efficiency is the mass of a pollutant in the sewage sludge fed to an incinerator minus the mass of that pollutant in the exit gas from the incinerator stack divided by the mass of the pollutant in the sewage sludge fed to the incinerator.

Cover is soil or other material used to cover sewage sludge placed on an active sewage sludge unit.

Cover crop is a small grain crop, such as oats, wheat, or barley, not grown for harvest.

Cumulative pollutant loading rate is the maximum amount of inorganic pollutant that can be applied to an area of land.

*Density of microorganisms* is the number of microorganisms per unit mass of total solids (dry weight) in the sewage sludge.

*Dispersion factor* is the ratio of the increase in the ground level ambient air concentration for a pollutant at or beyond the property line of the site where the sewage sludge incinerator is located to the mass emission rate for the pollutant from the incinerator stack.

Displacement is the relative movement of any two sides of a fault measured in any direction.

*Domestic septage* is either liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, portable toilet, Type III marine sanitation device, or similar treatment works that receives only domestic sewage. Domestic septage does not include liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, or similar treatment works that receives either commercial wastewater or industrial wastewater and does not include grease removed from a grease trap at a restaurant.

*Domestic sewage* is waste and wastewater from humans or household operations that is discharged to or otherwise enters a treatment works.

Dry weight basis means calculated on the basis of having been dried at 105 degrees Celsius (°C) until reaching a constant mass (i.e. essentially 100 percent solids content).

*Fault* is a fracture or zone of fractures in any materials along which strata on one side are displaced with respect to the strata on the other side.

*Feed crops* are crops produced primarily for consumption by animals.

Fiber crops are crops such as flax and cotton.

Final cover is the last layer of soil or other material placed on a sewage sludge unit at closure.

Fluidized bed incinerator is an enclosed device in which organic matter and inorganic matter in sewage sludge are combusted in a bed of particles suspended in the combustion chamber gas.

*Food crops* are crops consumed by humans. These include, but are not limited to, fruits, vegetables, and tobacco.

*Forest* is a tract of land thick with trees and underbrush.

Ground water is water below the land surface in the saturated zone.

*Holocene time* is the most recent epoch of the Quaternary period, extending from the end of the Pleistocene epoch to the present.

*Hourly average* is the arithmetic mean of all the measurements taken during an hour. At least two measurements must be taken during the hour.

*Incineration* is the combustion of organic matter and inorganic matter in sewage sludge by high temperatures in an enclosed device.

*Industrial wastewater* is wastewater generated in a commercial or industrial process.

Land application is the spraying or spreading of sewage sludge onto the land surface; the injection of sewage sludge below the land surface; or the incorporation of sewage sludge into the soil so that the sewage sludge can either condition the soil or fertilize crops or vegetation grown in the soil.

Land with a high potential for public exposure is land that the public uses frequently. This includes, but is not limited to, a public contact site and reclamation site located in a populated area (e.g., a construction site located in a city).

Land with low potential for public exposure is land that the public uses infrequently. This includes, but is not limited to, agricultural land, forest and a reclamation site located in an unpopulated area (e.g., a strip mine located in a rural area).

Leachate collection system is a system or device installed immediately above a liner that is designed, constructed, maintained, and operated to collect and remove leachate from a sewage sludge unit.

*Liner* is soil or synthetic material that has a hydraulic conductivity of 1 x 10<sup>-7</sup> centimeters per second or less.

Lower explosive limit for methane gas is the lowest percentage of methane gas in air, by volume, that propagates a flame at 25 degrees Celsius and atmospheric pressure.

*Monthly average (Incineration)* is the arithmetic mean of the hourly averages for the hours a sewage sludge incinerator operates during the month.

*Monthly average (Land Application)* is the arithmetic mean of all measurements taken during the month.

Municipality means a city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (including an intermunicipal agency of two or more of the foregoing entities) created by or under State law; an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization having jurisdiction over sewage sludge management; or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA, as amended. The definition includes a special district created under state law, such as a water district, sewer district, sanitary district, utility district, drainage district, or similar entity, or an integrated waste management facility as defined in section 201 (e) of the CWA, as amended, that has as one of its principal responsibilities the treatment, transport, use or disposal of sewage sludge.

*Other container* is either an open or closed receptacle. This includes, but is not limited to, a bucket, a box, a carton, and a vehicle or trailer with a load capacity of one metric ton or less.

*Pasture* is land on which animals feed directly on feed crops such as legumes, grasses, grain stubble, or stover.

*Pathogenic organisms* are disease-causing organisms. These include, but are not limited to, certain bacteria, protozoa, viruses, and viable helminth ova.

Permitting authority is either EPA or a State with an EPA-approved sludge management program.

*Person* is an individual, association, partnership, corporation, municipality, State or Federal Agency, or an agent or employee thereof.

*Person who prepares sewage sludge* is either the person who generates sewage sludge during the treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment works or the person who derives a material from sewage sludge.

*pH* means the logarithm of the reciprocal of the hydrogen ion concentration; a measure of the acidity or alkalinity of a liquid or solid material.

Place sewage sludge or sewage sludge placed means disposal of sewage sludge on a surface disposal site.

Pollutant (as defined in sludge disposal requirements) is an organic substance, an inorganic substance, a combination or organic and inorganic substances, or pathogenic organism that, after discharge and upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation, or assimilation into an organism either directly from the environment or indirectly by ingestion through the food chain, could on the basis on information available to the Administrator of EPA, cause death, disease, behavioral abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutations, physiological malfunctions (including malfunction in reproduction) or physical deformations in either organisms or offspring of the organisms.

