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March 17, 2017

CERTIFICATE OF THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
ON THE
ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION FORM

PROJECT NAME : Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Center and Recycling Center
Operations Expansion
PROJECT MUNICIPALITY : Dedham
PROJECT WATERSHED : Neponset River
EEA NUMBER : 15635
PROJECT PROPONENT : Dedham Department of Public Works
DATE NOTICED IN MONITOR : January 25, 2017

Pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) (M.G. L. c. 30, ss. 61-62I) and Section 11.06 of the MEPA regulations (301 CMR 11.00), I hereby determine that this project **does not require** the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Project Description

As described in the Environmental Notification Form (ENF), the project includes the demolition of the existing 4,350-square foot (sf) transfer station and construction of a new 12,140-sf transfer station. The ENF indicated the Town is seeking to increase average daily capacity to 500 tons per day (tpd), which is twice the capacity of the existing facility, a peak capacity of 750 tpd and an annual limit of 156,000 tons.

The facility was designed to be used as an incinerator and its floor plan does not permit efficient waste handling. The project has been designed to accommodate waste transfer operations inside the building. A retaining wall ranging from one to 12 feet high will be constructed along the eastern and northern edges of the site to permit changes to the elevation of the site. The northeast end of the building will have a first floor elevation of 99.5 feet (NAVD 88) and will have four waste receiving bays, including three for commercial waste and one for residential waste. Waste will be unloaded, sorted, and stored on the tipping floor within the facility and moved to an enclosed off-loading bay at the southwest end of the building. The waste will be dropped into trucks parked at the lower level of the facility at elevation 89.5 ft (NAVD 88). The internal vehicular circulation will be altered to increase efficiency of truck movement within the site. The southeastern curb cut will be removed; all traffic will enter and exit via a realigned southwestern entrance and circulate through the site in a clockwise direction.

Project Site

The 2.34-acre site is located in the northwest section of Dedham near the municipal boundary with Boston (neighborhoods of Hyde Park and West Roxbury). It is surrounded by commercial uses, including retail, restaurant, and office uses. The facility was constructed in 1930 and used as an incinerator until 1975, when it was converted to a transfer station. It is owned by the Town of Dedham and operated by a private contractor. It serves as a regional transfer facility; it does not handle solid waste from the Town of Dedham. According to the ENF, approximately 90 percent of the solid waste is commercial waste and 10 percent is construction and demolition (C&D) material.

Mother Brook, a tributary of the Neponset River, runs along the west and north sides of the site and over half of the site is located within its Riverfront Area. In some areas, fencing and pavement associated with the transfer station appear to be located on or near the bank of the brook. Mother Brook is listed in the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MassDEP) 2014 Integrated List of Waters as an impaired waterway requiring a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for pathogens. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) number 25021C0043E (effective date July 17, 2012), a portion of the site is located within the 100-year floodplain (Zone AE) with a Base Flood Elevation (BFE) of 87 ft NAVD 88.

Environmental Impacts and Mitigation

The project will add approximately 4,350 sf (0.1 acres) of impervious area, alter 60,818 sf (1.4 acres) of Riverfront Area, and fill 4,350 sf (0.1 acres) of Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF). It will generate 52 New average daily trips (adt). The facility will continue to cause noise and odor impacts in connection with its operation.

Measures to avoid minimize, and mitigate project impacts include limiting all discharge and handling of solid waste, including off-loading, to the enclosed tipping floor, installation of an odor control system, installation of a floor drain collection system that will drain to the sanitary sewer system, and use of erosion and sedimentation control measures during construction. A noise study will be conducted during the permitting process once the design of the facility is finalized and may result in the addition of noise mitigation measures. A new stormwater management system will be designed to meet

the stormwater management standards (SMS) of the Wetlands Regulations (310 CMR 10.00) and will include new catch basins and proprietary water quality units.

Permits and Jurisdiction

The project is undergoing review and requires an ENF pursuant to 301 CMR Section 11.03(9)(b) of the MEPA regulations because it will require a State Agency Action and will result in new capacity for the storage, treatment or processing of 50 or more tpd of solid waste. The project requires an Authorization to Construct (BWP SW 05) and Authorization to Operate (BWP SW 06) from MassDEP.

The project will also require a Minor Modification to the Site Assignment Approval from the Dedham Board of Health and an Order of Conditions from the Dedham Conservation Commission (or in the case of an appeal, a Superseding Order of Conditions from MassDEP). It may require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction General Permit (NPDES CGP) from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Because the Town is not seeking financial assistance from the Commonwealth for the current phase of the project, MEPA jurisdiction extends to those aspects of the project that may have significant environmental impacts and that are within the subject matter of required or potentially required state permits. Because the scope of MassDEP's review for the Authorization to Construct permit is broad, MEPA jurisdiction for this project is broad and extends to all aspects of the project that are likely, directly or indirectly, to cause Damage to the Environment as defined in the MEPA regulations.

Review of the ENF

The ENF provided a description of existing and proposed conditions, an alternatives analysis, identified impacts of the project, and proposed measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts. It included a Traffic Study and described building design features that will minimize Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from the facility. During the review period, the Town supplemented its alternatives analysis and documented its public outreach efforts in accordance with the EEA Environmental Justice (EJ) Policy¹.

I received public comments that urged the Town to choose another location for the transfer station that would not impact surrounding commercial and residential uses and wetlands resource areas. Commenters documented what appear to be deficiencies in waste handling and stormwater management that may impact water quality in Mother Brook. The Town has indicated that a modern building designed as a transfer station should minimize impacts of the facility. The Town should adopt all feasible measures to minimize and mitigate impacts of the facility as its design is finalized in the permitting processes.

Environmental Justice

The project exceeds a MEPA solid waste threshold and is located within one mile of an EJ Community. Therefore, it is subject to the EJ Policy and EJ Policy and associated requirements for

¹ Letter dated March 7, 2017 from Alan Benevides and Denise Cameron of Woodard & Curran to Alex Strycky of the MEPA office; and email dated March 7, 2017 from Denise Cameron of Woodard & Curran to Alex Strycky.

enhanced public participation and analysis during MEPA review. The EJ populations are designated as Minority and Income and are located in Dedham, West Roxbury, and Hyde Park. To comply with the EJ Policy, the Town published a Spanish translation of its public notice and provided the notice to community and EJ groups in the affected populations.

Alternatives Analysis

According to the Town, there are no other sites available for a new facility in Dedham. The only undeveloped Town-owned parcels are used for school or open space purposes, including open space protected under Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution. The Town did not consider constructing a new transfer station outside of Dedham because it wanted to continue operating the facility, increase its use for residential recycling, and potentially use it for its own municipal solid waste.

The ENF evaluated operational and design alternatives for continuing operation of the facility at its current location. Maintaining the existing transfer station at its current capacity would not meet the Town's goals of modernizing operations at the station to minimize impacts and increasing regional solid waste capacity. The Town also considered an alternative that would construct a new building that could process C&D material into recyclable products and manage organic wastes, as well as increasing its capacity to transfer municipal solid waste. This alternative meets the Town's objectives, but it was determined to be too costly due to the additional processing equipment required. In addition, this alternative would increase impacts due to truck traffic and it may not be feasible to construct the facility due to the small size of the site.

The ENF evaluated three site layout alternatives based on the following design assumptions:

- A building footprint of at least 10,000 sf;
- Four drop-off bays;
- One or two off-loading bays for trailers;
- Minimum grade change of 10 feet between drop-off and off-loading areas;
- At least one truck weigh scale;
- On-site storage for empty trailers; and,
- Roll-off containers for residential recycling drop-off.

Alternative A would include a 70-ft by 140-ft building with four drop-off bays at its south end and two off-loading areas on the east and west sides of the building. Vehicles dropping off waste would enter through the existing southeastern entrance, travel in a counter-clockwise direction around the building, back into one of the drop-off bays, and exit the site through the southwestern driveway. Trailers picking up waste would use the same travel pattern. Alternative B would feature an 82-ft by 145-ft building with four drop-off bays on the north end of the building and an off-loading bay on the west side of the building. Two traffic circulation patterns were evaluated for Alternative B. In the first, vehicles dropping off waste would enter through the southeastern entrance, travel in a counter-clockwise direction to the north side of the facility, and back into a drop-off bay. The vehicle would then continue in the same direction and exit through the southwestern driveway. Trailers picking up the waste would use the same travel pattern. In the second circulation alternative, drop-off vehicles would enter and exit

through the southwestern driveway and pick-up trailers would enter through the southeastern driveway and exit through the southwestern driveway.

The Preferred Alternative includes a 100-ft by 115-ft building with four drop-off bays at its north end and one off-loading bay at the south end. All vehicles will enter and exit through one driveway at the southwestern corner of the site and circulate in a clockwise direction. This alternative was chosen because the dimensions of the building can best accommodate the interior waste handling operations. The proposed circulation pattern allows all traffic to enter and exit through one driveway that can be located away from abutting properties, and minimizes potential conflicts between vehicles circulating through the site in opposite directions. The site layout and circulation pattern also provide a safe location for roll-off containers for residential recycling. The alternatives do not differ with respect to impacts to BLSF and Riverfront Area and would alter the site to the same extent. The Preferred Alternative would create 0.15 acres less impervious area than Alternative B and 0.19 acres less impervious area than Alternative A.

