

AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE  
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended, (33 USC §§ 1251 et seq.; the “CWA”), and the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, as amended (MGL c. 21, §§ 26-53),

**Benevento Sand & Stone Corporation**

is authorized to discharge from the facility located at:

**Benevento Sand & Stone Corp.  
900 Salem Street  
Wilmington, MA 01887**

to receiving water named:

**Martins Brook (MA 92-08)**

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

This permit shall become effective on the first day of the calendar month immediately following sixty days after signature\*. This permit expires at midnight, five (5) years from the last day of the month preceding the effective date.

This permit consists Part I, including effluent limitations and monitoring requirements (9 pages); Attachment 1: USEPA Region 1 Freshwater Acute Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol; and Part II, including standard conditions (25 pages).

Signed this        day of

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Ken Moraff, Director  
Office of Ecosystem Protection  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Boston, MA

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David Ferris, Director  
Massachusetts Wastewater Management Program  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Boston, MA

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

**PART 1**

**A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

1. During the period beginning on the effective date of the permit and lasting through expiration, the permittee is authorized to discharge treated pond wash water through Outfall Serial Number 001 to a drainage swale to Martins Brook. Such discharge shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

Effluent Characteristic	Units	Discharge Limitation		Monitoring Requirements <sup>1</sup>	
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow	MGD	0.30	0.58	continuous <sup>6</sup>	recorder <sup>6</sup>
Discharge Events (days) <sup>3</sup>	#	report total		1/month <sup>3</sup>	count
pH <sup>7</sup>	SU	---	6.5-8.3 <sup>7</sup>	1/hour <sup>4</sup>	grab
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	20	30	1/hour <sup>4</sup>	grab
Oil and Grease (O&G)	mg/L	report	15	1/day <sup>2</sup>	grab
Turbidity <sup>2</sup>	NTU	report	20	1/hour <sup>4</sup>	grab
Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) <sup>9, 10, 11, 12</sup>					
Acute LC <sub>50</sub>	%	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Hardness	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Alkalinity	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
pH	SU	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Specific Conductance	µmhos/cm	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Total Solids	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Ammonia	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Total Cadmium	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Total Lead	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Total Copper	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Total Zinc	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Total Nickel	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Total Aluminum	mg/L	---	report	1/year <sup>5</sup>	composite <sup>8</sup>
Receiving Water Characteristic <sup>13</sup>	Units	Limitation		Monitoring Requirements <sup>13</sup>	
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
pH	SU	report	report	1/day <sup>2</sup>	grab
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	report	report	1/day <sup>2</sup>	grab

Turbidity	NTU	report	report	1/day <sup>2</sup>	grab
<u>Footnotes:</u>					
<p><sup>1</sup> Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at a point representative of the entire engineered treatment process, but prior to discharge to the stormwater swale. All samples shall be tested in accordance with the procedures in 40 CFR § 136, unless specified elsewhere in the permit.</p>					
<p><sup>2</sup> Measurement frequency of 1/day is defined as the sampling of one (1) discharge event in each work day when discharge occurs. Each day in which the permittee discharges from Outfall 001, the permittee is required to take a grab sample to quantify oil and grease in the discharge. To the extent practicable, this grab sample <b>should be taken within 30 minutes of the start of the discharge</b> each day. Each day of discharge, the permittee is also required to take a grab sample to characterize pH, TSS, and turbidity of the receiving water. The permittee shall submit to EPA the results of any additional testing done beyond that required herein, if it is conducted in accordance with EPA approved methods consistent with the provisions of 40 CFR § 122.41(10)(4)(ii).</p>					
<p><sup>3</sup> Discharge event shall be defined in this permit as a calendar day in which there is a discharge from Outfall 001. The permittee is required to report under this category the number of work days in which a discharge occurs within each calendar month (see Measurement Frequency).</p>					
<p><sup>4</sup> Measurement frequency of 1/hour is defined as taking grab samples once every 60 minutes when discharge occurs. Total suspended solids, pH, and turbidity will be measured once per hour in the discharge. To the extent practicable, one grab sample <b>should be taken within 30 minutes of the start of the discharge</b> each day. The permittee shall submit to EPA the results of any additional TSS, pH, and turbidity testing done beyond that required herein, if it is conducted in accordance with EPA approved methods consistent with the provisions of 40 CFR § 122.41(10)(4)(ii).</p>					
<p><sup>5</sup> Measurement frequency of 1/year is defined as the sampling of one (1) discharge during the period of April through March (inclusive) in order to capture each winter season discharge. Therefore, if two discharge events occur in the same calendar year, but within different winters (i.e. January, 2016 and December, 2016), both discharge events will be sampled. The permittee shall submit to EPA the results of any additional testing done to that required herein, if it is conducted in accordance with EPA approved methods consistent with the provisions of 40 CFR § 122.41(10)(4)(ii).</p>					
<p><sup>6</sup> Flow shall be measured by continuous meter at a point along the treatment train prior to the system's discharge at Outfall 001.</p>					
<p><sup>7</sup> The pH of the effluent shall be within the limits specified, unless these values are exceeded due to natural causes. To demonstrate that the pH values of the effluent are outside the permitted pH range due to natural causes, the permittee must show that the pH measurements of the source (intake) water and the effluent are substantially similar. Documentation of such conditions must be submitted by the permittee with the discharge monitoring reports.</p>					
<p><sup>8</sup> A composite sample is a sample consisting of grab samples (at least four) collected at hourly intervals during a normal discharge, combined proportionally to flow.</p>					
<p><sup>9</sup> The permittee shall conduct annual acute toxicity tests for Outfall 001 and the receiving water; samples from both to be used in the tests will be collected during a discharge event. The permittee</p>					

shall test the daphnid, *Ceriodaphnia dubia*, and the fathead minnow, *Pimephales promelas*. **The test results shall be submitted annually by April 15<sup>th</sup>.** The tests must be performed in accordance with test procedures and protocols specified in Attachment 1 of the permit.

- <sup>10</sup> For each Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) test the permittee shall report the concentration of all parameters listed **in the 100% effluent sample and the 100% ambient waterbody sample.**
- <sup>11</sup> The ambient waterbody sample for WET testing should be taken immediately upstream (as practicable) from the zone of influence of the permittee's discharge.
- <sup>12</sup> If toxicity test(s) using receiving water as a diluent show the receiving water to be toxic or unreliable, the permittee shall follow procedures outlined in Section IV of Attachment 1 in order to obtain permission to use an alternate dilution water. In lieu of individual approvals for alternate dilution water required in Attachment 1, EPA has developed a Self-Implementing Alternative Dilution Water guidance document (called "Guidance Document" that may be used to obtain automatic approval of an alternate dilution water, including the appropriate species to use with that water. If this "Guidance Document" is revoked, the permittee shall revert to obtaining approval as outlined in Attachment 1. The "Guidance Document" is available by request and is not intended as a direct attachment to this permit. Any modification or revocation to this "Guidance Document" will be updated on EPA's website. However, at any time, the permittee may choose to contact EPA Region 1 directly using the approach outlined in Attachment 1.
- <sup>13</sup> The permittee will take all receiving waterbody samples immediately upstream (as practicable) from the zone of influence of the permittee's discharge. Grab samples for pH, TSS, and turbidity of the receiving water should be taken during a discharge event.

#### **A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (CONT'D.)**

2. The discharge shall not cause a violation of the water quality standards of the receiving waters.
  - a. The pH of the effluent shall not be more than 0.5 units outside of the normally occurring range.
  - b. The effluent shall not cause objectionable color, odor, or turbidity to the receiving waters.
  - c. The effluent shall not contain a visible oil sheen, foam, or floating solids at any time.
  - d. The effluent shall not contain materials in concentrations or in combinations that are hazardous or toxic to aquatic life or that would impair the uses designated by the classification of the receiving waters.
3. In addition to the effluent limits and monitoring requirements in part I.1., the permittee shall submit an annual report on each discharge event from the winter season containing more detailed discharge information including:

- all days of discharge (dates)
- all reportable flow data available
- all hourly pH, turbidity, and TSS grab sample data collected (including sampling time information)
- all upstream receiving water pH and TSS data (at least one (1) data point per day) collected (including sampling time information)
- all daily oil and grease data collected (including sampling time information)

The annual report shall be submitted to EPA and the state by April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year as an attachment to the DMR if using NetDMR. See part D.7. for paper copy submittal requirements.