Pollutant limit (for sludge disposal requirements) is a numerical value that describes the amount of a pollutant allowed per unit amount of sewage sludge (e.g., milligrams per kilogram of total solids); the amount of pollutant that can be applied to a unit of land (e.g., kilograms per hectare); or the volume of the material that can be applied to the land (e.g., gallons per acre).

*Public contact site* is a land with a high potential for contact by the public. This includes, but is not limited to, public parks, ball fields, cemeteries, plant nurseries, turf farms, and golf courses.

Qualified ground water scientist is an individual with a baccalaureate or post-graduate degree in the natural sciences or engineering who has sufficient training and experience in ground water hydrology and related fields, as may be demonstrated by State registration, professional certification, or completion of accredited university programs, to make sound professional judgments regarding ground water monitoring, pollutant fate and transport, and corrective action.

Range land is open land with indigenous vegetation.

*Reclamation site* is drastically disturbed land that is reclaimed using sewage sludge. This includes, but is not limited to, strip mines and construction sites.

*Risk specific concentration* is the allowable increase in the average daily ground level ambient air concentration for a pollutant from the incineration of sewage sludge at or beyond the property line of a site where the sewage sludge incinerator is located.

*Runoff* is rainwater, leachate, or other liquid that drains overland on any part of a land surface and runs off the land surface.

*Seismic impact zone* is an area that has 10 percent or greater probability that the horizontal ground level acceleration to the rock in the area exceeds 0.10 gravity once in 250 years.

Sewage sludge is a solid, semi-solid, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment works. Sewage sludge includes, but is not limited to:, domestic septage; scum or solids removed in primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment processes; and a material derived from sewage sludge. Sewage sludge does not include ash generated during the firing of sewage sludge in a sewage sludge incinerator or grit and screening generated during preliminary treatment of domestic sewage in treatment works.

Sewage sludge feed rate is either the average daily amount of sewage sludge fired in all sewage sludge incinerators within the property line of the site where the sewage sludge incinerators are located for the number of days in a 365 day period that each sewage sludge incinerator operates, or the average daily design capacity for all sewage sludge incinerators within the property line of the site where the sewage sludge incinerators are located.

Sewage sludge incinerator is an enclosed device in which only sewage sludge and auxiliary fuel are fired.

Sewage sludge unit is land on which only sewage sludge is placed for final disposal. This does not include land on which sewage sludge is either stored or treated. Land does not include waters of the United States, as defined in 40 CFR §122.2.

Sewage sludge unit boundary is the outermost perimeter of an active sewage sludge unit.

Specific oxygen uptake rate (SOUR) is the mass of oxygen consumed per unit time per unit mass of total solids (dry weight basis) in sewage sludge.

Stack height is the difference between the elevation of the top of a sewage sludge incinerator stack and the elevation of the ground at the base of the stack when the difference is equal to or less than 65 meters. When the difference is greater than 65 meters, stack height is the creditable stack height determined in accordance with 40 CFR §51.100 (ii).

State is one of the United States of America, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and an Indian tribe eligible for treatment as a State pursuant to regulations promulgated under the authority of section 518(e) of the CWA.

Store or storage of sewage sludge is the placement of sewage sludge on land on which the sewage sludge remains for two years or less. This does not include the placement of sewage sludge on land for treatment.

Surface disposal site is an area of land that contains one or more active sewage sludge units.

*Total hydrocarbons* means the organic compounds in the exit gas from a sewage sludge incinerator stack measured using a flame ionization detection instrument referenced to propane.

*Total solids* are the materials in sewage sludge that remain as residue when the sewage sludge is dried at 103 to 105 degrees Celsius.

*Treat or treatment of sewage sludge* is the preparation of sewage sludge for final use or disposal. This includes, but is not limited to, thickening, stabilization, and dewatering of sewage sludge. This does not include storage of sewage sludge.

*Treatment works* is either a federally owned, publicly owned, or privately owned device or system used to treat (including recycle and reclaim) either domestic sewage or a combination of domestic sewage and industrial waste of a liquid nature.

*Unstable area* is land subject to natural or human-induced forces that may damage the structural components of an active sewage sludge unit. This includes, but is not limited to, land on which the soils are subject to mass movement.

*Unstabilized solids* are organic materials in sewage sludge that have not been treated in either an aerobic or anaerobic treatment process.

*Vector attraction* is the characteristic of sewage sludge that attracts rodents, flies, mosquitoes, or other organisms capable of transporting infectious agents.

*Volatile solids* is the amount of the total solids in sewage sludge lost when the sewage sludge is combusted at 550 degrees Celsius in the presence of excess air.

Wet electrostatic precipitator is an air pollution control device that uses both electrical forces and water to remove pollutants in the exit gas from a sewage sludge incinerator stack.

Wet scrubber is an air pollution control device that uses water to remove pollutants in the exit gas from a sewage sludge incinerator stack.

#### 3. Commonly Used Abbreviations

BOD Five-day biochemical oxygen demand unless otherwise specified

CBOD Carbonaceous BOD

CFS Cubic feet per second

COD Chemical oxygen demand

Chlorine

Cl<sub>2</sub> Total residual chlorine

TRC Total residual chlorine which is a combination of free available chlorine

(FAC, see below) and combined chlorine (chloramines, etc.)

(January, 2007)

TRO Total residual chlorine in marine waters where halogen compounds are

present

FAC Free available chlorine (aqueous molecular chlorine, hypochlorous acid,

and hypochlorite ion)

Coliform

Coliform, Fecal Total fecal coliform bacteria

Coliform, Total Total coliform bacteria

Cont. (Continuous) Continuous recording of the parameter being monitored, i.e.

flow, temperature, pH, etc.