Solid Waste

The project would increase the capacity of the transfer station from its currently permitted level of 250 tpd to an average of 500 tpd, with a peak of 750 tpd and an annual maximum of 156,000 tons. The facility will continue to accept municipal solid waste and C&D material, and will seek to expand its residential recycling operations. The hours of operation will be 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM, Monday through Saturday.

According to MassDEP, the project will require a minor modification to its Site Assignment because waste handling operations at the proposed facility will not extend beyond the area currently approved. In accordance with the Site Assignment Regulations for Solid Waste Facilities at 310 CMR 16.20, the decision on the minor modification will be made by the Dedham Board of Public Health and its process will include a public hearing. If the project is granted the minor modification, it will be required to comply with the Solid Waste Regulations at 310 CMR 19.00, under which MassDEP would review the Town's application for Authorization to Construct (ATC) and Authorization to Operate (ATO). MassDEP will review the project design, provide a public comment period, and will consider public comments on the ATC application. The ATO review requires that MassDEP confirm that the facility has been constructed consistent with the approved design.

During the ATC review process, the Town will be required to provide details regarding the design of the facility and measures to mitigate noise, odor, water quality, and other impacts. The project will include odor mitigation measures that will be finalized during the permitting process, and are expected to include best management practices such as closing the bay doors and misting systems to treat emissions. The ENF included a scope of work for a noise study that will be conducted prior to the final design of the transfer station. The study will gather data on baseline sound levels at the site's property lines and nearby locations and prepare a model of noise generated by mechanical equipment, truck backup beepers, and truck movements and idling under proposed conditions at the site. The study will evaluate the use of potential mitigation measures such as acoustic doors, mufflers on front-end loaders and other equipment, sound walls, and rooftop ventilation equipment designed to produce less noise. According to the ENF, truck backup beepers are required by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and their use is exempt from state or local regulation. The Town should

conduct a comprehensive review of odor and noise controls and adopt all feasible mitigation measures. I note that commenters offered suggestions for noise control, including noise walls, design modifications, and alternatives to backup beepers. I expect the Town will consider these comments.

Wetlands

According to the ENF, the project will impact 4,350 sf (56 cubic yards) of BLSF and 1.4 acres of Riverfront Area. The Town has identified an area adjacent to Mother Brook where it will provide compensatory flood storage at a 2:1 ratio in accordance with the Town's wetlands bylaw. The project is a redevelopment project that will impact Riverfront Area and is therefore required to improve conditions within this resource area. The project will not expand operations toward Mother Brook but the ENF did not describe any improvements to the Riverfront Area. The Town should continue to refine the project design to provide mitigation for Riverfront Area impacts. The Town should consider providing a greater buffer between the transfer station and Mother Brook, restoring paved areas to a more natural condition, and cleaning up and maintaining the riparian zone.

Stormwater

According to the ENF, the project will include a new stormwater management system that will meet the requirements of the SMS. The SMS require projects to maintain pre-development peak runoff rates and volumes and remove at least 80 percent of the Total Suspended Solids (TSS) from stormwater. The facility is considered a Land Use with Higher Potential Pollutant Loads (LUHPPL) and must provide pretreatment of stormwater prior to discharge into Best Management Practices (BMPs) for TSS removal. The site currently lacks stormwater controls and runoff from waste exposed to the precipitation appears to flow into Mother Brook without treatment. The ENF indicated that the project will meet these standards by installing proprietary water quality units and subsurface detention systems with filtration that will treat phosphorous. These measures may not address the TMDL for pathogens. The Town should reevaluate the proposed stormwater management system and include infiltration basins or subsurface infiltration systems, which are more effective at removing pathogens.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Town of Dedham has adopted the Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code (Stretch Code) pursuant to its designation as a Green Community in December, 2010. According to the ENF, the Town is committed to minimize the project's GHG emissions by incorporating energy-efficient features into the design of the facility. The ENF identified the following GHG mitigation measures:

- Energy efficient building envelope including roof insulation double pane windows;
- A cool roof;
- A high efficiency heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system for the office space;
- Energy-efficient LED exterior lighting;
- Occupancy lighting control sensors;
- Low-flow faucets and toilets; and
- Energy Star appliances.

The building will be constructed with a solar-ready roof to support a potential third-party solar photovoltaic (PV) system. I encourage the Town to consult with the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) concerning financial incentives for solar PV that may be available to the Town.

Transportation

The ENF included a Traffic Study that documented the project's trip generation and impact to the local roadway system. The project will generate 52 new adt for a total of 113 adt, including trips for deliveries of commercial waste and residential recycling material. The traffic study compared levels-of-service (LOS) at five intersections under 2025 No Build and 2025 Build conditions. The project is not expected to have a significant impact on LOS of the intersections in the weekday morning weekday evening, and Saturday midday peak periods.

Conclusion

Based on a review of the ENF and comments received, and in consultation with State Agencies, I have determined that the ENF has sufficiently defined the nature and general elements of the project for the purposes of MEPA review and demonstrated that the project's environmental impacts can be avoided, minimized and/or mitigated to the extent practicable.

Significant concerns about the siting and operation of the proposed facility were raised in public comments. As noted above, the design of the facility has not been finalized and additional mitigation measures and design modifications may be necessary to minimize impacts. MassDEP will conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the project in its reviews of the ATC and ATO applications. The project will be subject to a public hearing by the Dedham Board of Health and a public comment period on MassDEP's Draft ATC Permit. Ongoing public participation in local and state permitting will be important in addressing the outstanding issues. No further MEPA review is required. The project may proceed to state permitting.

March 17, 2017

Date


Matthew A. Beaton

Comments received:

02/13/2017	Thomas Palmer
02/14/2017	Ken Fields
03/06/2017	Matthew Watsky
03/07/2017	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)/Northeast Regional Office (NERO)
03/08/2017	Neponset River Watershed Association
03/10/2017	Ken Fields

MAB/AJS/ajs

Strysky, Alexander (EEA)

From: Thomas Palmer <ophis@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 4:38 PM
To: Ken Fields; headsandtailspet@aol.com; eastriverneighborhoodassoc@yahoo.com; hydeparkneighbors@gmail.com; Angelo.Scaccia@mahouse.gov; Timothy.McCarthy@boston.gov; david.mcnulty@boston.gov; frank.baker@boston.gov; andrea.campbell@boston.gov
Cc: elycare1@aol.com; PTierney@TRG.com; david_gr@verizon.net; parkstreethydepark@gmail.com; baku@rcn.com; mkrealtor@verizon.net; jrmdonald@meditech.com; Michelle.Wu@boston.gov; Michael.F.Flaherty@boston.gov; Ayanna.Pressley@boston.gov; palmer@neponset.org; cooke@neponset.org; jerome.smith@boston.gov; news@bulletinnewspapers.com; rstanley@dedham-ma.gov; dguilfoyle@dedham-ma.gov; Alan Benevides; Strysky, Alexander (EEA)
Subject: Re: FW: EEA 15635 Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Center Operations Expansion
Attachments: MOB001102710.jpg

There are already significant stormwater issues near the site, as is evident in this 10/27/10 photo showing an outfall discharging just upstream, with the transfer station visible at upper right.

On 2/7/2017 4:59 PM, Ken Fields wrote:

All:

I have often passed the Dedham Waste Transfer Station by the Dedham Mall and thought that it was an awful location to site such a use. It is adjacent to the Mother Brook which drains its waters into the Neponset River. The Mother Brook and Neponset River both travel through significant sections of Hyde Park, and the Neponset continues through Mattapan and Dorchester through the Neponset River Estuary Area of Critical Environmental Concern prior to draining into Boston Harbor. A quick look at the waste transfer station on Google Earth will show how the operators of the site allow for waste drainage across the site prior to discharge to the Mother Brook.

The Town of Dedham Department of Public Works is proposing to reconstruct the site and double the volume of waste passing through the station. Although the project proposes many improvements, the current sloppy operations show the amount of regard the workers have for the water passing through our community. The Project is currently being reviewed under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act ("MEPA"). MEPA reviews state actions and requires a review of alternatives to limit the impact of state actions on the environment. The attached Environmental Notification Form does not consider off-site alternatives. Now, before public expenditures to rebuild the facility, is the time to consider another location for the facility – away from the water that drains into Boston.

MEPA SITE VISIT MONDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2017 AT 10:00AM AT THE SITE - 5 Incinerator Road, Dedham (Dedham Mall entrance off Washington Street).

Public Comments on the MEPA review should refer to EEA 15635 and are due by February 28, 2017, to Strysky, Alexander alexander.strycky@state.ma.us

Please join me in asking the Town of Dedham to consider a more appropriate, alternative location for the transfer station, and open the access to the Mother Brook.

