STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
17 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017

DEPARTMENT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

NEW SHARON WATER DISTRICT	)	MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
NEW SHARON, FRANKLIN CTY., MAINE	)	ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
DRINKING WATER TREATMENT PLANT	)	AND
#ME0023671	)	WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE
#W007693-5S-F-R **APPROVAL**	)	**RENEWAL**

In compliance with the applicable provisions of *Pollution Control*, 38 M.R.S. §§ 411 – 424-C, *Water Classification Program*, 38 M.R.S. § 464 – 470 and *Federal Water Pollution Control Act*, Title 33 U.S.C. § 1251, *et seq.*, and applicable rules of the Department of Environmental Protection ("Department"), the Department has considered the application of the NEW SHARON WATER DISTRICT ("District" / "permittee"), with its supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

APPLICATION SUMMARY

On May 27, 2024, the Department accepted, as complete for processing, an application from the District for the renewal of Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) permit #ME0023671/ Waste Discharge License (WDL) W007693-5S-E-R, which was issued on October 8, 2019, for a five-year term and authorized the District to discharge a monthly average of 0.006 million gallons per day (MGD) of filter cleaning (backwash) supernatant from a quasi-municipal drinking water treatment plant to the Sandy River, Class B, in New Sharon, Maine.

PERMIT SUMMARY

This permit carries forward all the terms and conditions of the previous permit.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings summarized in the attached PROPOSED DRAFT Fact Sheet dated April 10, 2026, and subject to the special and standard conditions that follow, the Department makes the following CONCLUSIONS:

1. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification.

2. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any unclassified body of water below the classification which the Department expects to adopt in accordance with state law.

3. The provisions of the State's antidegradation policy, *Classification of Maine Waters*, 38 M.R.S. §464(4)(F), will be met, in that:

   (a) Existing in-stream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect and maintain those existing uses will be maintained and protected.

   (b) Where high quality waters of the State constitute an outstanding national resource, that water quality will be maintained and protected.

   (c) Where the standards of classification of the receiving water body are not met, the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet the standards of classification.

   (d) Where the actual quality of any classified receiving water body exceeds the minimum standards of the next highest classification that higher water quality will be maintained and protected; and

   (e) Where a discharge will result in lowering the existing water quality of any water body, the Department has made the finding, following the opportunity for public participation, that this action is necessary to achieve important economic or social benefits to the State.

4. The discharge will be subject to effluent limitations that require application of best practicable treatment as defined in *Conditions of Licenses*, 38 M.R.S. § 414-A(1)(D).

ACTION

Based on the findings and conclusions as stated above, the Department APPROVES the above noted application of the TOWN OF NEW SHARON to discharge a monthly average of 0.006 million gallons per day (MGD) of filter cleaning (backwash) supernatant from a quasi-municipal drinking water treatment plant to the Sandy River, Class B, in New Sharon, Maine, SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED CONDITIONS, and all applicable standards and regulations including:

1. "*Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Standard Conditions Applicable to All Permits*," revised July 1, 2002, copy attached.

2. The attached Special Conditions, including effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.

3. This becomes effective upon the date of signature below and expires at midnight five (5) years from the effective date. If a renewal application is timely submitted and accepted as complete for processing prior to the expiration of this permit, the terms and conditions of this permit and all subsequent modifications and minor revisions thereto remain in effect until a final Department decision on the renewal application becomes effective. [*Maine Administrative Procedure Act and Other Administrative Matters*, 5 M.R.S. § 10002 and Department Rule, *Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters,* 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 2 § 20(A) (effective September 15, 2024)]

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

DONE AND DATED AT AUGUSTA, MAINE, THIS _____DAY OF _____2026.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY_____
For Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner

Date of initial receipt of application: May 20, 2024

Date of application acceptance: May 27, 2024

This Order prepared by Rod Robert, Bureau of Water Quality

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. The permittee is authorized to discharge **drinking water filter cleaning (backwash) supernatant from <u>Outfall #001A</u>** to the Sandy River at New Sharon. Such discharges are limited and must be monitored by the permittee as specified below [(1)]:

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations				Minimum Monitoring Requirements	
	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow *[50050]*	0.006 MGD *[03]*	Report MGD *[03]*	---	---	2/Month *[02/30]*	Metered *[MT]*
TSS [(2)] *[00530]*	1.5 lbs/day *[26]*	3.0 lbs/day *[26]*	30 mg/L *[19]*	60 mg/L *[19]*	2/Month *[02/30]*	Composite *[CP]*
Settleable Solids [(2)] *[00545]*	---	---	---	0.3 ml/L *[25]*	2/Month *[02/30]*	Composite *[CP]*
pH *[00400]*	---	---	---	6.0 – 9.0 SU *[12]*	2/Month *[02/30]*	Grab *[GR]*

The italicized numeric values bracketed in the table and in subsequent text are code numbers that Department personnel utilize to code the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs).

<u>FOOTNOTES:</u> See Page 5 of this permit for applicable footnotes.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

FOOTNOTES

1. **Sampling** – All effluent monitoring must be conducted at a location following the last treatment unit in the treatment process in order to be representative of end-of-pipe effluent characteristics. Any change in sampling location must be approved by the Department in writing. The permittee must conduct sampling and analysis in accordance with; a) methods approved by 40 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) Part 136, b) alternative methods approved by the Department in accordance with the procedures in 40 C.F.R. Part 136, or c) as otherwise specified by the Department. Samples that are sent out for analysis must be analyzed by a laboratory certified by the State of Maine's Department of Health and Human Services for wastewater. Samples that are sent to a POTW pursuant to *Waste discharge licenses*, 38 M.R.S. § 413 are subject to the provisions and restrictions of *Maine Comprehensive and Limited Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Rules*, 10-144 C.M.R. ch. 263 (amended March 15, 2023). Laboratory facilities that analyze compliance samples in-house are subject to the provisions and restrictions of 10 − 144 C.M.R. ch. 263. If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by the license using test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. Part 136 or as specified in this license, the results of this monitoring must be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the discharge monitoring report (DMR).