Cu. M/day or M<sup>3</sup>/day Cubic meters per day

DO Dissolved oxygen

kg/day Kilograms per day

lbs/day Pounds per day

mg/l Milligram(s) per liter

ml/l Milliliters per liter

MGD Million gallons per day

Nitrogen

Total N Total nitrogen

NH<sub>3</sub>-N Ammonia nitrogen as nitrogen

NO<sub>3</sub>-N Nitrate as nitrogen

NO<sub>2</sub>-N Nitrite as nitrogen

NO<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>2</sub> Combined nitrate and nitrite nitrogen as nitrogen

TKN Total Kjeldahl nitrogen as nitrogen

Oil & Grease Freon extractable material

PCB Polychlorinated biphenyl

pH A measure of the hydrogen ion concentration. A measure of the

acidity or alkalinity of a liquid or material

Surface-active agent

•

Temp. °C Temperature in degrees Centigrade

Temp. °F Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit

TOC Total organic carbon

Total P Total phosphorus

TSS or NFR Total suspended solids or total nonfilterable residue

Turb. or Turbidity Turbidity measured by the Nephelometric Method (NTU)

ug/l Microgram(s) per liter

WET "Whole effluent toxicity" is the total effect of an effluent

measured directly with a toxicity test.

C-NOEC "Chronic (Long-term Exposure Test) – No Observed Effect

Concentration". The highest tested concentration of an effluent or a toxicant at which no adverse effects are observed on the aquatic test

organisms at a specified time of observation.

A-NOEC "Acute (Short-term Exposure Test) – No Observed Effect Concentration"

(see C-NOEC definition).

 $LC_{50}$  LC<sub>50</sub> is the concentration of a sample that causes mortality of 50% of the

test population at a specific time of observation. The  $LC_{50} = 100\%$  is

defined as a sample of undiluted effluent.

ZID Zone of Initial Dilution means the region of initial mixing

surrounding or adjacent to the end of the outfall pipe or diffuser

ports.

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEW ENGLAND - REGION I 5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, SUITE 100 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109-3912

#### **FACT SHEET**

DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT TO DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES PURSUANT TO THE CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA)

NPDES PERMIT NUMBER: MA0090433

PUBLIC NOTICE START AND END DATES: October 18, 2017 – November 16, 2017

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Coast Guard
427 Commercial Street
Boston, MA 02109

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Light Station Boston U.S. Coast Guard Little Brewster Island Hull, MA 02045

RECEIVING WATER(S): Massachusetts Bay (Boston Harbor, MA70)

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION(S): Class SA

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### I. Proposed Action, Type of Facility, and Discharge Location

The above named applicant has requested that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection ("MassDEP") reissue its NPDES permit to discharge into the designated receiving water, Boston Harbor. The U.S. Coast Guard Light Station Boston Wastewater Treatment Plant ("Light Station Boston WWTP" or the "WWTP") is a secondary wastewater treatment plant engaged in the collection and treatment of domestic wastewater. It is located on Little Brewster Island. The site location map of the facility is included as Attachment A of the Fact Sheet while Attachment B depicts a map of Little Brewster Island including the facility and the discharge location.

The existing NPDES permit was issued on September 20, 2007, becoming effective on the same day, and expired on August 31, 2012. As of August 28, 2012, the expired permit (hereinafter referred to as the "current permit") was administratively continued because the applicant filed a complete and timely application for permit reissuance as required by 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 122.6.

#### II. Description of Facility and Discharge

The facility is a single family dwelling used by the lighthouse keeper of Light Station Boston on Little Brewster Island. Other U.S. Coast Guard staff may be on-island to perform maintenance tasks. In addition, a public bathroom adhering to Americans with Disabilities Act standards has been installed on the island but is rarely used. The manning of the lighthouse is seasonal and discharge to the WWTP occurs from April through September. The island is not served by a conventional water supply. A cistern that collects rainwater from the lighthouse and the dwelling is used as a water supply source for bathing and for watering of landscaping. Water for consumption and cooking is brought over from the mainland via boat.

The treatment plant is a 500-gallon per day extended aeration plant that was purchased and installed in 2013 to replace the prior similar unit. It is located near the house on the rocky shore of Little Brewster Island. The treatment consists of aerobic digestion, activated sludge, an upflow filter and a chlorine contact chamber for disinfection. Chlorination is handled through the manual addition of chlorine tablets. The discharge pipe is not submerged during ordinary high or low tides. Treated effluent discharges directly onto the rocky shoreline. There is minimal sporadic discharge from the facility.

#### **III. Receiving Water Description**

The Light Station Boston WWTP discharges to Outer Boston Harbor in Massachusetts Bay in an area not included within a specific boundary as defined by the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards ("MA SWQS"), 314 Code of Massachusetts Regulations ("CMR") 314 CMR 4.00. The water into which it discharges is classified as other water in accordance with 31 CMR 4.06(4) and coastal and marine other waters are classified as SA. MassDEP's "Boston Harbor 2004-2008 Water Quality Assessment Report" incorrectly identifies this discharge as being within Segment 70-01of Boston Harbor: the discharge is located just outside the segment boundary. The "Draft Pathogen TMDL for the Boston Harbor Watershed (excluding the Neponset River sub-basin)" corrects this prior error and removes this discharge from inclusion in Segment 70-01.