Thank you,

Ken Fields

14 Senders Court
Hyde Park
18/19

Dear Sir,
I have the pleasure to inform you that your application for a grant of probate in respect of the estate of the late Mrs. [Name] has been granted by the Probate Registry.
The grant is dated [Date] and is in full force and effect.
I am, Sir, very glad to be able to inform you of this and am sure that you will be pleased to hear of the successful conclusion of your application.
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Yours faithfully,
[Name]

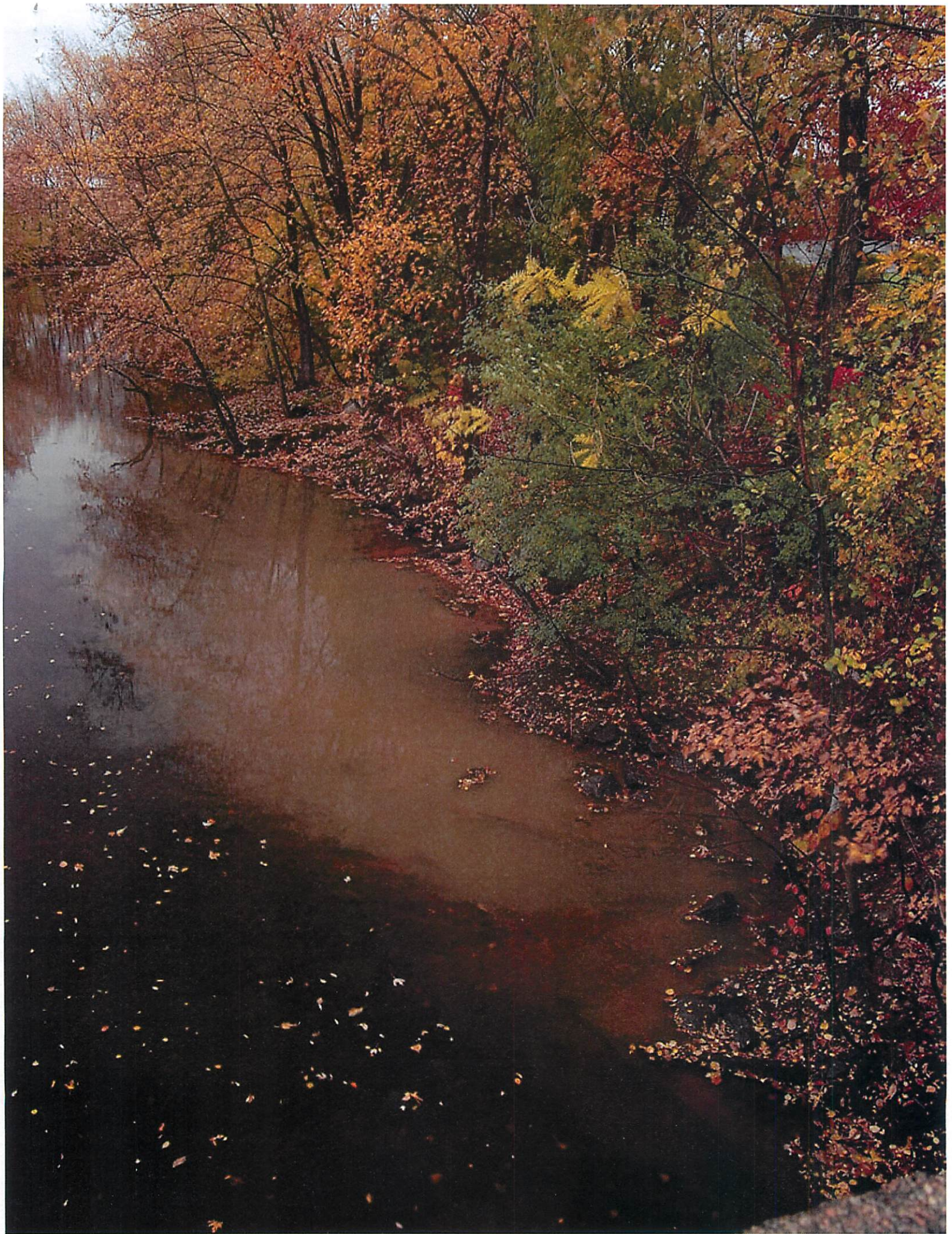
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Strysky, Alexander (EEA)

From: Ken Fields <kfields@fpa-inc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Thomas Palmer; headsandtailspet@aol.com; eastriverneighborhoodassoc@yahoo.com; hydeparkneighbors@gmail.com; Angelo.Scaccia@mahouse.gov; Timothy.McCarthy@boston.gov; david.mcnulty@boston.gov; frank.baker@boston.gov; andrea.campbell@boston.gov
Cc: elycare1@aol.com; PTierney@TRG.com; david_gr@verizon.net; parkstreetthydepark@gmail.com; baku@rcn.com; mkrealtor@verizon.net; jrmcdonald@meditech.com; Michelle.Wu@boston.gov; Michael.F.Flaherty@boston.gov; Ayanna.Pressley@boston.gov; palmer@neponset.org; cooke@neponset.org; jerome.smith@boston.gov; news@bulletinnewspapers.com; rstanley@dedham-ma.gov; dguilfoyle@dedham-ma.gov; Alan Benevides; Strysky, Alexander (EEA)
Subject: RE: FW: EEA 15635 Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Center Operations Expansion
Attachments: Dedham Transfer Aerial Drainage.pdf

This aerial shows non-precipitation drainage from containers going to the Mother Brook.

Ken Fields, Senior Project Manager
Fort Point Associates, Inc.
31 State Street, 3rd Floor | Boston, MA 02109
T 617 357 7044x203 C 617-201-3008

From: Thomas Palmer [mailto:ophis@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 4:38 PM
To: Ken Fields <kfields@fpa-inc.com>; headsandtailspet@aol.com; eastriverneighborhoodassoc@yahoo.com; hydeparkneighbors@gmail.com; Angelo.Scaccia@mahouse.gov; Timothy.McCarthy@boston.gov; david.mcnulty@boston.gov; frank.baker@boston.gov; andrea.campbell@boston.gov
Cc: elycare1@aol.com; PTierney@TRG.com; david_gr@verizon.net; parkstreetthydepark@gmail.com; baku@rcn.com; mkrealtor@verizon.net; jrmcdonald@meditech.com; Michelle.Wu@boston.gov; Michael.F.Flaherty@boston.gov; Ayanna.Pressley@boston.gov; palmer@neponset.org; cooke@neponset.org; jerome.smith@boston.gov; news@bulletinnewspapers.com; rstanley@dedham-ma.gov; dguilfoyle@dedham-ma.gov; Alan Benevides <abenevides@woodardcurran.com>; Strysky, Alexander (ENV) <alexander.strycky@state.ma.us>
Subject: Re: FW: EEA 15635 Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Center Operations Expansion

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14 Senders Court
Hyde Park
18/19



From: Matthew Watsky [mailto:Matt@Watskylaw.com]

Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 6:01 PM

To: 'Strysky, Alexander (EEA)'; 'avorce@nantucket-ma.gov'; 'Backman, Andy (DCR)'; 'Barbara Newman'; 'Boeri, Robert (EEA)'; 'Bourre, Richard (EEA)'; 'Buckley, Deirdre (EEA)'; 'bwoods@nmcog.org'; 'Carr, Jillian (FWE)'; 'Chin, Ken (DEP)'; 'Chisholm, Chris (AGR)'; 'Christopher.Boelke@Noaa.gov'; 'Ciaramella, Pasquale'; 'Connolly, Marianne'; 'ddizoglio@mvpc.org'; 'Dorr Fox (dfox@capecodcommission.org)'; 'Elizabeth Perry'; 'Engler, Lisa Berry (EEA)'; 'Eric Arbenne (earbeene@ocpcrpa.org)'; 'Eric.Hutchins@noaa.gov'; 'Evans, Tay (FWE)'; 'Flaherty, Erin (EEA)'; 'Fragata, Carlos (DEP)'; 'French, Tom (FWE)'; 'Galvin, Mike (DCR)'; 'Glenn, Kathryn (EEA)'; 'Hill, David (DEP)'; 'Hobill, Jonathan (DEP)'; 'Hopson, Barbara (AGR)'; 'Huckery, Pat (FWE)'; 'Janik, David (DEP)'; 'Jill Valdes Horwood'; 'Julie Wormser'; 'Kerigan, Kathleen (DEP)'; 'Kilmer, Charles'; 'Kinahan, Erin (DOT)'; 'Kirby, Christine (DEP)'; 'Laney, Kristen'; 'Langhauser, Andrea (DEP)'; 'LaRosa, Thomas (DCR)'; 'Glorioso, Lauren (FWE)'; 'Lehan, Richard (FWE)'; 'lindad@frcog.org'; 'Logan, John (FWE)'; 'Lorion, Barry (DOT)'; 'Lucien, Lionel (DOT)'; 'Lynch, Ben (DEP)'; 'Mahala, Jim (DEP)'; 'Marold, Misty-Anne (FWE)'; 'Mastone, Victor (EEA)'; 'maura.zlody@ci.boston.ma.us'; 'McKenna, Steve (EEA)'; 'mpillsbury@mapc.org'; 'Mystic River Watershed Association (patrick@mysticriver.org)'; 'NKarns@berkshireplanning.org'; 'Padula, Michele (AGR)'; 'Petitpas, Christian (FWE)'; 'pincumbe.david@epa.gov'; 'Pioneer Valley Planning Commission'; 'Potti, Pooja (FWE)'; 'Putnam, Nancy (DCR)'; 'Regosin, Jonathan (FWE)'; 'Reiner.Ed@epamail.epa.gov'; 'Salomaa, William (DCR)'; 'Sandy Conaty'; 'Schluter, Eve (FWE)'; 'Simon, Brona (SEC)'; 'Singleton, Stolle (EEA)'; 'Skiba, Catherine (DEP)'; 'Stanley, Laura (DEP)'; 'Tamul, Stella (DEP)'; 'Taylor, Jo-Ann'; 'timmerman.timothy@epa.gov'; 'Tipton, Nathaniel (DCR)'; 'Van Deusen, Margaret'; 'Veinotte, Amanda'; 'Viola, John D. (DEP)'; 'Warncke, Tracy (EEA)'; 'Washburn, Bradford (EEA)'; 'Winn, Jane'; 'Wixon, Josephine (EEA)'; 'Worrall, Eric (DEP)'; 'Yeo, Jonathan (DCR)'; 'Zoto, George (DEP)'