4. Discharge of wash water containing detergents is prohibited.
5. The permittee shall notify EPA in writing of any changes in the operations, including the use of chemical additives, at the facility that may have an effect on the permitted discharge of wash water from the facility.
6. The permittee shall ensure proper operation and maintenance of the treatment system as recommended by the manufacturer in order to maintain the treatment capabilities of the system during a discharge event.
7. In accordance with 40 CFR § 122.42, all existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural dischargers must notify the Director as soon as they know or have reason to believe:
  - a. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, on a routine basis, of any toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following “notification levels”:
    1. One hundred micrograms per liter (100 µg/L);
    2. Two hundred micrograms per liter (200 µg/L) for acrolein and acrylonitrile, five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L) for 2,4-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
    3. Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.21(g)(7); or
    4. Any other notification level established by the Regional Administrator in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.44(f) and Massachusetts regulations.
  - b. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, on a non-routine or infrequent basis, of any toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following “notification levels”:
    1. One hundred micrograms per liter (100 µg/L);

2. One milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
  3. Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.44(f) and
- c. That they have begun or expect to begin to use or manufacture as an intermediate or final product or byproduct any toxic pollutant that was not reported in the permit application.

## **B. REOPENER CLAUSES**

EPA may revoke and reissue this permit in accordance with EPA regulations at 40 CFR §§ 122.62 and 63.

This permit shall be modified, or alternately, revoked and reissued, to comply with any applicable standard or limitation promulgated or approved under CWA §§ 301(b)(2)(C) and (D), 304(b)(2), and 307(a)(2), if the effluent standard or limitation so issued or approved:

- i. Contains different conditions or is otherwise more stringent than any effluent limitation in the permit; or
- ii. Controls any pollutants not limited in the permit.

If the permit is modified or reissued, it shall be revised to reflect all currently applicable requirements of the CWA.

## **C. UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGES**

The permittee is authorized to discharge only in accordance with the terms and conditions of this permit and only from the outfall listed in Part I.A.1. of this permit. Any wastewater discharges, including product dewatering and wash water, from any other point source(s), are not authorized by this permit and shall be reported in accordance with Part II.D.1.e. of this permit (24-hour reporting).

## **D. MONITORING AND REPORTING**

1. The monitoring program in the permit specifies sampling and analysis, which will provide continuous information on compliance and the reliability and effectiveness of the installed pollution abatement equipment. The approved analytical procedures found in 40 CFR Part 136 are required unless other procedures are explicitly required in the permit. The Permittee is obligated to monitor and report sampling results to EPA and the MassDEP within the time specified within the permit. Unless otherwise specified in this permit, the permittee shall submit reports, requests, and information and provide notices in the manner described in this section.

2. **Beginning on the effective date of the permit** the permittee must submit its monthly monitoring data in discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) to EPA and MassDEP no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period. **For a period of six months from the effective date of the permit**, the permittee may submit its monthly monitoring data in DMRs to EPA and MassDEP either in hard copy form, as described in Part I.E.5, or in DMRs electronically submitted using NetDMR. NetDMR is a web-based tool that allows permittees to electronically submit DMRs and other required reports via a secure internet connection. NetDMR is accessed from: <http://www.epa.gov/netdmr>.
3. **Beginning no later than six months after the effective date of the permit**, the permittee shall begin reporting monthly monitoring data using NetDMR, unless, in accordance with Part I.E.6, the facility is able to demonstrate a reasonable basis, such as technical or administrative infeasibility, that precludes the use of NetDMR for submitting DMRs. The permittee must continue to use the NetDMR after the permittee begins to do so. When a permittee begins submitting reports using NetDMR, it will no longer be required to submit hard copies of DMRs to EPA or MassDEP.
4. NetDMR opt-out requests must be submitted in writing to EPA and MassDEP for written approval at least sixty (60) days prior to the date the facility is required to begin using NetDMR. This demonstration shall be valid for twelve (12) months from the date of EPA approval and shall thereupon expire. At such time, DMRs and reports shall be submitted electronically to EPA unless the permittee submits a renewed opt-out request and such request is approved by EPA. All opt-out requests should be sent to addresses in the table below.
5. After the permittee begins submitting DMR reports to EPA electronically using NetDMR, the permittee shall electronically submit all reports to EPA as NetDMR attachments rather than as hard copies, unless otherwise specified in this permit. Permittees shall continue to send hard copies of reports other than DMRs to MassDEP until further notice from MassDEP (see table).
6. Any verbal reports or verbal notifications, if required in Parts I and/or II of this permit, shall be made to both EPA and to MassDEP. This includes verbal reports and notifications which require reporting within 24 hours. (As examples, see Part II.B.4.c. (2), Part II.B.5.c. (3), and Part II.D.1.e.) Verbal reports and verbal notifications shall be made to EPA's Office of Environmental Stewardship at: **617-918-1510**
7. Other requests and reports not identified above shall generally be submitted by mail to both EPA and MassDEP at the addresses specified in the table below:

Document	EPA Mailing Address	MassDEP Mailing Address
Reports sent as an electronic attachment to a DMR	Not Applicable (electronic)	MassDEP – Northeast Region Bureau of Air and Waste 205B Lowell Street Wilmington, MA 01887 <sup>3</sup>
Transfer of permit notice <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Ecosystem Protection NPDES Applications Coordinator 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 Mailcode: OEP06-03 Boston, MA 02109-3912	MassDEP – Northeast Region Bureau of Air and Waste 205B Lowell Street Wilmington, MA 01887
Request for changes in sampling location <sup>1</sup>		
Request for reduction in testing frequency <sup>1</sup>		
Report on any changes in the operations, including the use of chemical additives <sup>1</sup>		
Written notifications required under Part II <sup>2</sup>	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Environmental Stewardship (OES) Water Technical Unit 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 Mailcode: OES04-SMR Boston, MA 02109-3912	MassDEP – Northeast Region Bureau of Air and Waste 205B Lowell Street Wilmington, MA 01887
Notice of unauthorized discharges <sup>2</sup>		
Hardcopy DMRs and attached reports <sup>2,4</sup>		
Toxicity tests (WET) <sup>2</sup>	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Environmental Stewardship (OES) Water Technical Unit 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 Mailcode: OES04-SMR Boston, MA 02109-3912	MassDEP Watershed Planning Program 8 New Bond Street Worcester, MA 01606
NetDMR opt-out requests	Attn: NetDMR Coordinator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Water Technical Unit 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 Mailcode: OES04-SMR Boston, MA 02109-3912	MassDEP Wastewater Management Program 1 Winter Street, 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02108

<sup>1</sup> These documents may also be submitted to EPA/OEP electronically at [R1NPDES.Notices.OEP@epa.gov](mailto:R1NPDES.Notices.OEP@epa.gov). They must still be mailed as a hard copy to MassDEP at the address listed above.

<sup>2</sup> These documents must be submitted as a hard copy document **with a cover letter** describing the submission to both EPA and MassDEP at the addresses listed above. The original copy, signed and dated, should be submitted to EPA and a duplicate copy sent to MassDEP.

<sup>3</sup> Until further notice from MassDEP.

<sup>4</sup> Hardcopy DMRs may be submitted to EPA and MassDEP if an opt-out request has been approved or in the six month period after final issuance of the permit in which hardcopy DMR submissions are allowed.



## E. STATE PERMIT CONDITIONS

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

# USEPA REGION 1 FRESHWATER ACUTE TOXICITY TEST PROCEDURE AND PROTOCOL

## I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The permittee shall conduct acceptable acute toxicity tests in accordance with the appropriate test protocols described below:

- **Daphnid (Ceriodaphnia dubia) definitive 48 hour test.**
- **Fathead Minnow (Pimephales promelas) definitive 48 hour test.**

Acute toxicity test data shall be reported as outlined in Section VIII.