314 CMR 4.05(3)(b) state that Class SA waters are designated as habitat for fish, other aquatic life and wildlife, including for their reproduction, migration, growth and other critical functions, and for primary and secondary contact recreation. In certain waters, habitat for fish, other aquatic life and wildlife may include, but is not limited to seagrass. Currently shellfish harvesting is prohibited in the area of this discharge. The waters should have consistently good aesthetic value.

Sections 305(b) and 303(d) of the CWA require that states complete a water quality inventory and develop a list of impaired waters. Specifically, Section 303(d) of the CWA requires states to identify those water bodies that are not expected to meet surface water quality standards after the implementation of technology-based controls, and as such, require the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load ("TMDL") for each pollutant that is prohibiting a designated use(s) from being attained. The results of the 305(b) assessments are used in the development of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts's 303(d) lists, which are published every two years and identify the water bodies that are not meeting (or are not expected to meet) water quality standards, identify the designated use(s) that is impaired and also the pollutant(s) causing the impairment(s). The discharge is located within an area that has not been assessed.

#### IV. Limitations and Conditions

The effluent limitations and monitoring requirements described in Part VII of this Fact Sheet may be found in the draft NPDES permit.

# V. Permit Basis: Statutory and Regulatory Authority

Congress enacted the Clean Water Act ("CWA" or the "Act") "to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters." See CWA § 101(a). To achieve this objective, the CWA makes it unlawful for any person to discharge any pollutant into the waters of the United States from any point source, except as authorized by specified permitting sections of the CWA, one of which is Section 402. See CWA §§ 301(a), 402(a).

Section 402(a) establishes the CWA's principal permitting program, the National Pollutant Elimination System ("NPDES"). Under this section of the CWA, EPA may "issue a permit for the discharge of any pollutant, or combination of pollutants" in accordance with certain conditions. See CWA § 402(a). NPDES permits generally contain discharge limitations and establish related monitoring and reporting requirements. See CWA § 402(a)(1)-(2).

Section 301 of the CWA provides for two types of effluent limitations to be included in NPDES permits: "technology-based" limitations and "water quality-based" limitations. See §§ 301, 304(b); 40 CFR §§ 122, 125, 131. Technology-based treatment requirements represent the minimum level of control that must be imposed under Sections 402 and 301(b) of the Clean Water Act. For wastewater treatment plants ("WWTPs"), technology-based requirements are effluent limits based on secondary treatment as defined in 40 CFR § 133.102.

EPA regulations require NPDES permits to contain effluent limits more stringent than technologybased limits where necessary to maintain or achieve federal or state water quality standards. Under Section 301(b)(1)(C) of the CWA, discharges are subject to effluent limitations based on water quality standards. Under 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(i), effluent limits must be included for all pollutants or pollutant parameters that "are or may be discharged at a level that causes, has reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an excursion above" water quality standards. For Massachusetts those water quality standards are set forth in the MA SWQS, 314 CMR 4.00. The MA SWQS include both numeric and narrative criteria and establish requirements for the regulation and control of toxic constituents, incorporating by reference EPA recommended criteria (National Recommended Water Quality Criteria 2002), which are used unless site specific criteria are established. Massachusetts regulations similarly require that permits contain limitations that are adequate to assure the attainment and maintenance of the water quality standards of the receiving waters as assigned in the MA SWQS. See 314 CMR 3.11(3). EPA is required to obtain certification from the state in which the discharge is located that all water quality standards or other applicable requirements of state law, in accordance with Section 301(b)(1)(C) of the CWA, are satisfied, unless it is deemed that the state certification is waived. Section 401(a)(2) of the CWA and 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(4) require EPA to condition NPDES permits in a manner that will ensure compliance with the applicable water quality standards of a "downstream affected state."

In addition, a permit may not be renewed, reissued or modified with less stringent limitations or conditions than those contained in the previous permit unless in compliance with the anti-backsliding

requirements of CWA Section 402(o) and 40 CFR § 122.44(l). States are also required to develop antidegradation policies pursuant to 40 CFR § 131.12. No lowering of water quality is allowed, except in accordance with the antidegradation policy.

## VI. Derivation of Permit Limits

#### 1. Effluent Flow

Sewage treatment plant discharge is encompassed within the definition of "pollutant" and is subject to regulation under the CWA. The CWA defines "pollutant" to mean, inter alia, "sewage…discharged into water." 33 U.S.C. § 1362(6).

EPA may use design flow of effluent to both determine the necessity for effluent limitations in the permit that comply with the Act, and to calculate the limits themselves. EPA practice is to use design flow as a reasonable and important worst-case condition in EPA's reasonable potential and water quality-based effluent limitation ("WQBEL") calculations to ensure compliance with water quality standards under Section 301(b)(1)(C). Should the effluent discharge flow exceed the flow assumed in these calculations, the instream dilution would decrease and the calculated effluent limits would not be protective of WQS. Further, pollutants that did not have the reasonable potential to exceed WQS at the lower discharge flow may have reasonable potential at a higher flow due to the decreased dilution. In order to ensure that the assumptions underlying EPA's reasonable potential analyses and derivation of permit effluent limitations remain sound for the duration of the permit, EPA may ensure its "worst-case" effluent wastewater flow assumption through imposition of permit conditions for effluent flow. Thus, the effluent flow limit is a component of WQBELs because the WQBELs are premised on a maximum level of flow. In addition, the flow limit is necessary to ensure that other pollutants remain at levels that do not have a reasonable potential to exceed WQS.

Using a facility's design flow in the derivation of pollutant effluent limitations, including conditions to limit wastewater effluent flow, is fully consistent with, and anticipated by NPDES permit regulations. Regarding the calculation of effluent limitations for WWTPs, 40 CFR § 122.45(b)(1) provides, "permit effluent limitations...shall be calculated based on design flow." WWTF permit applications are required to include the design flow of the treatment facility. *Id.* § 122.21(j)(1)(vi).