Cc: 'Alan Benevides (abenevides@woodardcurran.com)'; 'mmcdevitt@woodardcurran.com'; 'Denise Cameron (dameron@woodardcurran.com)'; 'richard@ace-ej.org'; 'david.mcnulty@boston.gov'; 'christopher.rusk@boston.gov'; 'Barbarajjmom2@verizon.net'; 'Ken Fields (kfields@fpa-inc.com)'; 'headsandtails.pet@aol.com'; 'eastriverneighborhoodassoc@yahoo.com'; 'hydeparkneighbors@gmail.com'; 'Angelo.Scaccia@mahouse.gov'; 'Timothy.McCarthy@boston.gov'; 'david.mcnulty@boston.gov'; 'frank.baker@boston.gov'; 'andrea.campbell@boston.gov'; 'a.e.george@boston.go'; 'Ayanna.Pressley@boston.gov'; 'palmer@neponset.org'; 'cooke@neponset.org'; 'jerome.smith@boston.gov'; 'ruth.georges@boston.go'; 'news@bulletinnewspapers.com'; 'rstanley@dedham-ma.gov'; 'dguilfoyle@dedham-ma.gov'; 'dhadge@hadgelaw.com'; 'william.hermanandherman@rcn.com'; 'Dafna Krouk-Gordon'; 'StevenRines@Lawyer.com'; 'elaine m. benkoski'

Subject: RE: Notice of RESCHEDULED MEPA Site Visit- EEA 15635, Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Center Operations Expansion, Dedham

Alex Strysky:

Please accept these comments filed on behalf of the office condominium abutting the Transfer Station site, 125 East Street Condominium Trust. As MEPA prepares the MEPA Certificate and determines whether the ENF was adequate, please consider the following information and concerns.

Perhaps the most important function of MEPA is its ability to require applicants to consider alternatives, where local Boards and DEP might be unable to consider designs and locations other than those presented to them by the applicant. As became apparent during the MEPA review, the proposed Town owned but privately operated expanded Transfer Station will serve as a regional Transfer Station facility – it will serve waste haulers other than for Dedham residents. The Town provided a cursory, and unilluminating alternatives analysis that dismissed all other Town of Dedham sites, asserting that each already had some use dedicated to it, without identifying those sites or the potential to move the alternative uses elsewhere. As noted below, this site does not meet critical mandatory setbacks for waste handling from sensitive receptors, and actually will move the waste handling closer to many of those receptors than the existing building, while doubling or tripling the daily truck traffic and volume of waste handled. Alternatives should be more thoroughly explored to consider whether another site, even if located in another town, might be better suited to locate a new station, or to increase the capacity of an existing transfer station that is more appropriately sited. This site, which is surrounded by intensely developed sensitive receptors, should be converted to a non-offensive use appropriate to its location. This site is adjacent to a historic water body and in the midst of intense commercial, health care, food service and residential development.

The MEPA certificate will provide guidance for additional analysis and data the Town should provide in the Site Assignment, Zoning and DEP ATC permit processes. The purpose of MEPA is to force consideration of alternatives in a way that a local board or state agency would not be able to require; and similarly to require the applicant to generate data that the local boards would not be in a position to require. When examining and considering and weighing alternative sites, MEPA should require the Town to consider:

- The proposed change in the site will put the waste handling area within 100 feet of the property line of 30 Eastbrook Road address, managed by the 125 East Street Condominium Trust.
- The DEP regulations require a 100 foot set back from waste handling activities to property lines,
- The DEP Regulations also require a 500 foot setback of a transfer station from any occupied residential dwelling or from a "health care facility." See 310 CMR 16.40(3)(d)(5). Using satellite imagery, it appears that the new waste handling building would be located 450 feet from the new apartment building on Washington Street.
- In addition, just on a cursory review of the mapping data available to us, it appears the following health care facilities are located within the prohibited 500 foot zone from the proposed facility:
 1. There are several health care providers located in the 125 East Street Condominium Trust buildings. The closest proximity are the several office suites in the 30 Eastbrook Road building where mental health counseling is provided; and a podiatrist's offices is located on the first floor. (Riverside Community care (<http://www.riversidecc.org/>) provides client counseling in its offices in 30 Eastbrook – approximately 100 feet from the new proposed waste handling building. According to personal communication from Riverside, they currently serve over 300 individual patients, with over 5000 visits per year.
 2. The 20 Eastbrook Road building is also a health care facility, home to Till, and a dental surgery practice. Till provides mental health and other counseling services to an average of 20 to 30 patients per day.
 3. Dedham Health and Athletic Complex, which houses athletic recreational facilities as well as medical facilities, is a health care facility with Physical Therapy, Back Therapy, Aqua Therapy, Primary Care/Internal Medicine, Occupational Medicine, Orthopedic Surgical medical services, MRI Imaging, Massage Therapy, Diabetes, Urology and other medical specialties. The DHAC building is located approximately 300 feet from the proposed new Transfer Station facility.
- In addition, the 500 foot setback imposed by 310 CMR 16.40 bars location of a facility within 500 feet of a day care or pre-school. Sunny Bear Academy, 109 Lower East Street, Dedham, is a licensed pre-school and day care facility. Its building is approximately 500 feet of the proposed facility, and its playground closer than that distance.
- There are also multiple restaurants within the Dedham Mall, and a supermarket food store in close proximity.

The existing facility was located here as an incinerator in the early 1900s, at a time when this area likely was considered so remote that its use would have no neighbors to affect with nuisance odors or noises. Other than the fact that the existing, out dated facility is already located here, with the current surrounding development this project could not be more inappropriately located. Although it is clear the existing facility cannot be operated without emitting nuisance odors and noise, choosing to install a new building that will control some of those nuisances while in such close proximity to sensitive receptors is not prudent without intensive study of alternative sites.

Assuming that a real alternatives analysis demonstrates that no alternative site exists that meets the required setbacks and that could be redeveloped, the analysis should also consider:

- Alternative site layouts that decrease or eliminate necessary back up movements of trucks. As designed, every truck entering the facility to dump waste is required to back into the building, in closest proximity to the offices at 30 Eastbrook.
- Alternatives to eliminate the use of back up alarms on all trucks permitted to use this facility - alarms are not a requirement of OSHA rules, but instead are necessary only when trucks have obstructed view to the rear. Alternatives to study should include use of a spotter/flag men; or more modern equipment – back up cameras, LIDAR and RADAR. All are alternatives recognized by OSHA. For this site, which functions essentially as a permanent construction site, with trucks entering and maneuvering, extra measures are necessary and

appropriate to limit the use of nuisance sounds caused by back up alarms. Such intensely loud audible alarms might be tolerable on a construction site with a limited duration during which construction activities will take place. But it is not tolerable to intentionally build a facility that is designed to have long term operation with every truck entering the site having to back up and trigger an alarm, with such alarms so loud that they constitute a nuisance to the site abutters.