## II. METHODS

The permittee shall use 40 CFR Part 136 methods. Methods and guidance may be found at:

[http://water.epa.gov/scitech/methods/cwa/wet/disk2\\_index.cfm](http://water.epa.gov/scitech/methods/cwa/wet/disk2_index.cfm)

The permittee shall also meet the sampling, analysis and reporting requirements included in this protocol. This protocol defines more specific requirements while still being consistent with the Part 136 methods. If, due to modifications of Part 136, there are conflicting requirements between the Part 136 method and this protocol, the permittee shall comply with the requirements of the Part 136 method.

## III. SAMPLE COLLECTION

A discharge sample shall be collected. Aliquots shall be split from the sample, containerized and preserved (as per 40 CFR Part 136) for chemical and physical analyses required. The remaining sample shall be measured for total residual chlorine and dechlorinated (if detected) in the laboratory using sodium thiosulfate for subsequent toxicity testing. (Note that EPA approved test methods require that samples collected for metals analyses be preserved immediately after collection.) Grab samples must be used for pH, temperature, and total residual chlorine (as per 40 CFR Part 122.21).

Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater describes dechlorination of samples (APHA, 1992). Dechlorination can be achieved using a ratio of 6.7 mg/L anhydrous sodium thiosulfate to reduce 1.0 mg/L chlorine. If dechlorination is necessary, a thiosulfate control (maximum amount of thiosulfate in lab control or receiving water) must also be run in the WET test.

All samples held overnight shall be refrigerated at 1- 6°C.

#### IV. DILUTION WATER

A grab sample of dilution water used for acute toxicity testing shall be collected from the receiving water at a point immediately upstream of the permitted discharge's zone of influence at a reasonably accessible location. Avoid collection near areas of obvious road or agricultural runoff, storm sewers or other point source discharges and areas where stagnant conditions exist. In the case where an alternate dilution water has been agreed upon an additional receiving water control (0% effluent) must also be tested.

If the receiving water diluent is found to be, or suspected to be toxic or unreliable, an alternate standard dilution water of known quality with a hardness, pH, conductivity, alkalinity, organic carbon, and total suspended solids similar to that of the receiving water may be substituted **AFTER RECEIVING WRITTEN APPROVAL FROM THE PERMIT ISSUING AGENCY(S)**. Written requests for use of an alternate dilution water should be mailed with supporting documentation to the following address:

Director  
Office of Ecosystem Protection (CAA)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-New England  
5 Post Office Sq., Suite 100 (OEP06-5)  
Boston, MA 02109-3912

and

Manager  
Water Technical Unit (SEW)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
5 Post Office Sq., Suite 100 (OES04-4)  
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Note: USEPA Region 1 retains the right to modify any part of the alternate dilution water policy stated in this protocol at any time. Any changes to this policy will be documented in the annual DMR posting.

*See the most current annual DMR instructions which can be found on the EPA Region 1 website at <http://www.epa.gov/region1/enforcement/water/dmr.html> for further important details on alternate dilution water substitution requests.*

It may prove beneficial to have the proposed dilution water source screened for suitability prior to toxicity testing. EPA strongly urges that screening be done prior to set up of a full definitive toxicity test any time there is question about the dilution water's ability to support acceptable performance as outlined in the 'test acceptability' section of the protocol.

#### V. TEST CONDITIONS

The following tables summarize the accepted daphnid and fathead minnow toxicity test conditions and test acceptability criteria:

**EPA NEW ENGLAND EFFLUENT TOXICITY TEST CONDITIONS FOR THE DAPHNID, CERIODAPHNIA DUBIA 48 HOUR ACUTE TESTS<sup>1</sup>**

1.	Test type	Static, non-renewal
2.	Temperature (°C)	20 ± 1°C or 25 ± 1°C
3.	Light quality	Ambient laboratory illumination
4.	Photoperiod	16 hour light, 8 hour dark
5.	Test chamber size	Minimum 30 ml
6.	Test solution volume	Minimum 15 ml
7.	Age of test organisms	1-24 hours (neonates)
8.	No. of daphnids per test chamber	5
9.	No. of replicate test chambers per treatment	4
10.	Total no. daphnids per test concentration	20
11.	Feeding regime	As per manual, lightly feed YCT and <u>Selenastrum</u> to newly released organisms while holding prior to initiating test
12.	Aeration	None
13.	Dilution water <sup>2</sup>	Receiving water, other surface water, synthetic water adjusted to the hardness and alkalinity of the receiving water (prepared using either Millipore Milli-Q <sup>R</sup> or equivalent deionized water and reagent grade chemicals according to EPA acute toxicity test manual) or deionized water combined with mineral water to appropriate hardness.
14.	Dilution series	≥ 0.5, must bracket the permitted RWC
15.	Number of dilutions	5 plus receiving water and laboratory water control and thiosulfate control, as necessary. An additional dilution at the permitted effluent concentration (% effluent) is required if it is not included in the dilution

series.

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|----------------------------|---|
| 16. Effect measured        | Mortality-no movement of body or appendages on gentle prodding  |
| 17. Test acceptability     | 90% or greater survival of test organisms in dilution water control solution  |
| 18. Sampling requirements  | For on-site tests, samples must be used within 24 hours of the time that they are removed from the sampling device. For off-site tests, samples must first be used within 36 hours of collection. |
| 19. Sample volume required | Minimum 1 liter   |

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Footnotes:

1. Adapted from EPA-821-R-02-012.
2. Standard prepared dilution water must have hardness requirements to generally reflect the characteristics of the receiving water.

**EPA NEW ENGLAND TEST CONDITIONS FOR THE FATHEAD MINNOW  
(PIMEPHALES PROMELAS) 48 HOUR ACUTE TEST<sup>1</sup>**

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1. Test Type	Static, non-renewal
2. Temperature (°C)	20 ± 1 ° C or 25 ± 1°C
3. Light quality	Ambient laboratory illumination
4. Photoperiod	16 hr light, 8 hr dark
5. Size of test vessels	250 mL minimum
6. Volume of test solution	Minimum 200 mL/replicate
7. Age of fish	1-14 days old and age within 24 hrs of each other
8. No. of fish per chamber	10
9. No. of replicate test vessels per treatment	4
10. Total no. organisms per concentration	40
11. Feeding regime	As per manual, lightly feed test age larvae using concentrated brine shrimp nauplii while holding prior to initiating test
12. Aeration	None, unless dissolved oxygen (D.O.) concentration falls below 4.0 mg/L, at which time gentle single bubble aeration should be started at a rate of less than 100 bubbles/min. (Routine D.O. check is recommended.)
13. dilution water <sup>2</sup>	Receiving water, other surface water, synthetic water adjusted to the hardness and alkalinity of the receiving water (prepared using either Millipore Milli-Q <sup>R</sup> or equivalent deionized and reagent grade chemicals according to EPA acute toxicity test manual) or deionized water combined with mineral water to appropriate hardness.
14. Dilution series	≥ 0.5, must bracket the permitted RWC

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|----------------------------|--|
| 15. Number of dilutions    | 5 plus receiving water and laboratory water control and thiosulfate control, as necessary. An additional dilution at the permitted effluent concentration (% effluent) is required if it is not included in the dilution series. |
| 16. Effect measured        | Mortality-no movement on gentle prodding   |
| 17. Test acceptability     | 90% or greater survival of test organisms in dilution water control solution   |
| 18. Sampling requirements  | For on-site tests, samples must be used within 24 hours of the time that they are removed from the sampling device. For off-site tests, samples are used within 36 hours of collection.  |
| 19. Sample volume required | Minimum 2 liters   |

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Footnotes:

1. Adapted from EPA-821-R-02-012
2. Standard dilution water must have hardness requirements to generally reflect characteristics of the receiving water.

## VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

At the beginning of a static acute toxicity test, pH, conductivity, total residual chlorine, oxygen, hardness, alkalinity and temperature must be measured in the highest effluent concentration and the dilution water. Dissolved oxygen, pH and temperature are also measured at 24 and 48 hour intervals in all dilutions. The following chemical analyses shall be performed on the 100 percent effluent sample and the upstream water sample for each sampling event.