Similarly, EPA's reasonable potential regulations require EPA to consider "where appropriate, the dilution of the effluent in the receiving water," 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(ii), which is a function of *both* the wastewater effluent flow and receiving water flow. EPA guidance directs that this "reasonable potential" analysis be based on "worst-case" conditions. EPA accordingly is authorized to carry out its reasonable potential calculations by presuming that a plant is operating at its design flow when assessing reasonable potential.

The limitation on sewage effluent flow is within EPA's authority to condition a permit in order to carry out the objectives of the Act. *See* CWA §§ 402(a)(2) and 301(b)(1)(C); 40 CFR §§ 122.4(a) and (d), 122.43, and 122.44(d). A condition on the discharge designed to protect EPA's WQBEL and reasonable potential calculations is encompassed by the references to "condition" and "limitations" in CWA Section 402 and 301 and implementing regulations, as they are designed to assure compliance with applicable water quality regulations, including antidegradation. Regulating the quantity of pollutants in the discharge through a restriction on the quantity of wastewater effluent is consistent

with the overall structure and purposes of the CWA.

In addition, as provided in Part II.B.1 and 40 CFR § 122.41(e), the permittee is required to properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control. Operating the facilities wastewater treatment systems as designed includes operating within the facility's design effluent flow. Thus, the permit's effluent flow limitation is necessary to ensure proper facility operation, which in turn is a requirement applicable to all NPDES permits. *See* 40 CFR § 122.41.

The current permit contains a monthly average flow limit of 500 gallons per day ("gpd"), equal to the design flow of the WWTP. Given the seasonal occupancy and operation of this facility, the draft permit limits the discharge to 500 gpd, expressed as a 6-month rolling average. The value will be calculated as the arithmetic mean of the monthly average flow for the reporting month and the monthly average flows of the previous five permitted months of discharge. Also, if there is any discharge, it is required to be recorded each day.

# 2. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS)

The draft permit includes a monthly average limit of 30 mg/l for BOD<sub>5</sub> and TSS and a weekly average limit of 45 mg/l for BOD<sub>5</sub> and TSS. These technology-based limits are the same as in the current permit and are the minimum level of effluent quality attainable under secondary treatment consistent with 40 CFR § 133.102(a) and (b). The weekly average limitation has been retained. The sampling frequency has been changed from weekly to monthly given the expected consistency of the pollutant levels in waste water from this single residence. If only one sample is taken monthly, the reported values for the monthly average and the weekly average will be the same. If, however, more than one sample is taken within a month, these values may not be the same value. The draft permit also contains percent removal requirements of 85% in accordance with the secondary treatment requirements at 40 CFR § 133.102(a)(3) and (b)(3).

# 3. pH

The MA SWQS for Class SA waters at 314 CMR 4.05(3)(b)(3) require a pH in the range of 6.5 to 8.5 standard units (s.u.). The current pH range has been carried forward in the draft permit.

### 4. Bacteria

#### Fecal Coliform Bacteria

The fecal coliform bacteria limits in the current, administratively continued permit have been continued in the draft permit although shellfishing is specifically prohibited in the area of the discharge. These limits are a geometric mean 14 colony forming units ("cfu")/100 milliliters ("ml") and 28 cfu/10 ml for the maximum daily limit. Colony forming units or most probable number ("MPN") are determined by the method of analysis used for bacteria sampling. Both units are acceptable. The frequency of sampling has been reduced to monthly when the discharge is active.

## Enterococci Bacteria

In accordance with MA SWOS at 314 CMR 4.05(4)(a)4.b. in nonbathing beach Class SA waters, no

single enterococci sample shall exceed 104 cfu/100 ml and the geometric mean of all samples taken within the most recent six months shall not exceed 35 cfu/100 ml.

## 5. Total Residual Chlorine

In order to determine if a discharge at the currently permitted levels of 1.0 mg/l TRC would cause or contribute to surface water quality violations, the dilution available in Boston Harbor was assessed. Modeling was conducted on the tidal exchange experienced in Boston Harbor by Signell and Butman (1992)  $^{2}$ . The authors used a box model, which is a hydrodynamic model to describe flushing dynamics between Massachusetts Bay and the main harbor. As described in Kelly (1998)3, this modeling showed that the volume of water exchanged during tidal mixing represented an annual average of 3,500 to 4,300 m3/sec. The lower figure is equivalent to about 123,500 cfs or 79,840 MGD. Making a conservative assumption that the area in the immediate proximity of Light Station Boston's discharge (where the effluent mixes with the tidal exchange) receives only 1% of this tidal exchange, or about 800 MGD, then the Light Station Boston's 6-month rolling average of 500 gpd or 0.0005 MGD, would be diluted about 1.6 million (800/0.0005) times. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that the saltwater TRC criteria of 13 µg/l (acute) and 7.5 µg/l (chronic) will be met based on the dilution available and a maximum discharge concentration of 1.0 mg/l TRC. Therefore, the permit limit for TRC has been maintained at 1.0 mg/l, as a monthly average.

# 6. Dissolved Oxygen ("DO")

The draft permit continues a limit for DO based upon MA SWQS at 314 CMR 4.05(4)(a)1. A minimum concentration of DO is needed to maintain fish and other aquatic life. Since the facility discharges to Class SA Waters, as classified by the MA SWQS, it shall have DO levels not less than 6.0 mg/l. Sampling shall be performed on a monthly basis.