- Other noise mitigation: Changes in grade, use of sound walls – and to model the effect of the sound barriers and potential for reflection of the noises off other surfaces;
- Odor controls - which need to be specified in the application to the BOH, and included as conditions in the permit – including regular site cleaning, and cleaning of access and egress roads regardless of whether the site operator personally can detect the odors. Any permit should also include a requirement to document and report all odor complaints, and to responses to those complaints. Odor controls must not include mere odor masking with chemicals that themselves are offensive –but must demonstrate an ability to contain and destroy odors, and prevent them from release into the neighboring air and thus creating a nuisance.
- Effect of Diesel exhaust – the proposed project would double to triple the trucks driving in close proximity to the 30 Eastbrook office building. Permit applications and alternatives studies should consider the effect of long term exposure to diesel exhaust emissions in such close proximity to offices and residences, with a focus on the long term health effects from exposure to those exhausts.
- An alternatives analysis should consider the immediate proximity of this site along the Mother Brook – the oldest man made canal in the USA, which flows water from the Charles River to the Neponset River. Are there alternative sites further from a surface water body; and even if no alternatives exist, is it actually feasible to fully control the concentrated drippings of waste fluids from the many trucks hauling water to and from the site. Storm water management of the polluted, high BOD storm waters on the site and on the access and egress roads, preventing those waters from entering the Mother Brook, while also collecting them so that they can be removed from the site without creating odor events. The current system fails to adequately control the discharges.

- The DEP regulations also prohibit sites where the operation will be unsafe due to:
 1. Traffic congestion
 2. Pedestrian and vehicular safety
 3. Road configuration
 4. Alternate routes
 5. Vehicle emissions
- All of the above are potentially at issue – pedestrians walk between Washington Street and into and through the Dedham Mall, past the entrance of the Transfer Station. All trucks entering and exiting the Transfer Station pas through these private roadways. The trucks emit diesel exhaust – in immediate proximity to 30 the Eastbrook Road building. Vehicle emissions include noise, which is also a nuisance. The engine, transmission and exhaust emissions of the vehicles, as well as back up alarms noted above, are all sources of nuisance conditions.
- Nuisances – 310 CMR 16.40(3)(f) (from noise, litter, vermin, odors and other nuisances) are also considered, and no site may be assigned that will “result in nuisance conditions . . .”

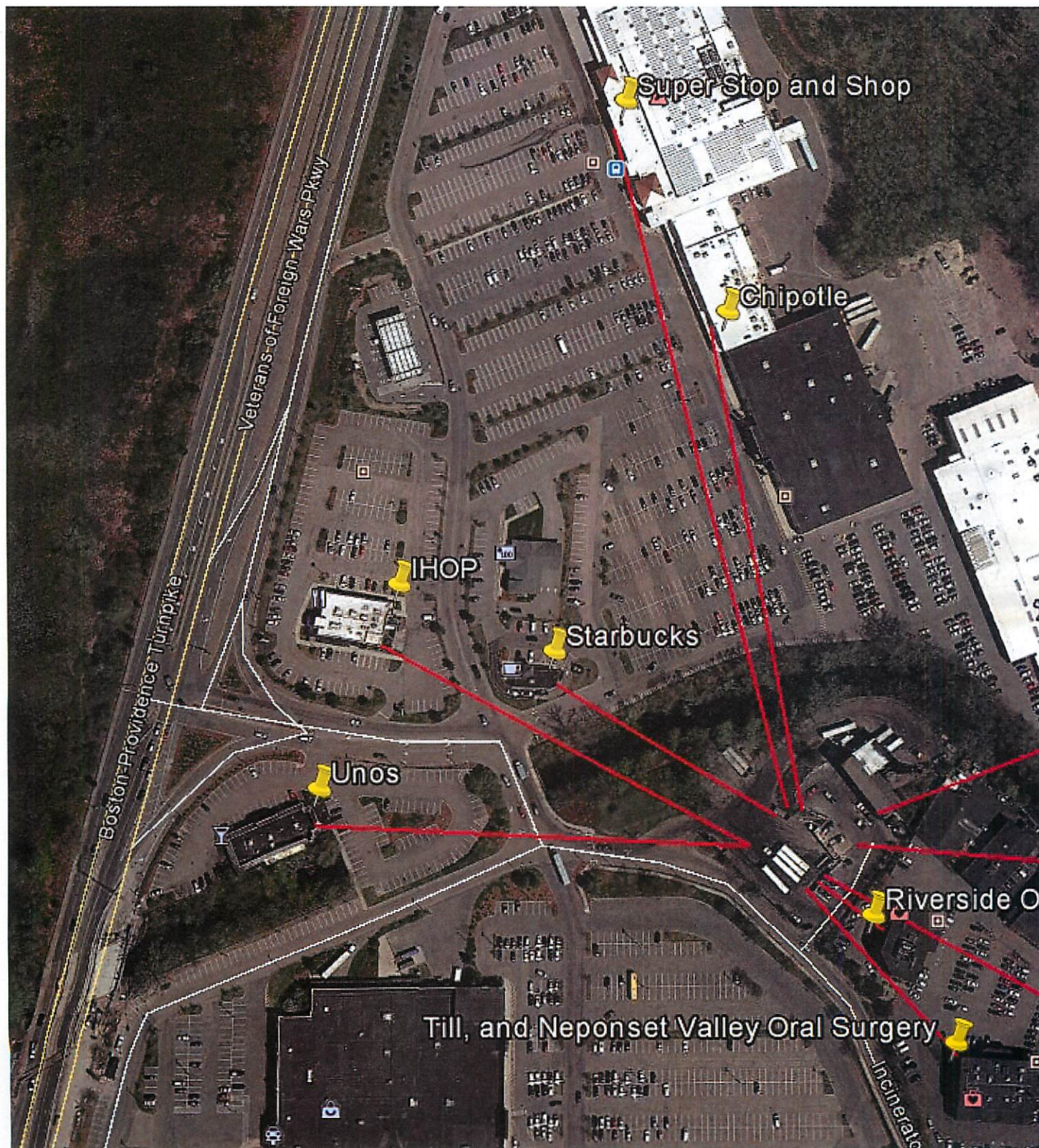
Thank you for your consideration.

Matthew Watsky

Matthew Watsky, Esq.
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Strycky, Alexander (EEA)

From: Matthew Watsky <Matt@Watskylaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 10:58 AM
To: Strycky, Alexander (EEA)
Subject: RE: Notice of RESCHEDULED MEPA Site Visit- EEA 15635, Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Center Operations Expansion, Dedham





Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

Northeast Regional Office • 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington MA 01887 • 978-694-3200

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

March 07, 2016

Matthew A. Beaton, Secretary
Executive Office of
Energy & Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street
Boston MA, 02114

Attn: MEPA Unit

RE: Dedham
Municipal Solid Waste Transfer
Station and Recycling Center
Operations Expansion
5 Incinerator Road
EEA # 15635
(formerly EEA #15447 & #8110)

Dear Secretary Beaton:

The Department of Environmental Protection Northeast Regional Office (MassDEP-NERO) has reviewed the Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF) submitted by the Town of Dedham Department of Public Works (DPW) to demolish the Town's existing solid waste transfer station facility (the Dedham Transfer Station), including a building, retaining walls, pavement and fencing, in order to upgrade the transfer station to an average of 500 tons per day (tpd) (156,000 tons per year), with a peak capacity of 750 tpd (EEA# 15635). The 2.34 acre site in Dedham is bounded to the north by Mother Brook. A 12,140-square foot building is proposed with four commercial and residential waste receiving bays at the rear of the building and one trailer loading bay at the front of the building. A vehicle scale, scale house and retaining walls, and parking spaces are also proposed along the perimeter of the site. The Department (MassDEP) provides the following comments.

Solid Waste

The existing transfer station is authorized to handle a maximum of 250 tpd of municipal solid waste and construction and demolition waste under a MassDEP permit, effective December 1, 2011.

Modification of Existing Site Assignment and Solid Waste Facility Requirements:

Solid waste facilities are regulated by a number of Massachusetts laws and regulations, including Massachusetts General Law Chapter 111, §§ 150A and 150A½, and Massachusetts regulations,

310 CMR 16.00, *Site Assignment Regulations for Solid Waste Facilities* (the "Site Assignments Regulations"), and 310 CMR 19.000, *Solid Waste Regulations*.

Prior to the submittal of the EENF, the Town of Dedham in a letter dated June 8, 2015 requested that the MassDEP determine the applicability of 310 CMR 16.22: *Modification to and Rescissions and Suspensions of Site Assignments* to a potential upgrade of the Town of Dedham Transfer Station. In a letter dated August 17, 2015 MassDEP concluded that the proposed upgrade to the transfer station would require a minor modification to the existing site assignment for the site. A minor modification of the Site Assignment will be subject to compliance with the procedures established in 310 CMR 16.20. The local board of health will hold a Site Assignment hearing to ensure that interested parties are informed and have an opportunity to provide input during the Site Assignment modification process. The local Board of Health will consider the public's input in making their final decision.

As proposed in the EENF, the project is subject to the requirements of 310 CMR 19.000, including but not limited to the requirements of 310 CMR 19.029: *Applicable Permit and Certification Procedures for the Construction, Operation, Modification, or Expansion of a Solid Waste Facility*. If the proposed location is granted a site assignment modification by the local board of health, then the project would require submittal of an application for a facility permit and Authorization to Construct (ATC), category BWP SW05, in accordance with the procedures of 310 CMR 19.032 and 19.041. Following construction pursuant to a valid facility permit and ATC, the proposed operation of the transfer station would require submittal of an application for Authorization to Operate (ATO), category BWP SW06, in accordance with the procedures of 310 CMR 19.033 and 19.042. The ATO application must include documentation that the facility has been constructed in accordance with the facility design as approved by the permit and ATC, and that all applicable conditions of the Site Assignment and permit are in compliance. The application for an ATO permit will require additional details, as required by 310 CMR 19.200 thru 19.207.