<u>Parameter</u>	Effluent	Receiving Water	ML (mg/l)
Hardness <sup>1</sup>	x	x	0.5
Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) <sup>2, 3</sup>	x		0.02
Alkalinity	x	x	2.0
pH	x	x	--
Specific Conductance	x	x	--
Total Solids	x		--
Total Dissolved Solids	x		--
Ammonia	x	x	0.1
Total Organic Carbon	x	x	0.5
Total Metals			
Cd	x	x	0.0005
Pb	x	x	0.0005
Cu	x	x	0.003
Zn	x	x	0.005
Ni	x	x	0.005
Al	x	x	0.02
Other as permit requires			

### Notes:

1. Hardness may be determined by:
  - APHA Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater , 21st Edition
    - Method 2340B (hardness by calculation)
    - Method 2340C (titration)
2. Total Residual Chlorine may be performed using any of the following methods provided the required minimum limit (ML) is met.
  - APHA Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater , 21st Edition
    - Method 4500-CL E Low Level Amperometric Titration
    - Method 4500-CL G DPD Colorimetric Method
3. Required to be performed on the sample used for WET testing prior to its use for toxicity testing.



## **VII. TOXICITY TEST DATA ANALYSIS**

### LC50 Median Lethal Concentration (Determined at 48 Hours)

Methods of Estimation:

- Probit Method
- Spearman-Karber
- Trimmed Spearman-Karber
- Graphical

See the flow chart in Figure 6 on p. 73 of EPA-821-R-02-012 for appropriate method to use on a given data set.

### No Observed Acute Effect Level (NOAEL)

See the flow chart in Figure 13 on p. 87 of EPA-821-R-02-012.

## **VIII. TOXICITY TEST REPORTING**

A report of the results will include the following:

- Description of sample collection procedures, site description
- Names of individuals collecting and transporting samples, times and dates of sample collection and analysis on chain-of-custody
- General description of tests: age of test organisms, origin, dates and results of standard toxicant tests; light and temperature regime; other information on test conditions if different than procedures recommended. Reference toxicant test data should be included.
- All chemical/physical data generated. (Include minimum detection levels and minimum quantification levels.)
- Raw data and bench sheets.
- Provide a description of dechlorination procedures (as applicable).
- Any other observations or test conditions affecting test outcome.

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PART II. A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Duty to Comply

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

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

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

2. Permit Actions

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

3. Duty to Provide Information

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

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4. Reopener Clause

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

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

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

5. Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability

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

6. Property Rights

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

7. Confidentiality of Information

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

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8. Duty to Reapply

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

9. State Authorities

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

10. Other Laws

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

PART II. B. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF POLLUTION CONTROLS

1. Proper Operation and Maintenance

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

2. Need to Halt or Reduce Not a Defense

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

3. Duty to Mitigate

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

4. Bypass

a. Definitions

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

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

b. Bypass not exceeding limitations

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

c. Notice

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

d. Prohibition of bypass

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

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

### 5. Upset

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

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

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

**PART II. C. MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

1. Monitoring and Records

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

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

### 2. Inspection and Entry

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

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

## PART II. D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

### 1. Reporting Requirements

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



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

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

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

2. Signatory Requirement

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

3. Availability of Reports.

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

PART II. E. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

1. Definitions for Individual NPDES Permits including Storm Water Requirements

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Construction Activities* - The following definitions apply to construction activities:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Discharge of a pollutant* means:

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

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

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

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

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

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

*EPA* means the United States “Environmental Protection Agency”.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*NPDES* means “National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System”.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Secondary Industry Category* means any industry which is not a “primary industry category”.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Waters of the United States* means:

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

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

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

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

2. Definitions for NPDES Permit Sludge Use and Disposal Requirements.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Fiber crops* are crops such as flax and cotton.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Liner* is soil or synthetic material that has a hydraulic conductivity of  $1 \times 10^{-7}$  centimeters per second or less.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Range land* is open land with indigenous vegetation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3. Commonly Used Abbreviations

BOD	Five-day biochemical oxygen demand unless otherwise specified
CBOD	Carbonaceous BOD
CFS	Cubic feet per second
COD	Chemical oxygen demand
Chlorine	
Cl <sub>2</sub>	Total residual chlorine
TRC	Total residual chlorine which is a combination of free available chlorine (FAC, see below) and combined chlorine (chloramines, etc.)



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TRO	Total residual chlorine in marine waters where halogen compounds are present
FAC	Free available chlorine (aqueous molecular chlorine, hypochlorous acid, and hypochlorite ion)
Coliform	
Coliform, Fecal	Total fecal coliform bacteria
Coliform, Total	Total coliform bacteria
Cont. (Continuous)	Continuous recording of the parameter being monitored, i.e. flow, temperature, pH, etc.
Cu. M/day or M <sup>3</sup> /day	Cubic meters per day
DO	Dissolved oxygen
kg/day	Kilograms per day
lbs/day	Pounds per day
mg/l	Milligram(s) per liter
ml/l	Milliliters per liter
MGD	Million gallons per day
Nitrogen	
Total N	Total nitrogen
NH <sub>3</sub> -N	Ammonia nitrogen as nitrogen
NO <sub>3</sub> -N	Nitrate as nitrogen
NO <sub>2</sub> -N	Nitrite as nitrogen
NO <sub>3</sub> -NO <sub>2</sub>	Combined nitrate and nitrite nitrogen as nitrogen
TKN	Total Kjeldahl nitrogen as nitrogen
Oil & Grease	Freon extractable material
PCB	Polychlorinated biphenyl
pH	A measure of the hydrogen ion concentration. A measure of the acidity or alkalinity of a liquid or material
Surfactant	Surface-active agent

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Temp. °C	Temperature in degrees Centigrade
Temp. °F	Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit
TOC	Total organic carbon
Total P	Total phosphorus
TSS or NFR	Total suspended solids or total nonfilterable residue
Turb. or Turbidity	Turbidity measured by the Nephelometric Method (NTU)
ug/l	Microgram(s) per liter
WET	“Whole effluent toxicity” is the total effect of an effluent measured directly with a toxicity test.
C-NOEC	“Chronic (Long-term Exposure Test) – No Observed Effect Concentration”. The highest tested concentration of an effluent or a toxicant at which no adverse effects are observed on the aquatic test organisms at a specified time of observation.
A-NOEC	“Acute (Short-term Exposure Test) – No Observed Effect Concentration” (see C-NOEC definition).
LC <sub>50</sub>	LC <sub>50</sub> is the concentration of a sample that causes mortality of 50% of the test population at a specific time of observation. The LC <sub>50</sub> = 100% is defined as a sample of undiluted effluent.
ZID	Zone of Initial Dilution means the region of initial mixing surrounding or adjacent to the end of the outfall pipe or diffuser ports.

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
NEW ENGLAND – REGION 1  
5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, SUITE 100  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109-3912

**FACT SHEET**

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

NPDES PERMIT NO.: **MA0040436**

PUBLIC NOTICE START AND END DATES: **February 3, 2016 - March 3, 2016**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

**Benevento Sand and Stone Corporation  
P.O. Box 454  
Wilmington, MA 01887**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

**Benevento Sand and Stone  
900 Salem Street  
Wilmington, MA 01887**

RECEIVING WATER: **Martins Brook (MA 92-08)  
Ipswich River Watershed**

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: **B (warm water fishery)**

SIC CODES: **1411, 1422, 2951, and 3271**

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[Attachment A: Site Location Map](#)

[Attachment B: Flow Schematic](#)

[Attachment C: Site Map](#)

## 1.0 Proposed Action, Type of Facility, and Discharge Location

The above named applicant (“Benevento” or “the permittee”) has applied to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA, Region 1, or the Region) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) for the issuance of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to discharge process water into the designated receiving water. EPA received a permit application from Benevento on February 14, 2014. The Draft Permit is based on, in part, the information provided in the application and during a site visit on December 12, 2014, as well as additional information provided by Benevento in correspondence. Stormwater discharges from the Benevento site have been covered under EPA’s Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges (MSGP) since February 2009 (tracking number MAR05D012). This permit will not authorize stormwater discharges from the site, which will continue to be regulated by the MSGP under Section J – Mineral Mining and Dressing.