## VII. Operation and Maintenance

The permit standard conditions for "Proper Operation and Maintenance," set forth in 40 CFR § 122.41(e), require proper operation and maintenance of permitted wastewater systems and related facilities to achieve permit conditions. Similarly, the permittee has a "duty to mitigate" as stated in 40 CFR § 122.41(d), which requires that "all reasonable steps be taken to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of the permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment." EPA and MassDEP maintain that an infiltration/inflow (I/I) removal program is an integral component to ensuring compliance with the requirements of the permit under the provisions at 40 CFR § 122.41(d) and (e). However, given the fact that the collection system is minimal, no infiltration/inflow removal program will be required for this facility.

# VIII. Antidegradation

This draft permit is being reissued with an allowable waste-load identical to the current permit and there has been no change in outfall location. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has indicated that there will be no lowering of water quality and no loss of existing water uses and that no additional anti-degradation review is warranted.

#### IX. Essential Fish Habitat

Under the 1996 Amendments (PL 104-267) to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. § 1801 et seq. (1998)), EPA is required to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Services ("NMFS") if EPA's action or proposed actions that it funds, permits, or undertakes, may adversely impact any essential fish habitat ("EFH") as: waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity [16 U.S.C. § 1802 (10)]. Adversely impact means any impact that reduces the quality and/or quantity of EFH (50 C.F.R. § 600.910 (a)). Adverse effects may include direct (e.g., contamination or physical disruption), indirect (e.g., loss of prey, reduction in species' fecundity), site-specific or habitat-wide impacts, including individual, cumulative, or synergistic consequences of actions.

Essential fish habitat is only designated for species for which federal fisheries management plans exist [16 U.S.C. § 1855(b)(1)(A)]. EFH designations for New England were approved by the U.S. Department of Commerce on March 3, 1999.

The U.S. Coast Guard Light Station Boston discharges into Massachusetts Bay which is designated by NMFS as EFH for the following species and applicable life stages:

Species	Eggs	Larvae	Juveniles	Adults
American plaice (Hippoglossoidus platessoides)	✓	✓	<b>√</b>	✓
haddock (Melanogrammus aeglefinus)	✓	✓		
ocean pout (Microzoarces americanus)	✓	✓	✓	✓
pollock (Pollachius virens)	✓	✓	✓	✓
yellowtail flounder (Pleuronectes ferruginea)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Atlantic sea scallop (Placopecten magellanicus)	✓	✓	✓	✓
window pane flounder (Scopthalmus aquosus)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Atlantic cod (Gadus morhua)	✓	✓	✓	✓
white hake ( <i>Urophycis tenuis</i> )	✓	✓	✓	✓
winter flounder (Pleuronectes americanus)	✓	✓	✓	✓
red hake (Urophycis chuss)	✓		✓	✓
silver hake/whiting (Merluccius bilinearis)	✓	✓	✓	✓
bluefin tuna (Thunnus thynnus)				✓
white shark (Carcharodon carcharias)			✓	✓
longfin inshore squid ( <i>Ilex ilecebrosus</i> )			✓	✓
Atlantic mackerel (Scomber scombrus)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Atlantic halibut (Hippoglossus hippoglossus)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Atlantic sea herring (Clupea harengus)		✓	✓	✓
Atlantic wolfish (Anarhichas lupus)	✓	✓	✓	✓
spiny dogfish (Squalus acanthias)			✓	✓
little skate (Leucoraja erinacea)			✓	✓
winter skate (Leucoraja ocellata)			✓	
scup (Paralicthys dentatus)			✓	
Atlantic butterfish (Peprilus dentatus)	✓	✓		

black sea bass (Centropristus striata)			✓
Bluefish		✓	✓

EPA has concluded that the limits and conditions in the draft permit minimize adverse effects to the EFH for the following reasons:

- The proposed permitted discharge of treated sanitary sewage is very small and, when active, discharges to the ocean where tidal action results in abundant dilution;
- The discharge must be treated to meet secondary treatment standards; and
- The permit will prohibit violation of the MA SWQS.

EPA believes that the draft permit limits and requirements adequately protect EFH for the managed species and, therefore additional mitigation is not warranted. If adverse effects to EFH are detected as a result of this permit action, or if new information is received that changes the basis for the conclusions drawn herein NMFS will be notified and an EFH consultation will be reinitiated.

# X. Endangered Species Act

Section 7(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) grants authority to and imposes requirements upon Federal agencies regarding endangered or threatened species of fish, wildlife, or plants ("listed species") and habitat of such species that has been designated as critical (a "critical habitat"). The ESA requires every Federal agency, in consultation with and with the assistance of the Secretary of Interior, to insure that any action it authorizes, funds, or carries out, in the United States or upon the high seas, is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) administers Section 7 consultations for freshwater species. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) administers Section 7 consultations for marine species and anadromous fish.

The facility is a single family dwelling used by the lighthouse keeper of Light Station Boston on Little Brewster Island. The manning of the lighthouse is seasonal and discharge to the WWTP occurs from April through September. The treatment plant is a 500-gallon per day extended aeration plant that was purchased and installed in 2013 to replace the prior similar unit. The treatment consists of aerobic digestion, activated sludge, an upflow filter and a chlorine contact chamber for disinfection. Chlorination is handled through the manual addition of chlorine tablets. The discharge pipe is not submerged during ordinary high or low tides. Treated effluent discharges directly onto the rocky shoreline.