MassDEP will conduct a thorough and comprehensive review of the ATC and ATO permit applications for the Town of Dedham's proposed project in accordance with the review procedures set forth in 310 CMR 19.000. Pursuant to 310 CMR 19.032, MassDEP will issue a Draft Decision and Draft Permit for the ATC to provide opportunity for public review and comment, prior to issuing a final decision. MassDEP would consider any comments prior to issuing a final decision and permit. This public participation mechanism serves to ensure that interested parties are informed and have an opportunity to comment on a draft decision and draft permit and that MassDEP has the benefit of such input prior to issuing a final decision. MassDEP notes that the fairly comprehensive scopes of both the site assignment modification process and the solid waste management facility permitting process will provide transparency and public participation opportunities.

Building Demolition and Reconstruction Waste Materials:

The proposed project includes the demolition of buildings and other structures which may contain asbestos. The project proponent is advised that demolition activity must comply with both Solid Waste and Air Quality Control regulations. Please note that MassDEP promulgated

revised Asbestos regulations (310 CMR 7.15) that became effective on June 20, 2014. The new regulations contain requirements to conduct a pre-demolition/renovation asbestos survey by a licensed asbestos inspector and post-abatement visual inspections by a licensed asbestos project monitor. The Massachusetts Department of Labor and Work Force Development, Division of Labor Standards (DLS) is the agency responsible for licensing and regulating all asbestos abatement contractors, designers, project monitors, inspectors and analytical laboratories in the state of Massachusetts.

In accordance with the Air Quality Regulations at 310 CMR 7.09(2), the proponent must submit a BWP AQ 06 Notification Prior to Construction or Demolition form to MassDEP for all construction or demolition projects. The proponent should propose measures to prevent or alleviate dust, noise, and odor nuisance conditions, which may occur during the demolition.

In accordance with the revised Asbestos regulations at 310 CMR 7.15(4), any owner or operator of a facility or facility component that contains suspect asbestos containing material (ACM) shall, prior to conducting any demolition or renovation, employ a DLS licensed asbestos inspector to thoroughly inspect the facility or facility component, to identify the presence, location and quantity of any ACM or suspect ACM and to prepare a written asbestos survey report. As part of the asbestos survey, samples must be taken of all suspect asbestos containing building materials and sent to a DLS certified laboratory for analysis, using USEPA approved analytical methods.

If ACM is identified in the asbestos survey, the proponent must hire a DLS licensed asbestos abatement contractor to remove and dispose of any asbestos containing material(s) from the facility or facility component in accordance with 310 CMR 7.15, prior to conducting any demolition or renovation activities. The removal and handling of asbestos from the facility or facility components must adhere to the Specific Asbestos Abatement Work Practice Standards required at 310 CMR 7.15(7). The proponent and asbestos contractor will be responsible for submitting an Asbestos Notification Form ANF-001 to MassDEP at least ten (10) working days prior to beginning any removal of the asbestos containing materials as specified at 310 CMR 7.15(6).

The proponent shall ensure that all asbestos containing waste material from any asbestos abatement activity is properly stored and disposed of at a landfill approved to accept such material in accordance with 310 CMR 7.15 (17). The Solid Waste Regulations at 310 CMR 19.061(3) lists the requirements for any solid waste facility handling or disposing of asbestos waste. Pursuant to 310 CMR 19.061(3)(b)1, no asbestos containing material; including VAT, asphaltic-asbestos felts or shingles; may be disposed at a solid waste combustion facility.

The project includes demolition and reconstruction, which will generate construction and demolition (C&D) waste. The management of C&D waste is subject to the regulatory requirements of 310 CMR 16.00 – the Massachusetts Site Assignment Regulations, and 310 CMR 19.000 – the Massachusetts Solid Waste Regulations. These regulations include, but are not limited to, the following sections applicable to the management and reuse of construction and demolition waste:

- 310 CMR 16.03(2)(b)5: Asphalt Pavement, Brick and Concrete Recycling (ABC) Operations – Includes notification requirements for on-site crushing of ABC rubble.
- 310 CMR 19.017: Waste Bans – Includes prohibitions on the disposal of certain materials including, but not limited to, such construction wastes as clean gypsum wallboard, wood, and metal.
- 310 CMR 19.060: Beneficial Use of Solid Waste – Includes provisions for the beneficial reuse of solid waste including processed rubble as construction materials (aggregate, structural fill, etc.).

In addition, providing sufficient space for the segregation and temporary storage of waste and recyclable materials generated by the proposed project will aid recycling/reuse of materials. The proponent may wish to request that contractors at the site develop a construction and demolition materials management plan.

Wetlands

The previous EENF indicated that 4,350 square feet of Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF) would be altered temporarily by project activities. The revised EENF states that BLSF alteration will now be permanent. As some existing flood storage will be lost, compensatory flood storage is proposed between the existing gravel area and Mother Brook. Compensatory storage will be provided at a 2:1 ratio in accordance with the Town of Dedham Conservation Commission Rules and Regulations. The Notice of Intent filing should provide a cut-and-fill analysis that demonstrates compensatory flood storage volume is incrementally equal to the volume at each elevation in which there is fill proposed.

According to the EENF, 60,818 square feet of Riverfront Area will be permanently altered. As the site is a previously-developed Riverfront Area, work to redevelop to the site must conform to criteria (a) – (h) of 310 CMR 10.58(5). It should be noted that criteria (a) requires that, at a minimum, proposed work shall result in an improvement over existing conditions relative to the interests of the Riverfront Area. Criteria (b) requires that stormwater management be provided according to the standards established by MassDEP. While it appears that the proposed project will meet criteria (b), there does not appear to be any improvements within the Riverfront Area in accordance with criteria (a).

Stormwater

Stormwater from the existing transfer station site is currently collected and treated by a stormwater management system that includes “Stormceptor STC” treatment units. Due to the proposed revisions in site topography and a proposed increase in impervious area, this stormwater management system will be upgraded to meet the standards of MassDEP’s Stormwater Management Standards. As there is limited acreage on the site, it is anticipated that stormwater runoff will be managed by subsurface proprietary treatment and detention systems. Since the site contains a transfer station, it is considered a Land Use with Higher Pollutant Loads and will need to meet Standard 5 of the MA Stormwater Handbook.

Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP)/M.G.L. c.21E

Contaminated Soil and Groundwater: The EENF indicates that areas near the site have been regulated under c.21E, Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-17280 (Response Action Outcome, Class A-1). The project proponent is advised that excavating, removing and/or disposing of contaminated soil, pumping of contaminated groundwater, or working in contaminated media must be done under the provisions of MGL c.21E (and, potentially, c.21C) and OSHA. If permits and approvals under these provisions are not obtained beforehand, considerable delays in the project can occur. The project proponent cannot manage contaminated media without prior submittal of appropriate plans to MassDEP, which describe the proposed contaminated soil and groundwater handling and disposal approach, and health and safety precautions. If contamination at the site is known or suspected, the appropriate tests should be conducted well in advance of the start of construction and professional environmental consulting services should be readily available to provide technical guidance to facilitate any necessary permits. If dewatering activities are to occur at a site with contaminated groundwater, or in proximity to contaminated groundwater where dewatering can draw in the contamination, a plan must be in place to properly manage the groundwater and ensure site conditions are not exacerbated by these activities. Dust and/or vapor monitoring and controls are often necessary for large-scale projects in contaminated areas. The need to conduct real-time air monitoring for contaminated dust and to implement dust suppression must be determined prior to excavation of soils, especially those contaminated with compounds such as metals and PCBs. An evaluation of contaminant concentrations in soil should be completed to determine the concentration of contaminated dust that could pose a risk to health of on-site workers and nearby human receptors. If this dust concentration, or action level, is reached during excavation, dust suppression should be implemented as needed, or earthwork should be halted.

Potential Indoor Air Impacts: Parties constructing and/or renovating buildings in contaminated areas should consider whether chemical or petroleum vapors in subsurface soils and/or groundwater could impact the indoor air quality of the buildings. All relevant site data, such as contaminant concentrations in soil and groundwater, depth to groundwater, and soil gas concentrations should be evaluated to determine the potential for indoor air impacts to existing or proposed building structures. Particular attention should be paid to the vapor intrusion pathway for sites with elevated levels of chlorinated volatile organic compounds such as tetrachloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE). MassDEP has additional information about the vapor intrusion pathway on its website at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/cleanup/laws/vifs.htm>.