Benevento Sand and Stone Corporation is located at 900 Salem Street in Wilmington, Massachusetts. Benevento manufactures various grades of stone rip-rap and gravel for construction and building operations. On the site, Benevento operates a rock and gravel mine/quarry, a hot mix asphalt plant, and a ready mix concrete (RMC) plant. There are two large wash ponds onsite that store water used to wash gravel and rock (see [Attachment C](#) for a map of the site). The source of the wash water is a shallow groundwater well onsite. Wash water is pumped to the wash ponds, where some solids settle out. The supernatant is recycled for further use in the gravel and rock washing operation. During seasonal shutdown (in the winter months), Benevento proposes to discharge wash pond water in order to then remove and dispose of the previously settled solids.

The wash pond water will be pumped through a mobile filtration treatment system (discussed below) and discharged to a rip-rap lined swale along the edge of Martins Brook. From the swale, which is also used for stormwater management, the effluent will flow to a concrete settlement structure prior to discharge to Martins Brook (see [Attachment C](#) for the discharge location).

## 2.0 Description of Discharge

As previously mentioned, Benevento intends to discharge wash water from two large wash ponds on the west side of the site (see [Attachment C](#)). The wash water will be pumped once per year during the winter, when operations at the facility are shut down.

Benevento will use a modular treatment system (PF400 marketed by Rain for Rent®) consisting of four parallel bag filter tanks and two parallel cartridge filter tanks. The filtration system pumps wash water through the four bag filter tanks where larger solid particles are retained. The partially-treated water then flows to the cartridge tanks, which are each equipped with twelve open-ended cartridges, designed to trap solids 100 to 0.5 µm in size. The treatment system unit is sized to treat up to 400 gpm (0.58 MGD). See [Attachment B](#) for a schematic of the treatment process.

### **3.0 Receiving Water Description**

The treated wash water will be discharged to Martins Brook (MA92-08), which originates at Martins Pond in North Reading and flows through wetlands and largely forested areas near residential land in Wilmington and North Reading before discharging to the Ipswich River. The total length of the brook is approximately 4.6 miles. The brook is designated as a Class B water and a warm water fishery by MassDEP. The brook runs directly through the Benevento property. See [Attachment A](#) to this Fact Sheet for a map of the general site location.

The most recent Ipswich River Watershed Water Quality Assessment Report (WQAR, 2000) conducted by MassDEP indicates that Martins Brook drains a total of 13 square miles, of which approximately 46% is forested, 31% is residential, and 6% is wetlands. The proposed point of discharge is located near mile 4 of the brook; at this point, the brook drains approximately 8.55 square miles of wetlands, residential areas, and forested areas.

In the Massachusetts 2012 Integrated List of Waters, Martins Brook is listed as impaired for aquatic macroinvertebrate and fishes bioassessments, dissolved oxygen, and fecal coliform. As a result of these impairments, the brook is not attaining its designated uses for primary contact recreation and as a habitat for fish and other aquatic wildlife (other uses have not been assessed). The gravel operations near the brook were cited as a suspected cause of impairments and streambank destabilization in the Ipswich WQAR.

EPA has no reason to believe that the discharge from the Benevento wash ponds would contain fecal bacteria, therefore, no specific limitations were established in the Draft Permit to address this impairment. However, the discharge of excess suspended solids associated with the mining and rock crushing operations onsite may have a harmful effect on aquatic life. EPA believes that the limits on total suspended solids (TSS) and turbidity established in the Draft Permit will prevent the discharge of excess pollution to the impaired receiving water (see Section 6 of this Fact Sheet for further details).

### **4.0 Limitations and Conditions**

The effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and any implementation schedule, if required, may be found in Part I (Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements) of the Draft Permit.

### **5.0 Permit Basis: Statutory and Regulatory Authority**

#### **5.1 General Requirements**

The CWA prohibits the discharge of pollutants to water of the United States without a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit unless such a discharge is otherwise authorized by the CWA. The NPDES permit is the mechanism used to implement technology and water quality-based effluent limitations and other requirements, including monitoring and reporting. This draft NPDES permit was developed in accordance with various statutory and regulatory requirements established pursuant to the CWA and any applicable State regulations. The regulations governing the NPDES permit program are generally found at 40 CFR §§ 122, 124, 125, and 136. The general conditions of the Draft Permit are based on 40 CFR § 122.41

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

When developing permit limits, EPA must consider the most recent technology-based treatment and water quality-based requirements. Subpart A of 40 CFR §125 establishes criteria and standards for the imposition of technology-based treatment requirements in permits under Section 301(b) of the CWA, including the application of EPA-promulgated effluent limitations and case-by-case determinations of effluent limitations under Section 402(a)(1) of the CWA.

## **5.2 Technology-Based Requirements**

Subpart A of the 40 CFR §125 establishes criteria and standards for the imposition of technology-based treatment requirements in permits under Section 301(b) of the CWA, including the application of EPA promulgated effluent limitations and case-by-case determinations of effluent limitations under Section 402(a)(1) of the CWA.

Technology-based treatment requirements represent the minimum level of control that must be imposed under CWA §§ 301(b) and 402 (see 40 CFR § 125 subpart A) to meet best practicable control technology currently available (BPT) for conventional pollutants and some metals, best conventional control technology (BCT) for conventional pollutants, and best available technology economically achievable (BAT) for toxic and non-conventional pollutants.

In general, technology-based effluent guidelines for non-POTW facilities must be complied with as expeditiously as practicable but in no case later than three years after the date such limitations are established and in no case later than March 31, 1989. See 40 CFR §125.3(a)(2). Compliance schedules and deadlines not in accordance with the statutory provisions of the CWA cannot be authorized by a NPDES permit.

EPA has promulgated technology-based National Effluent Limitation Guidelines (ELGs) specifically for wastewater from certain mineral mining and processing facilities under 40 CFR § 436. Gravel operations like Benevento fall under subcategories B (crushed stone) and C (construction sand and gravel) of this part. These ELGs limit the pH of effluent of process waste waters and mine dewatering discharges to a range of 6.0 to 9.0 S.U. In the absence of published technology-based effluent guidelines, the permit writer is authorized under CWA § 402(a)(1)(B) to establish effluent limitations on a case-by-case basis using best professional judgment (BPJ).

## **5.3 Water Quality-Based Requirements**

Under CWA § 301(b)(1)(C) and EPA regulations, NPDES permits must contain effluent limits more stringent than technology-based limits where more stringent limits are necessary to maintain or achieve state or federal water quality standards.

Generally, water quality standards consist of three parts: (1) beneficial designated uses for a water-body or a segment of a water-body; (2) numeric and/or narrative water quality criteria sufficient to protect the assigned designated use(s); and (3) anti-degradation requirements to ensure that once a use is attained it will not be degraded. The Massachusetts Surface Water

Quality Standards, found at 314 CMR 4.00, include these elements. These State standards limit or prohibit discharges of pollutants to surface waters and thereby assure that the surface water quality standards of the receiving waters are protected, maintained and/or attained. These standards also include requirements for the regulation and control of toxic constituents and require that EPA criteria, established pursuant to CWA § 304(a), be used unless a site specific criteria is established. EPA regulations pertaining to permit limits based upon water quality standards and State requirements are contained in 40 CFR §122.44(d).

The NPDES permit must limit any pollutant or pollutant parameter (conventional, non-conventional, and toxic) that is or may be discharged at a level that causes or has the "reasonable potential" to cause or contribute to an excursion above any water quality standard (40 CFR § 122.44(d)). An excursion occurs if the projected or actual in-stream concentration exceeds an applicable water quality criterion. In determining "reasonable potential", EPA considers: (1) existing and planned controls on point and non-point sources of pollution; (2) pollutant concentration and variability in the effluent and receiving water as determined from the permittee's application or re-issuance application, monthly discharge monitoring reports (DMRs)(if any), and State and Federal Water Quality Reports; (3) sensitivity of the indicator species to toxicity testing; (4) statistical approach outlined in Section 3 of the "Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control", March 1991, EPA/505/2-90-001; and, where appropriate, and (5) where appropriate, dilution of the effluent in the receiving water.

#### **5.4 Anti-degradation**

Federal regulations found at 40 CFR §131.12 require states to develop and adopt a statewide anti-degradation policy which maintains and protects existing in-stream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect these existing uses, and maintains the quality of waters which exceed levels necessary to support propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and to support recreation in and on the water.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts anti-degradation requirements found in 314 CMR 4.04 focus on protecting high quality waters and maintaining water quality necessary to protect existing uses.