   In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(i)(1)(iv), the permittee must monitor according to sufficiently sensitive test procedures (i.e., methods) approved under 40 C.F.R. Part 136 or required under 40 C.F.R. chapter I, subchapter N or O, for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters (except WET). A method is "sufficiently sensitive" when: 1) The method minimum level (ML) is at or below the level of the effluent limitation established in the permit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or 2) The method has the lowest ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 C.F.R. Part 136 or required under 40 C.F.R. chapter I, subchapter N or O for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter. The term "minimum level" refers either to the sample concentration equivalent to the lowest calibration point in a method or a multiple of the method detection limit (MDL), whichever is higher. Minimum levels may be obtained in the following ways: they may be published in a method; they may be based on the lowest acceptable calibration point used by a laboratory; or they may be calculated by multiplying the MDL in a method, or the MDL determined by a laboratory, by a factor.

2. **Composite Samples –** Samples must consist of 24-hour composites collected with an automatic composite sampler. Alternatively, when weather conditions or equipment prevent automatic compositing and upon Department notification, the permittee may manually composite a minimum of eight grab samples collected at one-hour intervals during the working day at the facility. The permittee must indicate the type of sample collected on the DMR. Composite samples collected for compliance with this permit must consist of a flow-proportioned grab sample collected during the midpoint of a filter drain-down sequence discharge and during the midpoint of a backwash sequence discharge, or other sampling protocol approved by the Department.

3. **pH Sampling –** Grab samples collected for compliance with this permit must be collected at the midpoint of a filter backwash sequence discharge.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

B. NARRATIVE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

1. The permittee must not discharge effluent that contains a visible oil sheen, foam or floating solids at any time which would impair the usages designated for the classification of the receiving waters.

2. The permittee must not discharge effluent that contains materials in concentrations or combinations which are hazardous or toxic to aquatic life, or which would impair the usages designated for the classification of the receiving waters.

3. The permittee must not discharge effluent that imparts color, taste, turbidity, toxicity, radioactivity or other properties which cause those waters to be unsuitable for the designated uses and characteristics ascribed to their classification.

4. The permittee must not discharge effluent that lowers the quality of any classified body of water below such classification or lowers the existing quality of any body of water if the existing quality is higher than the classification.

C. AUTHORIZED DISCHARGES

The permittee is authorized to discharge only in accordance with: 1) the permittee's General Application for Waste Discharge Permit, accepted for processing on May 27, 2024; 2) the terms and conditions of this permit; and 3) only from Outfall #001A. Discharges of wastewater from any other point source are not authorized, under this permit, and must be reported in accordance with Standard Condition D(f)(1), *Twenty-Four-Hour Reporting,* of this permit.

D. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

In accordance with Standard Condition D, the permittee must notify the Department of the following:

1. Any introduction of pollutants into the wastewater collection and treatment system from an indirect discharger in a primary industrial category discharging process wastewater; and

2. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the wastewater collection and treatment system by a source introducing pollutants to the system at the time of permit issuance. For the purposes of this section, notice regarding substantial changes must include information on:

   (a) the quality and quantity of wastewater introduced to the wastewater collection and treatment system; and

   (b) any anticipated impact caused by the change in the quantity or quality of the wastewater to be discharged from the treatment system.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

E. MONITORING AND REPORTING

Electronic Reporting

NPDES Electronic Reporting, 40 C.F.R. 127, requires MEPDES permit holders to submit monitoring results obtained during the previous month on an electronic discharge monitoring report to the regulatory agency utilizing the USEPA electronic system.

Electronic DMRs submitted using the USEPA NetDMR system, must be:

1. Submitted by a facility authorized signatory; and
2. Submitted no later than **midnight on the 15th day of the month** following the completed reporting period.

Documentation submitted in support of the electronic DMR may be attached to the electronic DMR. Documentation submitted electronically to the Department in support of the electronic DMR must be submitted no later than midnight on the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period.

F. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) PLAN

The permittee must maintain a current written comprehensive Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Plan for the facility. The plan must provide a systematic approach by which the permittee must 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.

By December 31 of each year, **or within 90 days of any process changes or minor equipment upgrades,** the permittee must evaluate and modify the O&M Plan including site plan(s) and schematic(s) for the wastewater treatment facility to ensure that it is up to date. The O&M Plan must be kept on-site at all times and made available to Department and USEPA personnel upon request.

Within 90 days of completion of new or substantial upgrades of the wastewater treatment facility, the permittee must submit the updated O&M Plan to their Department inspector for review and comment.

G. REOPENING OF PERMIT FOR MODIFICATION

In accordance with *Conditions of Licenses*, 38 M.R.S. § 414-A(5) and upon evaluation of the test results in the Special Conditions of this permitting action, new site specific information, or any other pertinent test results or information obtained during the term of this permit, the Department may, at any time and with notice to the permittee/District, modify this permit to: (1) include effluent limitations necessary to control specific pollutants or whole effluent toxicity where there is a reasonable potential that the effluent may cause water quality criteria to be exceeded: (2) require additional monitoring if results on file are inconclusive; or (3) change monitoring requirements or limitations based on new information.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

H. SEVERABILITY

In the event that any provision or part thereof of this permit is declared to be unlawful by a reviewing court, the remainder of the permit must remain in full force and effect and must be construed and enforced in all aspects as if such unlawful provision, or part thereof, had been omitted, unless otherwise ordered by the court.

MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
MAINE WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE

FACT SHEET

DATE: **April 10, 2026**

PERMIT NUMBER: **#ME0023671**

WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE: **#W007693-5S-F-R**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

NEW SHARON WATER DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 246
RICHMOND, MAINE 04357

COUNTY: **FRANKLIN**

NAME AND ADDRESS WHERE DISCHARGE(S) OCCUR(S):

NEW SHARON WATER DISTRICT
59 LIBRARY LANE
NEW SHARON, MAINE 04955

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: **SANDY RIVER / CLASS B**

COGNIZANT OFFICIAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

MR. MARK DEDEN
(207) 491-0642
nswdwaterops@mail.com

1. APPLICATION SUMMARY

On May 27, 2024, the Department accepted as complete for processing, an application from the New Sharon Water District (District) for the renewal of Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) permit #ME0023671/ Waste Discharge License (WDL) W007693-5S-E-R, which was issued on October 8, 2019, for a five-year term and authorized the District to discharge a monthly average of 0.006 million gallons per day (MGD) of filter cleaning (backwash) supernatant from a quasi- municipal drinking water treatment plant to the Sandy River, Class B, in New Sharon, Maine.

2. PERMIT SUMMARY

a. Terms and Conditions: This permit carries forward all the terms and conditions of the previous permit.

b. History: The most current relevant regulatory actions include:

September 16, 1991 – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) issued National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit #ME0023671 to the District for a five-year term.

January 12, 2001 – The Department received authorization from the USEPA to administer the NPDES permitting program in Maine, excluding areas of special interest to Maine Indian Tribes. From this point forward, the program has been referred to as the MEPDES program, and MEPDES permit #ME0023671 has been utilized for this facility. On March 26, 2011, the USEPA authorized the Department to administer the MEPDES program in Indian territories of the Penobscot Nation and Passamaquoddy Tribe.

April 15, 2009 – The Department issued WDL #W007693-5S-C-R / MEPDES Permit #ME0023671 to the District for a five-year term. The 4/15/09 permit superseded previous WDL #W007693-58-A-N and #W007693-58-B-R issued on 9/4/91 and 6/29/04, respectively.

January 9, 2014 – The District submitted a timely and complete General Application to the Department for renewal of the April 15, 2009, MEPDES permit. The application was accepted for processing on January 10, 2014, and was assigned WDL #W007693-5S-D-R / MEPDES #ME0023671.

April 3, 2014 – The Department issued WDL #W007693-5S-D-R / MEPDES Permit #ME0023671 to the District for a five-year term.

March 19, 2019- The District submitted a timely and complete General Application for the renewal of WDL #W007693-5S-D-R / MEPDES Permit #ME0023671.

October 19, 2019 – The Department issued WDL #W007693-5S-E-R / MEPDES Permit #ME0023671 to the District for a five-year term.

May 20, 2024- The District submitted a timely and complete General Application for the renewal of WDL #W007693-5S-E-R / MEPDES Permit #ME0023671

2. PERMIT SUMMARY (cont'd)

c. Source Description: The New Sharon Water District operates a quasi-municipal drinking water treatment plant adjacent to the Sandy River in New Sharon to supply potable water to approximately 100 residential and commercial customers. Construction of the plant was completed in October 1991. The district produces an average of 28,000 gallons of potable water per day from one gravel-packed ground water well. Raw water is conveyed to the facility via an 6-inch diameter pipe. The influent raw water is disinfected with sodium hypochlorite. The flow is then conveyed to two (2) 36-inch diameter by 72-inch high closed-vessel, down-flow filtration units that utilize a granular filter media commonly used for the removal of iron and/or manganese. Filtered water is then pumped to a 1,000-gallon subsurface clearwell located adjacent to the treatment plant and from there to a 50,000-gallon, 10-foot-deep subsurface concrete reservoir located approximately 1.5 miles from the plant. Water is chlorinated for disinfection at the pump station with sodium hypochlorite. The permittee reports that the chlorine dosage is managed to maintain a residual concentration of 0.2 mg/L at customer connections, A map showing the location of the treatment facility is included as Fact Sheet Attachment A.

d. Wastewater Treatment: Wastewater is generated during up-flow filter backwash procedures that are performed approximately once every 10 days. Each filter cleaning cycle generates approximately 5,000 gallons of wastewater, although slightly higher volumes may be produced during periodic filter regeneration sequences. Therefore, this permitting action is authorizing the permittee to discharge a monthly average of up to 6,000 gallons of wastewater per day.

The district utilizes raw ground water to backwash the filters in order to eliminate the presence of chlorine in the final effluent. Backwash wastewater is conveyed to a wet well and then to the outfall pipe. The wet well does not provide wastewater settling functions.

Final effluent is conveyed for discharge to the Sandy River via Outfall #001A and is recorded using a flow meter installed on the discharge line. The outfall is considered a bank discharge as the pipe terminates above the normal high-water line of the river and the effluent flows through approximately 25 feet of predominantly herbaceous vegetation before entering the surface of the river. The discharge is not considered to achieve complete and rapid mixing with the receiving water. A process flow diagram submitted by the permittee is included as Fact Sheet Attachment B.