EPA has reviewed the federal endangered or threatened species of fish, wildlife, and plants to see if any such listed species might potentially be impacted by the re-issuance of this NPDES permit. Upon review of the current endangered and threatened species in the area, EPA has concluded that the following federally listed threatened and endangered species may be present in Massachusetts Bay in the action area of the discharge: the North Atlantic right whale, finwhale, Atlantic sturgeon, and the Kemp's ridley, loggerhead, green and leatherback sea turtles. In addition, the action area overlaps with North Atlantic right whale critical habitat in the Northeastern U.S. foraging area.

The federally listed threatened and endangered species identified above are potentially present in the action area, however, the minimal, seasonal discharge of treated wastewater to the rocky shoreline of Little Brewster Island are unlikely to affect listed species or critical habitat. Exposure to the discharge prior to full dilution would be extremely unlikely given that the discharge is to the rocky shoreline. In addition, it is EPA's opinion that the operation of this facility, as governed by the reissuance of this permit is not likely to affect the listed species occurring in the vicinity of the receiving waters for the following reasons:

- All effluent limits in the draft permit are as or more stringent than those in the current permit.
- The island is not served by a conventional water supply so that the generation of wastewater is limited and minimal. The discharge of 500 gallons per day is relatively low in volume compared to publicly owned treatment plants. The discharge is seasonal (occurring April 1 through September 30) and serves a single family dwelling and additional visitors to the island. Ocean and tidal currents provide rapid mixing and dilution.
- Protective total residual chlorine (TRC) limits are included in the permit, and this source of
  domestic wastewater is not known to contain pollutants at concentrations which may be toxic
  to aquatic life.
- Secondary treatment standards were used as the basis for effluent limitations on conventional pollutants, biochemical oxygen demand, and total suspended solids. Biochemical oxygen demanding effluent and conventional pollutants discharged within the permitted limits will rapidly dispense, having no effect in the action are in which listed species may be present.
- The permit contains requirements to comply with all Class SA state water quality standards for the protection of aquatic organisms, including endangered species.

EPA finds that any effect from the discharge to listed species or critical habitat is extremely unlikely. EPA is coordinating a review of this finding with NMFS through the Draft Permit and Fact Sheet; however, further consultation under Section 7 of the ESA is not required at this time. If adverse impacts to ESA do occur as a result of this permit action, or if new information becomes available that changes the basis for this determination, then NMFS will be notified and consultation will be promptly initiated. During the public comment period, EPA has provided a copy of the Draft Permit and Fact Sheet to both NMFS and USFWS.

# XI. Monitoring and Reporting

The effluent monitoring requirements have been established to yield data representative of the discharge under authority of Section 308 (a) of the CWA in accordance with 40 CFR §§ 122.41(j), 122.44(l), and 122.48.

The Draft Permit requires the permittee to report monitoring results obtained during each calendar month in the DMRs no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period.

The Draft Permit includes new provisions related to electronic DMR submittals to EPA and the State. The Draft Permit requires that the permittee submit all DMRs to EPA using NetDMR.

NetDMR is a national web-based tool for regulated Clean Water Act permittees to submit DMRs electronically via a secure Internet application to U.S. EPA through the Environmental Information Exchange Network. NetDMR allows participants to discontinue mailing in hard copy forms under 40 CFR § 122.41 and § 403.12. NetDMR is accessed from the following url: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/netdmr">http://www.epa.gov/netdmr</a>. Further information about NetDMR can be found on the EPA Region 1 NetDMR website located at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/netdmr/index.html">http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/netdmr/index.html</a>.

EPA currently conducts free training on the use of NetDMR, and anticipates that the availability of this training will continue to assist permittees with the transition to use of NetDMR. To learn more about upcoming trainings, please visit the NetDMR Support website <a href="https://netdmr.zendesk.com/entries/44942194-Training-Materials">https://netdmr.zendesk.com/entries/44942194-Training-Materials</a>.

In most cases, reports required under the permit shall be submitted to EPA as an electronic attachment through NetDMR. Certain exceptions are provided in the permit such as for providing written notifications required under the Part II Standard Permit Conditions. Once a permittee begins submitting reports to EPA using NetDMR, it will no longer be required to submit hard copies of DMRs or other reports to EPA and will no longer be required to submit hard copies of DMRs to MassDEP. However, permittees must continue to send hard copies of toxicity reports to MassDEP until further notice from MassDEP.

# **XII.** State Certification Requirements

EPA may not issue a permit in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts unless MassDEP certifies that the effluent limitations contained in the permit are stringent enough to assure that the discharge will not cause the receiving water to violate State Water Quality Standards or it is deemed that the state certification is waived. MassDEP has reviewed the Draft Permit and advised EPA that the limitations are adequate to protect water quality. EPA has requested permit certification by the Commonwealth pursuant to 40 CFR § 124.53 and expects that the Final Permit will be certified.

## XIII. Comment Period, Hearing Requests, and Procedures for Final Decisions

All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of the Draft Permit is inappropriate must raise all issues and submit all available arguments and all supporting material for their arguments in full by the close of the public comment period, to the U.S. EPA, Office of Ecosystem Protection, Attn: Glenda Vélez, 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OEP06-1), Boston, Massachusetts 02109-3912 or via email to velez.glenda@epa.gov and to MassDEP, Bureau of Water Resources, Attn: Claire Golden, 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887 or via email to claire.golden@massmail.state.ma.us. Any person, prior to such date, may submit a request in writing for a public hearing to consider the Draft Permit to EPA and MassDEP. Such requests shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. A public meeting may be held if the criteria stated in 40 CFR § 124.12 are satisfied. In reaching a final decision on the Draft Permit, EPA will respond to all significant comments and make these responses available to the public at EPA's Boston office.