All existing in-stream uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect the existing uses of Martins Brook shall be maintained and protected. Class B water body's in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are designated, among other things, "as a habitat for fish, other aquatic life, and wildlife, including for their reproduction, migration, growth and other critical functions, and for primary and secondary contact recreation." 314 CMR 4.05(3)(b). The effluent limits in the Draft Permit are intended to meet the provisions in 314 CMR 4.04 and protect the existing uses of Martins Brook.

Since this is a new permit for a proposed discharge, MassDEP has prepared an antidegradation review and determination document. MassDEP has determined that the proposed discharge will not cause or contribute to a violation of Massachusetts water quality standards.



## **6.0 Derivation of the Permit's Effluent Limitations**

### **6.1 Effluent Flow**

The long-term average flow rate reported in the permit application is 0.3 MGD (208 gpm). This figure is based on the total volume of the wash ponds (estimated at 1.5 million gallons) and the time period scheduled to drain the ponds (5 days). The maximum allowable flow under the permit will be established at the maximum recommended flow for the filtration system: 400 gpm (0.58 MGD). Based on this information, the Draft Permit establishes an average monthly flow limit of 0.3 MGD and a daily maximum flow limit of 0.58 MGD. The permittee must measure flow accurately by flow meter or a similar measuring device within or directly following the treatment train.

### **6.2 pH**

The ELGs for the Mineral Mining and Processing point source industrial category establish a pH range limited at 6.0 to 9.0 standard units (S.U.) for both the Crushed Stone (40 CFR § 436.22) and the Construction Sand and Gravel (40 CFR § 436.32) subcategories. However, Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards at 314 CMR 4.05(3)(b)3 establish more stringent pH water quality criteria of 6.5 to 8.3 S.U., and within 0.5 S.U. of the background pH range. The Draft Permit requires the effluent pH to be within the range of 6.5 to 8.3 S.U. Grab samples shall be taken every hour during each discharge to characterize the pH of the discharge. The maximum and minimum daily pH must be reported. In addition, the permittee must collect and report daily pH data for the receiving water upstream of the discharge.

### **6.3 Total Suspended Solids (TSS)**

In the absence of an applicable ELG for TSS for the discharge, EPA conducted a site-specific BPJ analysis to determine the appropriate technology-based effluent limit (TBEL) for the permit. This BPJ analysis considered the somewhat unique treatment process employed at Benevento.

The TSS concentration in the wash ponds prior to treatment measures 742 mg/L according to the permit application. This concentration is derived from a single grab sample.

There are various methods for removing suspended solids, a common pollutant, from wastewaters. Settling or sedimentation, with or without flocculation, is a common option used where significant space is available for settling ponds or tanks to allow the dissipation of any water velocity and with that its ability to carry denser particles. The settling ponds at the Benevento site are nearly full of settled sediment from years of such treatment, necessitating the dewatering of the ponds and the permit to discharge that water. The facility has discussed with EPA using flocculants to further clarify water in the wash ponds, however, they have not yet been used to achieve greater solids reductions prior to filtration with the treatment system.

Because of space and time considerations, further flocculation and settling in a separate pond is not practical for the facility. As a result, the permittee is proposing to use a filtration system which is a space-efficient alternative. The wash water will be pumped through bag filters and then through cartridge filters in order to remove suspended solids. With proper maintenance of these filters, they will provide a consistent and reliable level of solids removal that can be

managed quickly and easily onsite during the discharge. Based on limited information submitted in the permit application, testing conducted by Benevento's environmental consultant indicates that TSS concentrations of  $\leq 18$  mg/L can be achieved by the proposed treatment system.

As discussed above, because the equipment has already been purchased, EPA does not anticipate any significant new costs associated with achieving the effluent limitations set in the permit. In addition, the non-water quality environmental impacts of the treatment system will be negligible given the short duration of the discharge. The water treatment equipment is dwarfed by the active vehicles and machinery and used throughout the rest of the sand and gravel operations and it is assumed that the energy usage, air emissions, and noise generated by the equipment will be negligible in considering the operations of the entire site.

EPA then evaluated whether a site specific TBEL based on this information is sufficiently stringent to ensure the discharge does not cause or contribute to a water quality violation. A TSS water quality based limitation at water quality criterion is warranted due to the impaired status of the receiving water. EPA's Quality Criteria for Water, 1986 (the Gold Book<sup>1</sup>) cites many potential problems associated with high suspended solids and turbidity in a waterbody, including harm to pelagic and benthic organisms; reduced primary production (and ecosystem health); and safety issues for swimming and other recreational uses of the waterbody. In addition, pollutants such as toxic metals and phosphorus are likely to be adsorbed onto sediment particles. Based on available information, EPA believes that the discharge of these pollutants will be adequately controlled by limiting the suspended solids and turbidity in the wash pond discharge.

Water quality-based effluent limits for TSS were determined based on available literature and guidance. National as well as state water quality criteria are narrative for solids and turbidity. The Massachusetts water quality standards for Class B waters at 314 CMR 4.05(3)(b)5 require that:

[t]hese waters shall be free from floating, suspended, and settleable solids in concentrations and combinations that would impair any use assigned to this Class, that would cause aesthetically objectionable conditions, or that would impair the benthic biota or degrade the chemical composition of the bottom.

The Gold Book proposes the same criteria for solids as EPA's 1972 Water Quality Criteria report<sup>2</sup>:

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<sup>1</sup> available at

[http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/standards/criteria/aqlife/upload/2009\\_01\\_13\\_criteria\\_goldbook.pdf](http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/standards/criteria/aqlife/upload/2009_01_13_criteria_goldbook.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> The National Academy of Science (NAS) and the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), who prepared this report, appointed a Committee on Water Quality Criteria, six Panels, and an Environmental Studies Board. This document is available at:

<http://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyNET.exe/2000XOYT.TXT?ZyActionD=ZyDocument&Client=EPA&Index=Prior+to+1976&Docs=&Query=&Time=&EndTime=&SearchMethod=1&TocRestrict=n&Toc=&TocEntry=&QField=&QFieldYear=&QFieldMonth=&QFieldDay=&IntQFieldOp=0&ExtQFieldOp=0&XmlQuery=&File=D%3A%5Czyfiles%5CIndex%20Data%5C70thru75%5C Txt%5C0000003%5C2000XOYT.txt&User=ANONYMOUS&Password=anonymous&SortMethod=h%7C-&MaximumDocuments=1&FuzzyDegree=0&ImageQuality=r75g8/r75g8/x150y150g16/i425&Display=p%7Cf&DefSeekPage=x&SearchBack=ZyActionL&Back=ZyActionS&BackDesc=Results%20page&MaximumPages=1&ZyEntry=1&SeekPage=x&Zy PURL>

- Prescriptive requirements for recreation and aesthetics recommend managing solids with reference to waterbody historical/baseline data; and
- Suspended solids recommendations to provide a high level of protection to aquatic communities is 25 mg/L (in-stream concentration).

A high level of protection is appropriate for the discharge based on the receiving waterbody impairments. Thus a monthly average TSS limit of 25 mg/L or less is sufficient to ensure the discharge does not cause or contributed to a water quality violation.

In conclusion, the Draft Permit establishes a monthly average discharge concentration of 20 mg/L and a daily maximum at 30 mg/L based on consideration of available technologies. EPA has established these limits slightly higher than the results of the permittee's application to allow for variability in scaling up the treatment to higher flows. Based on the above discussion, more stringent effluent limits are not needed to meet water quality criteria. The filtration system alone is expected to meet the TSS effluent limitations of the permit.

The Draft Permit requires effluent TSS and turbidity samples to be collected hourly during discharge; a grab sample must be taken within the first 30 minutes of the discharge, when practicable. In addition to hourly effluent samples, the permittee must sample the receiving water (upstream from the discharge) at least daily for TSS while discharging treated wash water. Gravel operations were cited as a suspected cause of impairments in Martins Brook. Upstream water quality information will be considered along with effluent monitoring results to confirm that downstream water quality is maintained.