3. CONDITIONS OF PERMIT

Conditions of licenses, 38 M.R.S. § 414-A, requires that the effluent limitations prescribed for discharges, including, but not limited to, effluent toxicity, require the application of best practicable treatment (BPT), be consistent with the U.S. Clean Water Act, and ensure that the receiving waters attain the State water quality standards as described in *Maine's Surface Water Classification System.* In addition, *Certain deposits and discharges prohibited*, 38 M.R.S. § 420 and Department rule Surface Water Toxics Control Program, 06-096 CMR Ch.530 (effective March 21, 2012), require the regulation of toxic substances not to exceed levels set forth in *Surface Water Quality Criteria for Toxic Pollutants*, 06-096 CMR Ch. 584 (effective February 16, 2020), and that ensure safe levels for the discharge of toxic pollutants such that existing and designated uses of surface waters are maintained and protected.

4. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

Classification of major river basins, 38 M.R.S. § 467(4)(G)(1)(b) classifies the Sandy River from the Route 142 bridge in Phillips to its confluence with the Kennebec River including the point of discharge as a Class B waterway. *Standards for classification of fresh surface waters*, 38 M.R.S. § 465(3) describes the standards for Class B waters as follows:

3. Class B Waters -Class B shall be the 3rd highest classification.

A. Class B waters must be of such quality that they are suitable for the designated uses of drinking water supply after treatment; fishing; agriculture; recreation in and on the water; industrial process and cooling water supply; hydroelectric power generation, except as prohibited under Title 12, section 403; navigation; and as habitat for fish and other aquatic life. The habitat must be characterized as unimpaired.

B. Class B waters must be of sufficient quality to support all aquatic species indigenous to those waters without detrimental changes in the resident biological community. The dissolved oxygen content of Class B waters may not be less than 7 parts per million or 75% of saturation, whichever is higher, except that for the period from October 1st to May 14th, in order to ensure spawning and egg incubation of indigenous fish species, the 7-day mean dissolved oxygen concentration may not be less than 9.5 parts per million and the one-day minimum dissolved oxygen concentration may not be less than 8.0 parts per million in identified fish spawning areas. Between April 15th and October 31st, the number of Escherichia coli bacteria in these waters may not exceed a geometric mean of 64 CFU or MPN per 100 milliliters over a 90-day interval or 236 CFU or MPN per 100 milliliters in more than 10% of the samples in any 90-day interval.

C. Discharges to Class B waters may not cause adverse impact to aquatic life in that the receiving waters must be of sufficient quality to support all aquatic species indigenous to the receiving water without detrimental changes in the resident biological community.

(1-A) For the purpose of allowing the discharge of aquatic pesticides or chemicals approved by the department and conducted by the department, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or an agent of either agency to restore resident biological communities affected by an invasive species, the department may find that the discharged effluent will not cause adverse impact to aquatic life as long as the materials and methods used do not cause a significant loss of any nontarget species and allow restoration of nontarget species. The department may find that an unavoidable, temporary loss of nontarget species does not constitute a significant loss of nontarget species.

(2) For the purpose of allowing the discharge of aquatic pesticides approved by the department for the control of mosquito-borne diseases in the interest of public health and safety, the department may find that the discharged effluent will not cause adverse impact to aquatic life as long as the materials and methods used provide protection for nontarget species. When the department issues a license for the discharge of aquatic pesticides authorized under this subparagraph, the department shall notify the municipality in which the application is licensed to occur and post the notice on the department's publicly accessible website.

5. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS

The State of Maine 2018/2020/2022 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (Report), prepared by the Department pursuant to Sections 303(d) and 305(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, lists the Sandy River, main stem, below the Route 2 bridge in Farmington (Assessment Unit ID: ME0103000305_319R_01), which includes the receiving water at the point of discharge, as, *"Category 2: Rivers and Streams Attaining Some Designated Uses – Insufficient Information for Other Uses."*

The Report also lists all of Maine's fresh waters as *Category 4-A: Rivers and Streams Impaired by Atmospheric Deposition of Mercury.* Impairment in this context refers to a statewide fish consumption advisory due to elevated levels of mercury in some fish tissues. The Report states, "All freshwaters are listed in Category 4-A (TMDL Completed) due to US EPA approval of a Regional Mercury TMDL in December 2007. Maine has a fish consumption advisory for fish taken from all freshwaters due to mercury. Many waters, and many fish from any given water, do not exceed the action level for mercury. However, because it is impossible for someone consuming a fish to know whether the mercury level exceeds the action level, the Maine Department of Health and Human Services decided to establish a statewide advisory recommending limits on consumption for all freshwater fish. Maine has instituted statewide programs for removal and reduction of mercury sources."

The Department has no information at this time that the discharge from the permittee, as permitted, will cause or contribute to the failure of the receiving water to meet the designated uses of its ascribed classification.

6. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

a. Flow: The previous permitting action established, and this permitting action is carrying forward, a monthly average discharge flow limit of 0.006 MGD, which is considered representative of wastewater flows generated by this facility, or the design flow, and a daily maximum discharge flow reporting requirement.