New Structures and Utilities: Construction activities conducted at a disposal site shall not prevent or impede the implementation of likely assessment or remedial response actions at the site. Construction of structures at a contaminated site may be conducted as a Release Abatement Measure if assessment and remedial activities prescribed at 310 CMR 40.0442(3) are completed

Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Center Operations Expansion EEA # 15635

within and adjacent to the footprint of the proposed structure prior to or concurrent with the construction activities. Excavation of contaminated soils to construct clean utility corridors should be conducted for all new utility installations.

The MassDEP appreciates the opportunity to comment on this proposed project. Please contact Mark Fairbrother, at mark.fairbrother@state.ma.us or (978) 694-3317 for further information on solid waste issues. Please contact Rachel Freed at rachel.freed@state.ma.us or (978) 694-3258 for more information on wetland issues. If you have any general questions regarding these comments, please contact me at John.D.Viola@state.ma.us or at (978) 694-3304.

Sincerely,

This final document copy is being provided to you electronically by the Department of Environmental Protection. A signed copy of this document is on file at the DEP office listed on the letterhead.

John D. Viola
Deputy Regional Director

cc: Brona Simon, Massachusetts Historical Commission
Susan Ruch, Mark Fairbrother, Heidi Davis, MassDEP-NERO

Strysky, Alexander (EEA)

From: Ian Cooke <cooke@neponset.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2017 10:54 AM
To: Alan Benevides
Cc: Strysky, Alexander (EEA); Joseph Flanagan; Denise Cameron; mjoyce@wilderco.com; kevin@tillinc.org; esolomon@wilderco.com; mflood@wilderco.com; Matthew Watsky; william.hermanandherman@rcn.com; Ken Fields; bvanlaarhoven@cecinc.com; aknight@cecinc.com; Kelli Burke; Jason Mammone; Margaret Van Deusen
Subject: Re: FW: Notice of MEPA Site Visit- EEA 15635, Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Center Operations Expansion, Dedham

Hello Alex,

I am writing to offer comments on MEPA #15635, the Dedham Waste Transfer Station.

As was obvious during the site visit, the existing lack of stormwater infrastructure on the site is a significant problem. While some flows exiting the site are currently partially treated, others are being discharged untreated overland, particularly near the unpaved parking in the riverfront area, and contributing to erosion as well. It also appears that snow management activities in this same spot are likely pushing snow and/or soil onto the riverbank and/or into Mother Brook.

We also observed any number of liquid discharges onto impervious areas around the site which arguably constitute illicit discharges under the MS4 permit. In light of the above, we would urge the Town to implement further interim stormwater and snow management measures on the site until such time as permanent site improvements are implemented. We would be happy to work with the Engineering Department and DPW to try to recommend some feasible measures in this regard.

We would also observe based on the site visit, that stormwater pollutant loading rates at the site are extremely high for sediment, phosphorous, bacteria, BOD and likely metals as well. Mother Brook is listed as impaired in the state's list of integrated waters for phosphorous, DO and pathogens among other pollutants. In addition Mother Brook is subject to a TMDL for pathogens. I am confident that bacteria concentrations in stormwater effluent leaving the site exceed the TMDL load allocation by an order of magnitude at the very least. It is also important to note that the site is located slightly more than one-half mile upstream of the Condon Park recreational area.

If the proposed expansion of the existing use on the site is implemented, it needs to incorporate state of the art stormwater management systems which fully treat the first inch of runoff for phosphorous, DO, pathogens and metals without seeking relief from these standards under the redevelopment provisions of the stormwater handbook.

The proprietary media filters proposed in the ENF are not effective at removing pathogens and are thus not sufficient. If the proposed proprietary media filter system can be combined with infiltration of the full first inch of runoff from the site, that would be an appropriate solution. Failing that, the applicant should consider constructing a bioretention basin or gravel wetlands system at the site, perhaps on adjacent unutilized private property. Another alternative might be use of Filtterra units using "Bacteria" filter media (conveniently also sold by Contech). In addition, the applicant should consider enhancing stormwater BMPs along the access road or in the adjacent private parking lots with BMPs that are effective at removing both phosphorous and pathogens.

While it is important to improve stormwater conditions on the site as soon as possible, we also have more fundamental concerns about wetlands on the property, and the compatibility of this use with a waterfront location.

Our understanding is that the current facility is Town owned, but that Dedham's own domestic trash and recycling does not pass through the facility, and its curbside waste may or may not pass through the facility once it is expanded. This observation highlights the degree to which the existing use is in some sense not a municipal function of the Town, but rather a privately operated regional waste transfer facility, which happens to be on land owned by the Town.

We would also observe that the range of alternatives evaluated in the ENF is quite narrow, in spite of the limited evaluation of Town owned properties submitted in the closing moments of the comment period. It does not seem to include a meaningful evaluation of other sites owned by the Town of Dedham, other sites within Dedham that could reasonably be acquired by the town or its private operator, or other sites outside of Dedham in the communities currently sending their trash to the facility which could reasonably be acquired by the private contractor.

Most of the site is located in the riverfront area of Mother Brook and the project involves adding significant new fill in the riverfront area, as well as installation of a retaining wall at the top of (and perhaps arguably on) the bank of Mother Brook along a reach of more than 200 linear feet which will further degrade the functions and values of the existing riverfront area and other resources areas.

Furthermore, if a different site were found or acquired for the transfer station, the current site would be an appropriate location for high density commercial or residential development. When considering both the potential sale of the property and the ongoing increases in property tax revenue following redevelopment, this could potentially provide a better economic return for the Town as compared to the current proposal. Furthermore, these other uses could be implemented in a manner that opens up access to this historic waterway and involves significantly less impact to the riverfront protection area, as well as being more compatible with the surrounding land uses.

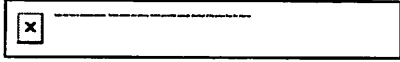
Therefore, in light of the scale of the proposed project and its nature as a regional facility that is not used for the Town's own waste disposal needs, we feel it would be appropriate for the Town to conduct a more meaningful evaluation of potential alternative sites, and we would suggest the following additional alternatives:

- Discontinuing the operation of the transfer station at the current site, since it is not playing presently playing a role in meeting the Town's own solid waste management needs, and redeveloping it for high density commercial or residential use that takes advantage of its waterfront location.
- A more exhaustive evaluation of other Town owned properties as alternative locations for the waste handling operation in combination with redevelopment of the site for commercial or residential uses.
- Consideration of alternative sites inside Dedham but not currently owned by the Town in combination with redevelopment of the existing site for commercial or residential use.
- Evaluation of alternative sites outside of Dedham but within the collection area of the current facility that could be acquired by the Town or by the private operators of the existing site in combination with redevelopment of the existing site for commercial or residential use.

Thank you for the consideration of these comments and please don't hesitate to contact me if we can be of further assistance on this matter.

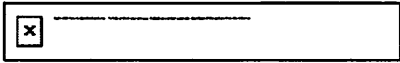
Ian Cooke
Executive Director
Neponset River Watershed Association

2173 Washington Street
Canton, MA 02021
781-575-0354 x 305



On Wed, Mar 1, 2017 at 9:45 AM, Ian Cooke <cooke@neponset.org> wrote:
Thanks!

Ian Cooke
Executive Director
Neponset River Watershed Association
2173 Washington Street
Canton, MA 02021
781-575-0354 x 305



On Tue, Feb 28, 2017 at 5:25 PM, Alan Benevides <abenevides@woodardcurran.com> wrote:

Ian

Attached is a copy of the ENF. Let me know if you need anything else.

Alan

Alan Benevides, P.E., L.S.P.

Woodard & Curran, Inc.

Tel: 978-387-6672

Email: abenevides@woodardcurran.com

Website: www.woodardcurran.com

COMMITMENT AND INTEGRITY DRIVE RESULTS

Ken Fields
14 Senders Court
Hyde Park, MA 02136

March 10, 2017

Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA)
Attn: MEPA Office
Alex Stryski, EEA No 15635
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston MA 02114

RE: Environmental Notification Form for the Dedham Transfer Station
EEA No. 15635.

Dear Secretary Beaton,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Environmental Notification Form ("ENF") for the Dedham Transfer Station reconstruction EEA No. 15635.

The Town of Dedham is proposing an upgrade for the solid waste transfer station and recycling center which is stated to provide critical solid waste services for Dedham and the surrounding communities. The facility is currently permitted by MassDEP to handle a maximum of 250 tons per day of combined Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Construction & Demolition (C&D) waste. The proposed upgrade for the transfer station and recycling center will increase the waste handling operations to an annual average of 500 tons per day, with a peak capacity of 750 tons per day. Plans indicate that the existing facility building will be demolished and replaced along with site grading and stormwater improvements. The Site is a 2.34-acre parcel bounded by Mother Brook to the north, a commercial building with parking to the east, an undisturbed vegetated buffer to the west, and Incinerator Road to the south. The ENF fails to mention the various sensitive receptors, including residential and medical uses, abutting, and nearby the property

The Mother Brook is America's first man-made waterway. It drains its waters into the Neponset River. The Mother Brook and Neponset River both travel through significant sections of Hyde Park, and the Neponset continues through Mattapan and Dorchester through the Neponset River Estuary Area of Critical Environmental Concern prior to draining into Boston Harbor.