All of these results must be collected and submitted to EPA in the detailed annual report due on April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. This will allow EPA to collect valuable information to establish more informed effluent limitations and monitoring schemes for future permit terms. At the same time, the facility will be able to ensure that the discharge is meeting all limits and protecting water quality throughout the duration of the discharge events.

#### **6.4 Turbidity**

Due to the nature of operation, which involves the treatment of fine solids washed from the rock, there is reasonable potential for turbidity in the discharge. In order to minimize this turbidity and to ensure compliance with state water quality standards pertaining to aesthetics (see 314 CMR 4.05(3)(b)), a maximum daily turbidity limit has been established at 20 NTU. Similar limits (20 – 25 NTU) have been required in permits for sand and gravel operations.

In addition to hourly effluent samples, the permittee must sample the receiving water (upstream from the discharge) at least daily for turbidity while discharging treated wash water. As with total suspended solids, the permittee must gather information about the upstream turbidity for EPA to identify potential background issues and to predict the effect of the discharge on downstream pollutant concentrations.

The results of Benevento's pilot test of the treatment system indicates that the discharge is expected to meet this limit within 10 minutes of discharge, with better performance (lower turbidity) achieved over time. Because the pilot test and the expected discharge will differ significantly in flow rate (15 gpm vs. approx. 200 gpm), EPA is requiring hourly samples of the discharge to better characterize

the performance of the system at full scale. These samples may be measured for turbidity using field instrumentation or a continuous meter. This information shall be reported in the annual report due on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **6.5 Oil and Grease (O&G)**

Based on the industrial operations and vehicle use at the Benevento facility, there is reasonable potential for the discharge of wastewater from the wash ponds to contain oil and grease. Massachusetts Water Quality Standards at 314 CMR 4.05(3)(b)(7) state that Class B waterbodies:

[S]hall be free from oil, grease, and petrochemicals that produce a visible film on the surface of the water, impart an oily taste to the water or an oily or other undesirable taste to the edible portion of aquatic life, coat the banks or bottom of the water course, or are deleterious or become toxic to aquatic life.

An oil and grease concentration of 15 mg/L is recognized as the level at which many oils produce a visible sheen and/or cause an undesirable taste in fish (See EPA's Additional Guidance for Petroleum Marketing Terminals and Oil Production Facilities<sup>3</sup>). Therefore, the Draft Permit shall require a maximum daily effluent limit for oil and grease of 15 mg/L, monitored once daily during a discharge event from the wash ponds. EPA believes the permittee will be able to meet the limits in the Draft Permit based on the effluent concentration of 9 mg/L reported in the permit application.

## **6.6 Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing**

EPA's Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control, EPA/505/2-90-001 (March 1991) recommends using an "integrated strategy" containing both pollutant (chemical) specific approaches and whole effluent (biological) toxicity approaches to control toxic pollutants in effluent discharges from entering the nation's waterways. EPA-New England adopted this "integrated strategy" on July 1, 1991, for use in permit development and issuance. These approaches are designed to protect aquatic life and human health. Pollutant specific approaches such as those in the Gold Book and State regulations address individual chemicals, whereas, whole effluent toxicity (WET) approaches evaluate interactions between pollutants thus rendering an "overall" or "aggregate" toxicity assessment of the effluent. Since WET testing measures the "additive" and/or "antagonistic" effects of individual chemical pollutants which pollutant specific approaches do not, toxicity testing can be used in conjunction with pollutant specific control procedures to control the discharge of toxic pollutants.

Section 101(a)(3) of the CWA specifically states, "... it is the national policy that the discharge of toxic pollutants in toxic amounts be prohibited," and the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards state that "[a]ll surface waters shall be free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that are toxic to humans, aquatic life, or wildlife." 314 CMR 4.05(5)(e). The standards also require that EPA criteria established pursuant to CWA § 304(a)(1) be used as guidance for interpretation of the narrative criteria. Sections 402(a)(2) and 308(a) of the CWA, further, provide EPA and states with the authority to require permittees to provide toxicity

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/owm482.pdf>.

testing data. Section 308 specifically describes biological monitoring methods as a testing technique that may be used to carry out objectives of the Act. Under certain State narrative water quality standards, and Sections 301, 303 and 402 of the CWA, EPA and the States may establish toxicity-based limits to implement the narrative “no toxics in toxic amounts”.

The regulations at 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(ii) state, “When determining whether a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an in-stream excursion above a narrative or numeric criteria within a State water quality standard, the permitting authority shall use procedures which account for existing controls on point and non-point sources of pollution...(including) the sensitivity of the species to toxicity testing...” The regulations at 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(v) further require whole effluent toxicity limits in a permit when a discharge has a "reasonable potential" to cause or contribute pollutants in concentrations or combinations that are toxic to humans, aquatic life, or wildlife.

Based on the many industrial operations onsite and the high turbidity of the wash pond water before treatment, in accordance with EPA and MassDEP policy, the Draft Permit includes acute toxicity monitoring requirements for two species. However, because there is insufficient data available to determine the reasonable potential of the discharge to cause or contribute to toxic effects, no limits have been included in the draft permit. Based on the short-term and infrequent nature of the discharge, only acute and not chronic toxicity measurements are required. The permittee is required to take composite samples of the discharge AND the receiving water (upstream) at least once annually (during each winter discharge event). The acute toxicity tests will be performed in accordance with the procedures in Attachment 1 to the Draft Permit. In addition to testing the acute toxicity of the discharge and the receiving water, the composite samples will be tested for all of the analytes specified in Part I.A.1. of the Draft Permit.

The Draft Permit requires the analysis and reporting of selected parameters, including hardness, alkalinity, and metals, of the WET tests 100% effluent samples. The results of these analyses are to be reported on the appropriate Discharge Monitoring Reports for entry into the EPA's Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) Data Base.

EPA is also requiring the reporting of ambient data on the appropriate Discharge Monitoring Reports for entry into the EPA's Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) data base. All of the reported toxicity information will be used to determine “reasonable potential” in future NPDES permits.

## **7.0 Essential Fish Habitat**

Under the 1996 Amendments (PL 104-267) to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 USC § 1801 *et seq.* (1998)), EPA is required to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) if EPA’s actions or proposed actions that it funds, permits, or undertakes, “may adversely impact any essential fish habitat.” See 16 U.S.C. § 1855(b). The Amendments broadly define “essential fish habitat” (EFH) as: “waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity.” See 16 U.S.C. § 1802(10). Adversely impact means any impact which reduces the quality and/or quantity of essential fish habitat (EFH). See 50 C.F.R. § 600.910(a). Adverse effects may include direct (e.g., contamination or physical disruption), indirect (e.g., loss of prey, reduction in species’

fecundity), site-specific or habitat-wide impacts, including individual, cumulative, or synergistic consequences of actions.

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

A review of available information using NMFS's online EFH Mapper tool<sup>4</sup> indicates there are no Habitat Areas of Particular Concern or EFH areas in Martins Brook or the Ipswich River downstream. Therefore, EPA believes that formal consultation with NMFS regarding the proposed permit is not required. During the public comment period, EPA will provide a copy of the Draft Permit and Fact Sheet to NMFS for concurrence on this determination.

## **8.0 Endangered Species Act**

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

EPA has reviewed the federally listed species and critical habitat in the vicinity of the discharge using the USFWS's Information, Planning, and Conservation System online tool<sup>5</sup>. According to the tool, there are no listed species and/or critical habitat for endangered species located in the vicinity of the facility or the discharge. Therefore, the issuance of this permit, as well as the actions authorized or required under the permit, are not likely to adversely impact any federally-listed species or critical habitat. If new information becomes available that changes the basis for this conclusion, EPA will notify the federal agency responsible for protection of the species and initiate consultation.

## **9.0 Monitoring and Reporting**

The effluent monitoring requirements in the permit have been established to yield data representative of the discharge under authority of Section 308 (a) of the CWA in accordance with 40 CFR §§ 122.41(j), 122.44(l), and 122.48. The monitoring program in the permit specifies routine sampling and analysis which will provide ongoing, representative information on the levels of regulated constituents in the wastewater discharge streams. The approved analytical procedures are found in 40 C.F.R. §136 unless other procedures are explicitly required in the permit. The Draft Permit requires the permittee to report required monitoring results in the

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/protection/efh/efhmapper/index.html>

<sup>5</sup> <http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>

Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period.