The Department reviewed 65 Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) that were submitted for the period November 2019 through April 2025. A review of the data indicates the following:

Flow (N=65)

Value	Limit (MGD)	Range (MGD)	Mean (MGD)
Monthly Average	0.006	0.00 – 0.00	0.002
Daily Maximum	Report	0.00 – 0.01	0.002

6. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

b. Dilution Factors:

The department establishes applicable dilution factors for discharges in accordance with freshwater protocols established in *Surface Water Toxics Control Program,* 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 530. The department has determined the 1Q10, 7Q10, and harmonic mean flow at the New Sharon Water District's outfall on the Sandy River using flow data from the USGS gauge in Mercer (NWIS 01048000) for the 1928-2024 record period. Using these flows and a monthly average flow limit of 0.0060 MGD for the facility's discharge, dilution factors for the facility are calculated as follows:

Mod. Acute: ¼ of 1Q10 = 9.7 cfs $\Rightarrow \frac{(9.7 \text{ cfs})(0.6464) + 0.0060 \text{ MGD}}{0.0060 \text{ MGD}} = 1{,}046{:}1$

Acute: 1Q10 = 38.8 cfs $\Rightarrow \frac{(38.8 \text{ cfs})(0.6464) + 0.0060 \text{ MGD}}{0.0060 \text{ MGD}} = 4{,}181{:}1$

Chronic: 7Q10 = 42.7 cfs $\Rightarrow \frac{(42.7 \text{ cfs})(0.6464) + 0.0060 \text{ MGD}}{0.0060 \text{ MGD}} = 4{,}601{:}1$

Human Health Harmonic Mean= 270.0 cfs $\Rightarrow \frac{(270.0 \text{ cfs})(0.6464) + 0.0060 \text{ MGD}}{0.0060 \text{ MGD}} = 29{,}089{:}1$

Department rule, 06-096 CMR ch.530(4)(B)(1) states,

> *Analyses using numerical acute criteria for aquatic life must be based on 1/4 of the 1Q10 stream design flow to prevent substantial acute toxicity within any mixing zone and to ensure a zone of passage of at least 3/4 of the cross-sectional area of any stream as required by Chapter 581. Where it can be demonstrated that a discharge achieves rapid and complete mixing with the receiving water by way of an efficient diffuser or other effective method, analyses may use a greater proportion of the stream design flow, up to and including all of it, as long as the required zone of passage is maintained.*

The district's outfall pipe terminates above the normal high-water mark of the Sandy River and is therefore not considered to achieve rapid and complete mixing with the receiving water. Consequently, the Department is utilizing the default stream flow of ¼ of the 1Q10 in acute evaluations.

6. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

c. Total Suspended Solids (TSS): This permitting action carries forward the previously established monthly average and daily maximum concentration limits of 30 mg/L and 60 mg/L, respectively, based on Department best professional judgment of best practicable treatment for discharges from drinking water treatment facilities in Maine. This permitting action is carrying forward the monthly average mass and daily maximum mass limits of 1.5 lbs./day and 3.0 lbs./day, respectively, for TSS, based on the monthly average flow design criterion of 0.006 MGD.

The Department reviewed 53 DMRs that were submitted for the period November 2019 through April 2025. A review of the data indicates the following:

TSS mass (N=53)

Value	Limit (lbs./day)	Range (lbs./day)	Mean (lbs./day)
Monthly Average	1.5	0.06 – 0.89	0.167
Daily Maximum	3.0	0.07 – 0.70	0.178

TSS concentration

Value	Limit (mg/L)	Range (mg/L)	Mean (mg/L)
Monthly Average	30	4.8 - 42	11.38
Daily Maximum	60	4.8 - 43	12.35

This permitting action carries forward a minimum monitoring frequency requirement of twice per month for TSS based on Department BPJ.

d. Settleable Solids: This permit carries forward a daily maximum concentration limit of 0.3 ml/L for settleable solids, which is considered a best practicable treatment limitation (BPT) for discharges from drinking water treatment facilities in Maine.

A summary of settleable solids data as reported on the monthly DMRs for the period of November 2019 through April 2025 (Ns =65) indicates the daily maximum settleable solids concentration discharge has been 0.1 ml/L or less100% of the time.

This permitting action carries forward a minimum monitoring frequency requirement of twice per month for settleable solids based on Department BPJ.

e. pH: This permit carries forward, a pH limit of 6.0 – 9.0 standard units (SU), which is considered by the Department as BPT, and a minimum monitoring frequency requirement of twice per month.

A summary of pH data as reported on the monthly DMRs for the period of November 2019 through April 2025 (N = 65) indicates the daily range of pH measurements were within the range of 6.0 – 9.0 SU 99% of the time with a single exceedance occurring in January of 2024.

7. ANTI-BACKSLIDING

Federal regulation 40 C.F.R. §122.44(l) contains the criteria for what is often referred to as the anti-backsliding provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act). In general, the regulation states that except for provisions specified in the regulation, effluent limitations, standards, or conditions must be at least as stringent as the final effluent limitations, standards or conditions in the previous permit.

Applicable exceptions include: (1) material and substantial alterations or additions to the permitted facility occurred after permit issuance which justify the application of a less stringent effluent limitation and (2) information is available which was not available at the time of the permit issuance (other than revised regulations, guidance, or test methods) and which would justify the application of less stringent effluent limitations at the time of permit issuance. All limitations in this permit are equally or more stringent than those in the previous permit.

8. ANTI-DEGRADATION

As permitted, the Department has determined the existing water uses will be maintained and protected and the discharge will not cause, contribute, or have a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet standards for Class B classification.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public notice of this application was made in the *Franklin Journal* newspaper on or about May 10, 2024. The Department receives public comments on an application until the date a final agency action is taken on the application. Those persons receiving copies of draft permits must have at least 30 days in which to submit comments on the draft or to request a public hearing, pursuant to *Application Processing Procedures for Waste Discharge Licenses,* 06-096 CMR ch.522 (effective January 12, 2001).