- Each of these water bodies have a major problem with bacteria and nutrient loading.
- Each of the neighborhoods downstream of the site have annual median household income less than 65 percent of the statewide median with greater than 25 percent minority, foreign born, or lacking English language proficiency.

The Site is inappropriate for the use because it is adjacent to and actively pollutes the waterway. The storage containers drain liquid whether it is rain or shine. (See Attachment A – Google Map Arial Photo and Attachment B -MEPA Site Visit Photo). The liquid has a stench and since it comes from solid waste, it likely drains from or through decaying organic materials. The liquid provides an excellent medium for bacterial growth, as well as a mode to transfer the bacteria from the decay. Furthermore, transfer station operations are in the business of dealing with waste and not in protecting ecological resources. The bank of the Mother Brook is littered with trash. On Site snow management consisted of pushing pile of snow directly on the bank of the Brook. During the MEPA site visit the snow was observed to be blackened and loaded with trash (see Attachment C –Snow Pile), which is a violation of the DEP Snow Management Policy and the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act. It was also observed that there was a temporary welding operation directly adjacent the river bank. The point is that there is no regard for the resource area.

The Town of Dedham is prepared to invest significant public funds to demolish and rebuild the Site. The time is now, before public funds are spent on reconstruction, to consider a more responsible location for the use.

The ENF does not provide an adequate alternatives analysis. The “Expanded” Alternatives Analysis in the ENF focuses on internal site traffic flow and operational issues. There is no discussion regarding how one alternative is more or less damaging to the environment than the others. The alternatives to protect the environment should consider alternative sites. When asked about whether any off site locations were considered, the proponent dismissed the concept as not required. Subsequent to the MEPA site visit a list of Town properties, such as schools and parks, was provided by the Dedham Planning Department as an alternatives analysis of off-site locations. It is not clear whether this is a comprehensive list of Town properties or not, but no analysis was provided.

I request that the Secretary require a truly legitimate alternatives analysis which explores relocating the operations to a more appropriate off-site area that will have fewer opportunities to damage the environment. While the Town cannot be mandated to buy another property, a land swap should be considered. The Site is located in an area with mostly retail uses, and is a direct abutter to residential uses. The access and retail surroundings suggest that a site with a running waterway could be better suited for a higher and better use. A restaurant use would fit the site as would retail or residential uses. There are seas of asphalt parking lots in the surrounding area. Even at the peak of holiday shopping these lots are never filled to capacity. Even a swap bringing parking to the Site would be less damaging to the environment than a waste transfer station.

Stormwater Management on the Site is a problem for the Mother Brook. The ENF indicates that there will be a slight increase in impervious area on the Site. A new stormwater management system is proposed to meet the standards in the MassDEP “Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook. The potential proprietary treatment system would provide significant improvements in Total Suspended Solids (“TSS”), metal, and phosphorous removal. The “treatment technology features rechargeable, self-cleaning, media filled cartridges.” These improvement sound like a good start to protect the waters of the Mother Brook. However, improved TSS removal translates into increased maintenance. The more solids you take out of the water means that there is more to take out of the system for it to work properly. Care for the water body and maintenance seem to be a big issue for the Site operators. The description “self-cleaning” is a bit deceptive and should raise a red flag. The hoods of the system are “self-cleaning”, but not the media-filled cartridges as the ENF appears to indicate. The media-filled cartridges would need to be periodically replaced, which is a maintenance issue.

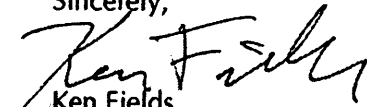
At the Site visit, the Proponent's consultant indicated that as a redevelopment site, compliance with all of the DEP Stormwater Standards would not have to be met. Meeting an "improvement" standard is not difficult with the low bar set by the existing conditions and operations. It certainly will not make up for the past sins of waterway impairment. When the consultant was asked about recharge, he indicated that there was likely not going to be recharge due to Site constraints.

Nothing in the ENF addresses the issue of bacteria from the Site entering the waterbody and flowing to the communities downstream. The consultant explained that waste deliveries would be made indoors in the new facility. Indoor waste delivery is a positive improvement to contain odors, noise, and to reduce waste contact with stormwater. However, when asked about the waste storage containers, which add their own bacteria laced effluent to the water, the consultant stated that they would still be needed, but they would not leak. Past practices and evidence shows otherwise. A stormwater system with a recharge area may be the best passive treatment for bacteria.

In conclusion, an alternatives analysis which seriously considers other sites should be required. The stormwater system should be designed to prevent bacteria from entering the Mother Brook. The Secretary should take into consideration that past practices on the Site have had no consideration for the waters of the Mother Brook nor the communities downstream of the facility.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Ken Fields
Hyde Park Resident

Attachment A - Google Map Arial Photo

Attachment B - MEPA Site Visit Photo

Attachment C - Snow Pile

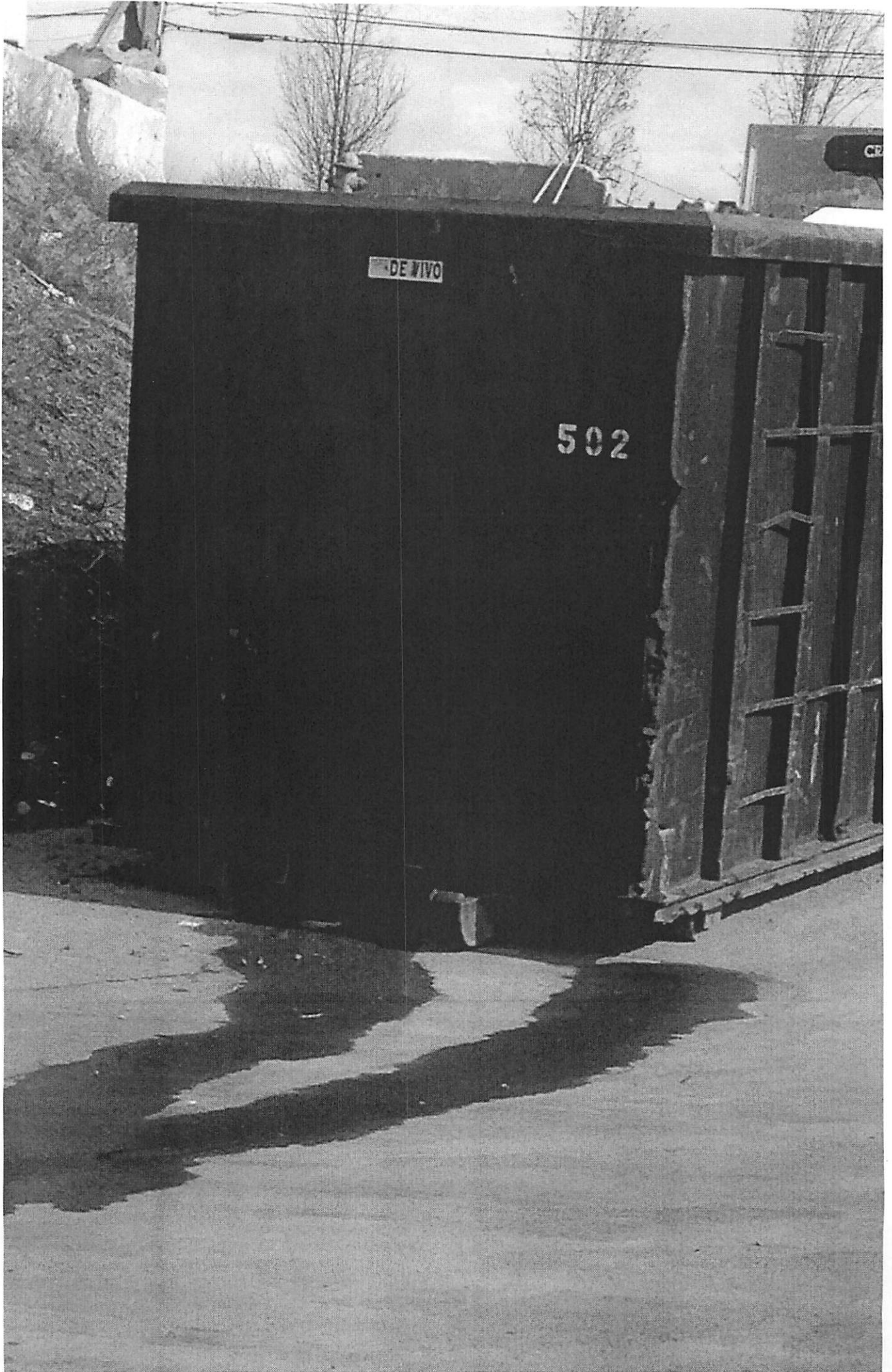
Attachment A

GOOGLE MAP AERIAL



Attachment B

SITE VISIT PHOTO



DE VIVO

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CE

Attachment C

SNOW PILE