Following the close of the comment period, and after any public hearings, if such hearings are held, EPA will issue a Final Permit decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice. Within 30 days following the

notice of the Final Permit decision, any interested person may submit a petition for review of the permit to EPA's Environmental Appeals Board consistent with 40 CFR § 124.19 and/or submit a request for an adjudicatory hearing to MassDEP's Office of Appeals and Dispute Resolution consistent with 310 CMR 1.00.

## XIV. EPA and MassDEP Contacts

Additional information concerning the Draft Permit may be obtained between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays from:

Glenda Vélez U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OEP06-1) Boston, MA 02109-3912 Tel: (617) 918-1677 Fax: (617) 918-0677

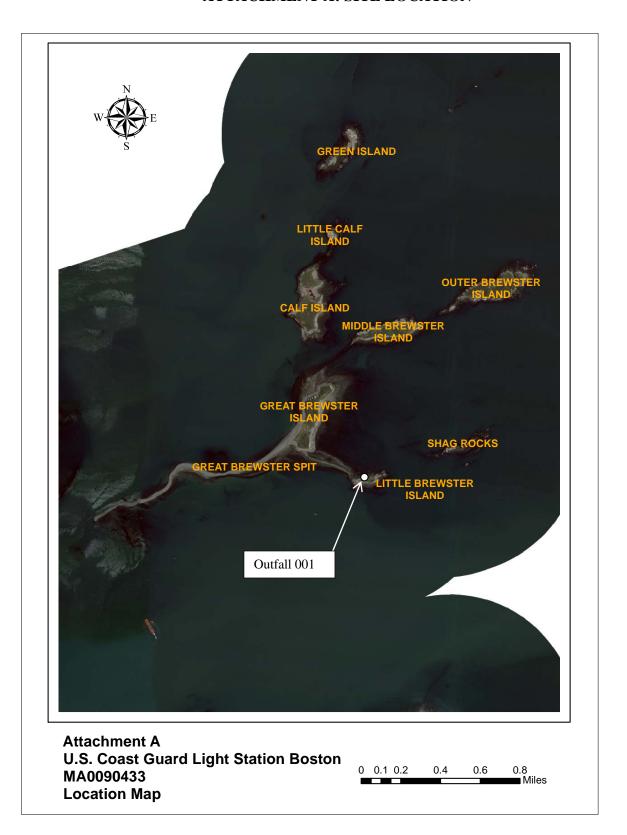
velez.glenda@epa.gov

Claire A. Golden, Environmental Engineer Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Water Resources 205 B Lowell Street Wilmington, MA 01887 Tel: (978) 694-3244 Fax: (978) 694-3498

claire.golden@massmail.state.ma.us

October 12, 2017	
Date:	Lynne Hamjian, Acting Director
	Office of Ecosystem Protection
	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

# ATTACHMENT A: SITE LOCATION



# ATTACHMENT B: FACILITY AND DISCHARGE LOCATION



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS 1 WINTER STREET BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108 UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY – REGION 1 OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION 5 POST OFFICE SQUARE BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE OF A DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT TO DISCHARGE INTO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER SECTIONS 301 AND 402 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT, AS AMENDED, AND SECTIONS 27 AND 43 OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN WATERS ACT, AS AMENDED, AND REQUEST FOR STATE CERTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 401 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT.

PUBLIC NOTICE PERIOD: October 18, 2017 – November 16, 2017

PERMIT NUMBER: MA0090433

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: MA-003-2107

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Sector Commander U.S. Coast Guard 427 Commercial Street Boston, MA 02109

#### NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Light Station Boston U.S. Coast Guard Little Brewster Island Hull, MA 02045

RECEIVING WATER: Massachusetts Bay (Boston Harbor, MA70)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) have cooperated in the development of a draft permit for the USGC Light Station Boston, which is a secondary wastewater treatment plant engaged in the collection and treatment of domestic wastewater. The effluent limits and permit conditions imposed have been drafted to assure compliance with the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. sections 1251 et seq., the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, G.L. c. 21, §§ 26-53, 314 CMR 3.00, and State Surface Water Quality Standards at 314 CMR 4.00. EPA has requested that the State certify this draft permit pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and expects that the draft permit will be certified.

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRAFT PERMIT:

The draft permit and explanatory fact sheet may be obtained at no cost at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/draft\_permits\_listing\_ma.html">http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/draft\_permits\_listing\_ma.html</a> or by contacting:

Glenda Vélez
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OEP06-1)
Boston, MA 02109-3912
Telephone: (617) 918-1677
Velez.Glenda@epa.gov

The administrative record containing all documents relating to this draft permit including all data submitted by the applicant may be inspected at the EPA Boston office mentioned above between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

# PUBLIC COMMENT AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of this draft permit is inappropriate, must raise all issues and submit all available arguments and all supporting material for their arguments in full by **November 16, 2017**, to the address or email address listed above. Any person, prior to such date, may submit a request in writing to EPA and MassDEP for a public hearing to consider this draft permit. Such requests shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. A public hearing may be held after at least thirty days public notice whenever the Regional Administrator finds that response to this notice indicates significant public interest. In reaching a final decision on this draft permit, the Regional Administrator will respond to all significant comments and make the responses available to the public at EPA's Boston office.

# FINAL PERMIT DECISION:

Following the close of the comment period, and after a public hearing, if such hearing is held, the Regional Administrator will issue a final permit decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice.

LYNNE HAMJIAN, ACTING DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BOSTON, MA LEALDON LANGLEY, DIRECTOR
MASSACHUSETTS WETLANDS AND
WASTEWATER PROGRAMS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
BOSTON, MA