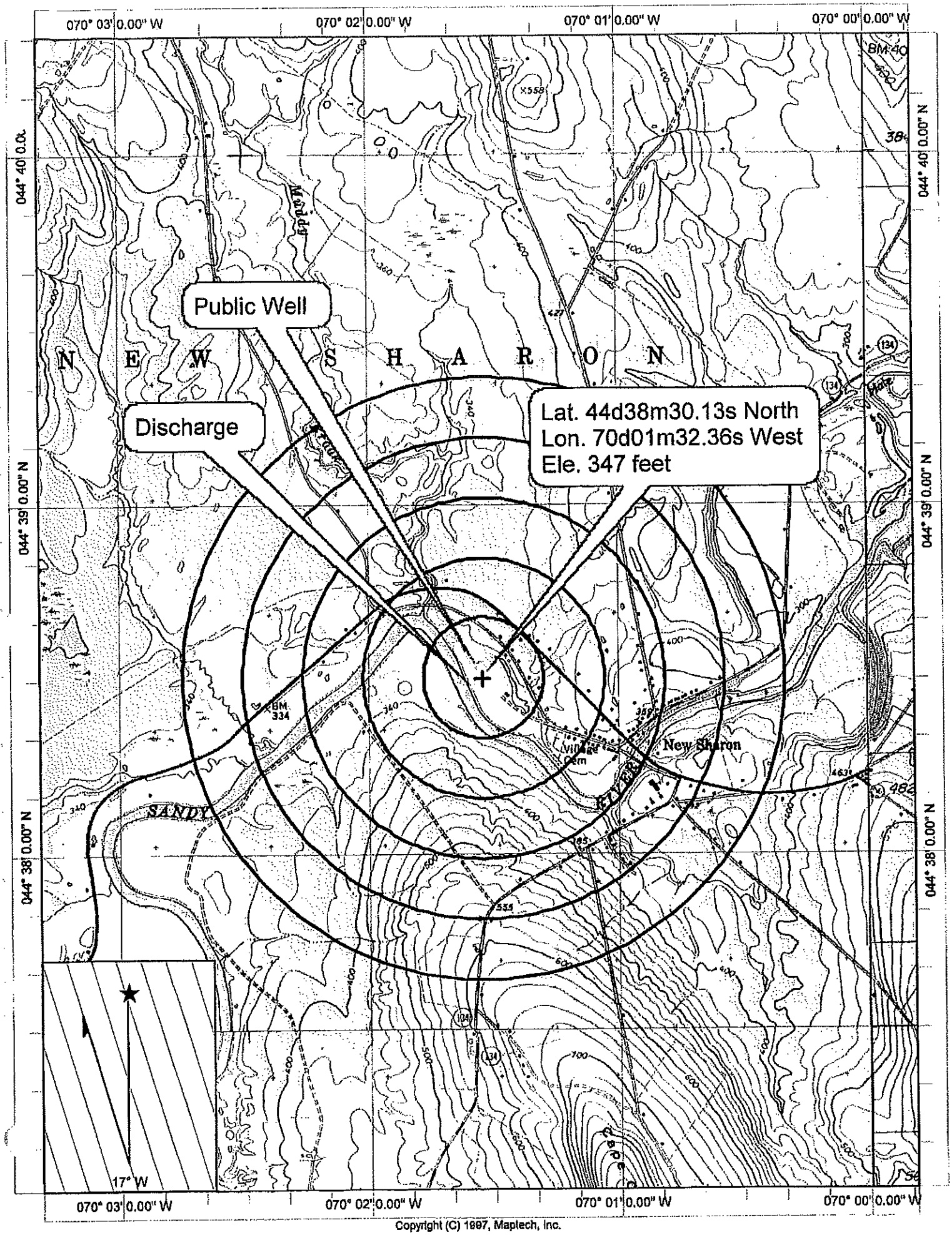
10. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Additional information concerning this permitting action may be obtained from, and written comments sent to:

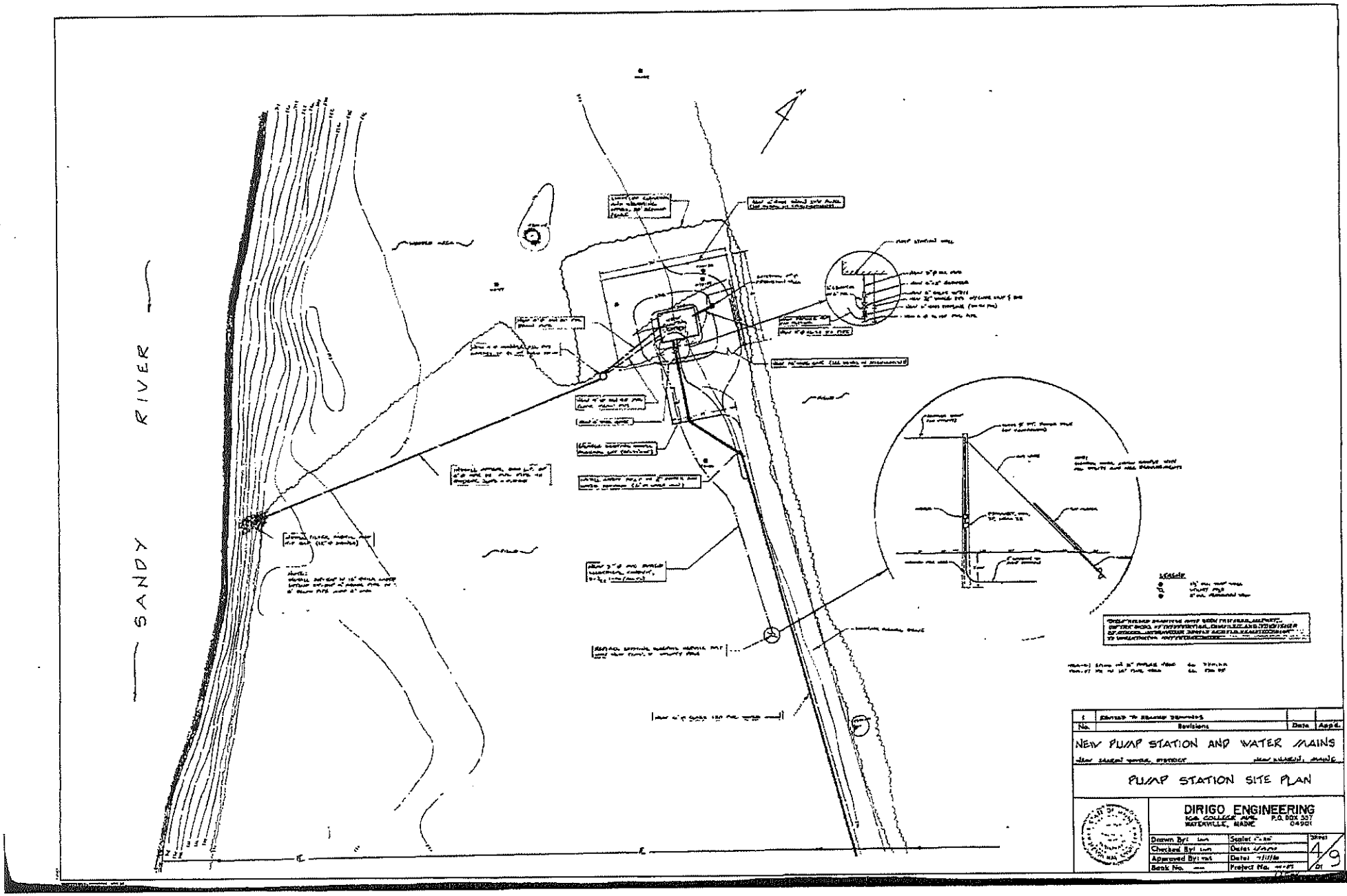
Rodney Robert
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Water Quality
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017 Telephone: (207) 446-1875
e-mail: rodney.robert@maine.gov

11. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Reserved until the end of the formal thirty-day comment period


070° 03' 0.00" W
070° 02' 0.00" W
070° 01' 0.00" W
070° 00' 0.00" W
044° 40' 0.00" N
044° 39' 0.00" N
044° 38' 0.00" N
Public Well
Discharge
Lat. 44d38m30.13s North
Lon. 70d01m32.36s West
Ele. 347 feet
N E W S H A R O N
New Sharon
SANDY
RIVER
Main
17° W
Copyright (C) 1997, Maptech, Inc.

ATTACHMENT B



No.	Revisions	Date	App'd.
1	Revised to address comments		

NEW PUMP STATION AND WATER MAINS

PUMP STATION SITE PLAN

DIRIGO ENGINEERING
108 COLLEGE AVE. P.O. BOX 337
WATERVILLE, MAINE 04901

Drawn By:	Scale:
Checked By:	Date:
Approved By:	Date:
Book No.	Project No.

Sheet 4/9

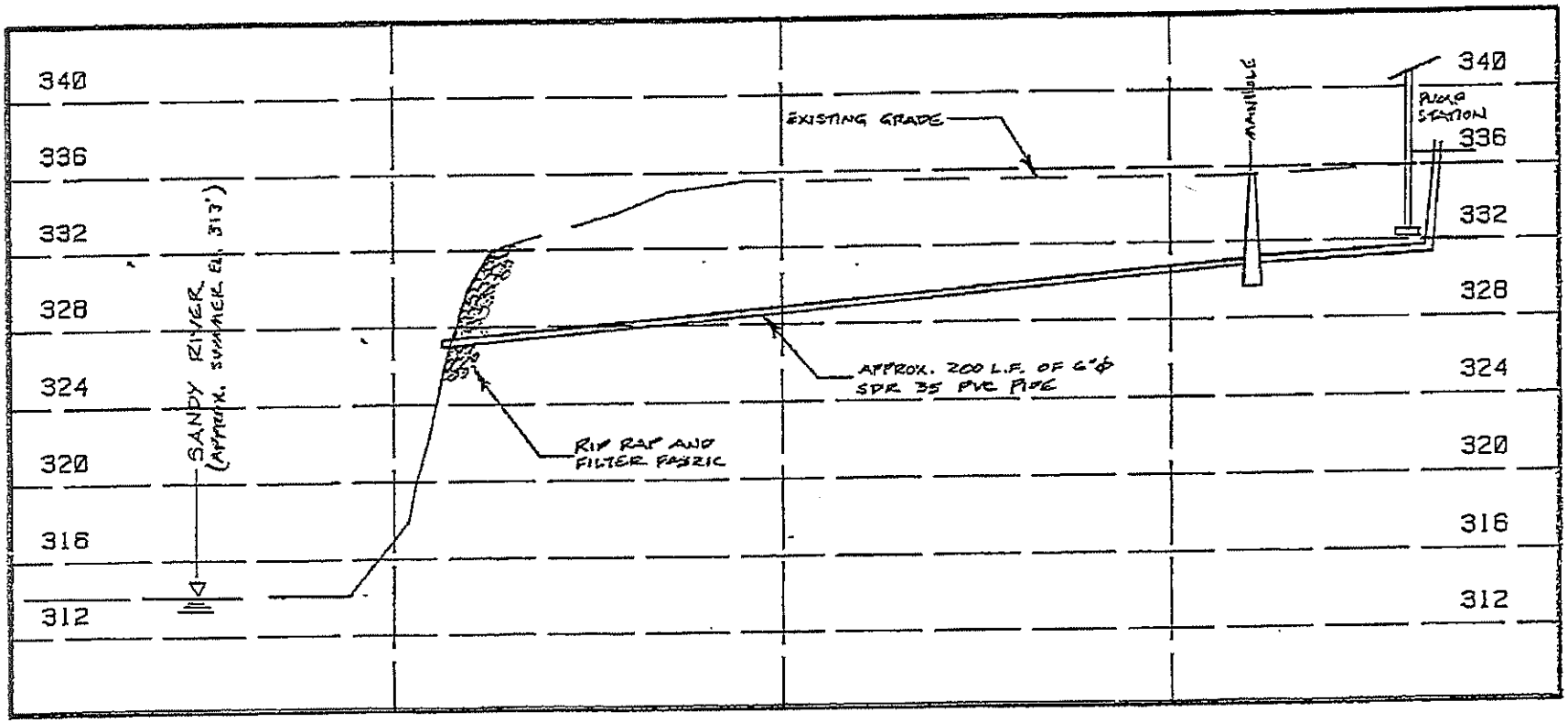


EXHIBIT 7B

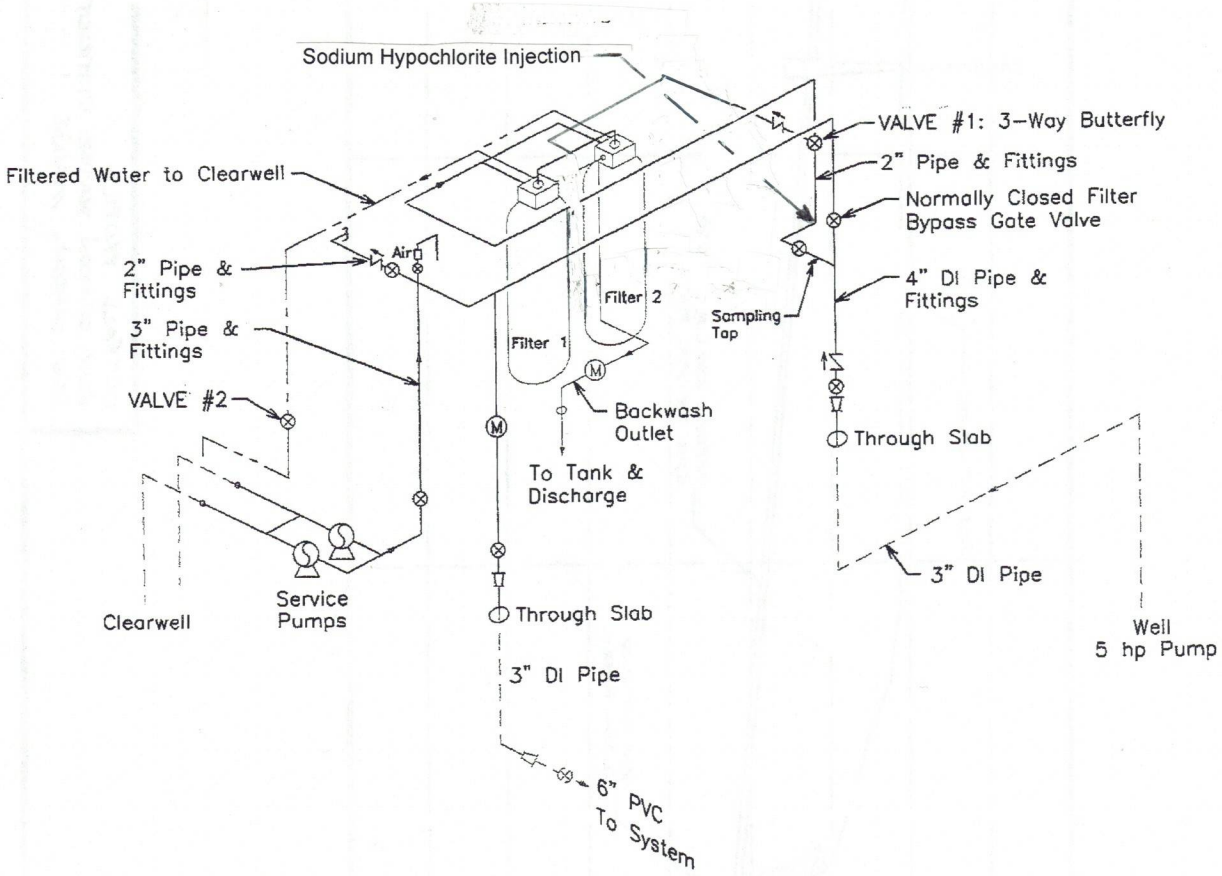
OUTFALL PROFILE
NEW SHARON WATER DISTRICT
NEW SHARON, MAINE

7/25/90
fc-87

Revised March 2026 drawing with oxidation (aeration) tanks removed

Oxidation tanks were ceased to be used for oxidation in 2019

Maine DWP ordered the tanks removed in 2024



NEW SHARON WATER DISTRICT PUMP STATION
PIPING SCHEMATIC SHOWING 2018 UPDATES

DIRIGO ENGINEERING