The Draft Permit includes provisions related to electronic DMR submittals to EPA and the State. The Draft Permit requires that, no later than six months after the effective date of the permit, the permittee submit all DMRs to EPA using NetDMR, unless the permittee is able to demonstrate a reasonable basis, such as technical or administrative infeasibility, that precludes the use of NetDMR for submitting DMRs and reports (“opt-out request”). In the interim (until six months from the effective date of the permit), the permittee may either submit monitoring data to EPA in hard copy form, or report electronically using NetDMR.

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

EPA currently conducts free training on the use of NetDMR, and anticipates that the availability of this training will continue to assist permittees with the transition to use of NetDMR. To learn more about upcoming trainings, please visit the EPA Region 1 NetDMR website <http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/netdmr/index.html>.

The Draft Permit also includes an “opt-out” request process. Permittees who believe they cannot use NetDMR due to technical or administrative infeasibilities, or other logical reasons, must demonstrate the reasonable basis that precludes the use of NetDMR. These permittees must submit the justification, in writing, to EPA at least sixty (60) days prior to the date the facility would otherwise be required to begin using NetDMR. Opt-outs become effective upon the date of written approval by EPA and are valid for twelve (12) months from the date of EPA approval. The opt-outs expire at the end of this twelve (12) month period. Upon expiration, the permittee must submit DMRs to EPA using NetDMR, unless the permittee submits a renewed opt-out request sixty (60) days prior to expiration of its opt-out, and such a request is approved by EPA.

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

Until electronic reporting using NetDMR begins, or for those permittees that receive written approval from EPA to continue to submit hard copies of DMRs, the Draft Permit requires that submittal of DMRs and other reports required by the permit continue in hard copy format. Hard copies of DMRs must be postmarked no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period.

## **10.0 State Certification Requirements**

Under CWA § 401, EPA may not issue a permit unless the MassDEP either certifies that the effluent limitations contained in the permit are stringent enough to assure that the discharge will not cause the receiving water to violate Massachusetts Water Quality Standards or it is determined that certification has been waived. Under Section 401 of the CWA, EPA is required to obtain certification from the state in which the discharge is located which determines that all water quality standards, in accordance with Section 301(b)(1)(C) of the CWA, will be satisfied. Regulations governing state certification are set forth in 40 CFR § 124.53 and § 124.55. EPA regulations pertaining to permit limits based upon water quality standards and state requirements are contained in 40 CFR § 122.44(d).

The staff of the MassDEP has reviewed the Draft Permit and advised EPA that the limitations are adequate to protect water quality. EPA has requested permit certification by the State pursuant to 40 CFR § 124.53 and expects that the Draft Permit will be certified.

## **11.0 Comment Period, Hearing Requests, and Procedures for Final Decisions**

All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of the Draft Permit is inappropriate must raise all issues and submit all available arguments and all supporting material for their arguments in full by the close of the public comment period to the EPA contact, below. Any person, prior to such date, may submit a request in writing for a public hearing to consider the Draft Permit to EPA and MassDEP. Such requests shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. A public meeting may be held if the criteria stated in 40 CFR § 124.12 are satisfied. In reaching a final decision on the Draft Permit, the EPA will respond to all significant comments and make these responses available to the public at EPA's Boston office.

Following the close of the comment period, and after any public hearings, if such hearings are held, the EPA will issue a Final Permit decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice. Within 30 days following the notice of the Final Permit decision, any interested person may submit a petition for review of the permit to EPA's Environmental Appeals Board consistent with 40 CFR § 124.19.



## 12.0 EPA and MassDEP Contact

Additional information concerning the Draft Permit may be obtained between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) from:

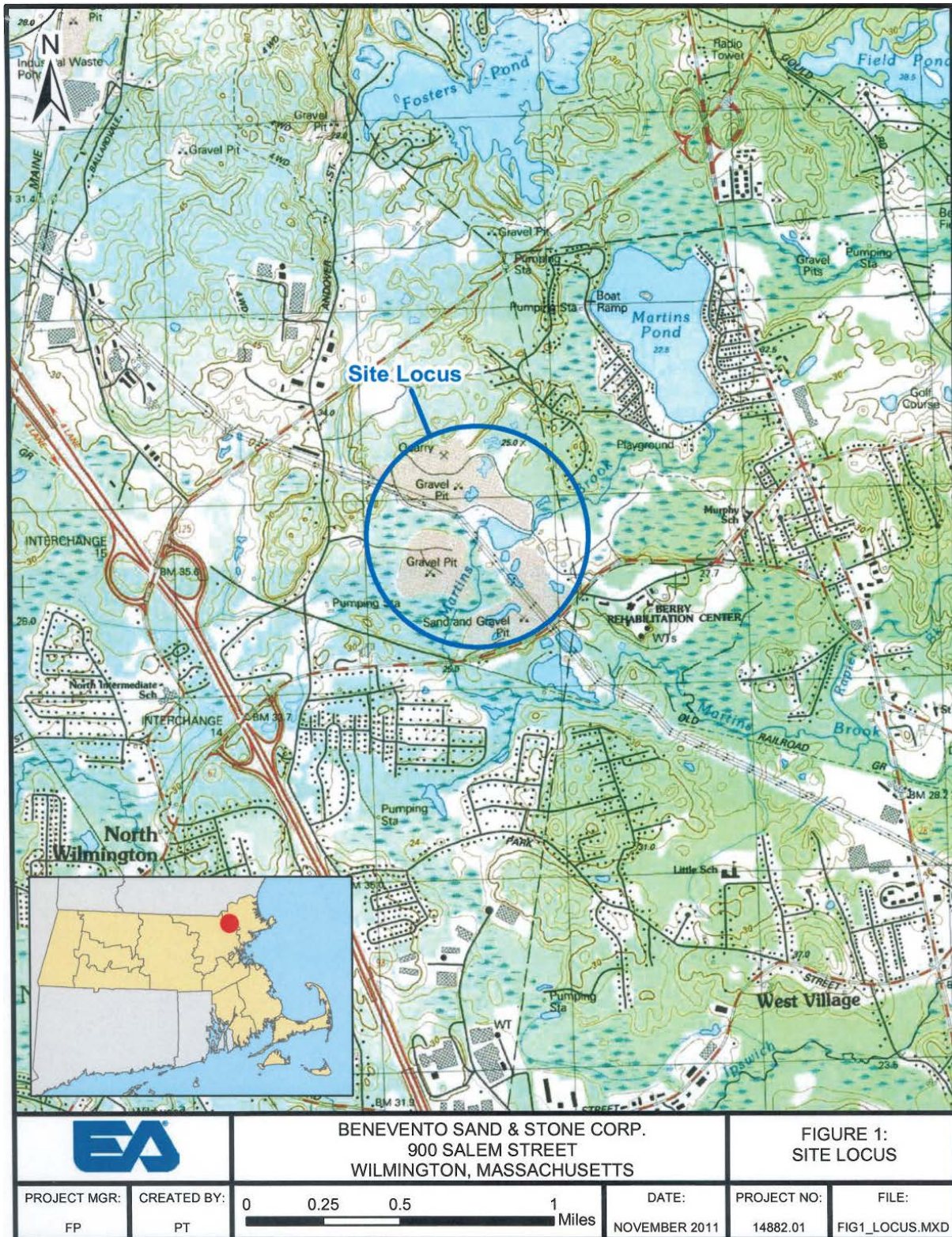
Suzanne Warner, EPA – Region 1  
Mailcode OEP06-4  
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100  
Boston, MA 02109-3912  
Tel.: (617) 918-1383  
Email: [warner.suzanne@epa.gov](mailto:warner.suzanne@epa.gov)

Cathy Vakalopoulos, MassDEP  
Bureau of Water Resources  
Wastewater Management Program  
1 Winter St, 5<sup>th</sup> floor  
Boston, MA 02108  
Tel: (617) 348-4026 Fax: (617) 292-5696  
Email: [catherine.vakalopoulos@state.ma.us](mailto:catherine.vakalopoulos@state.ma.us)

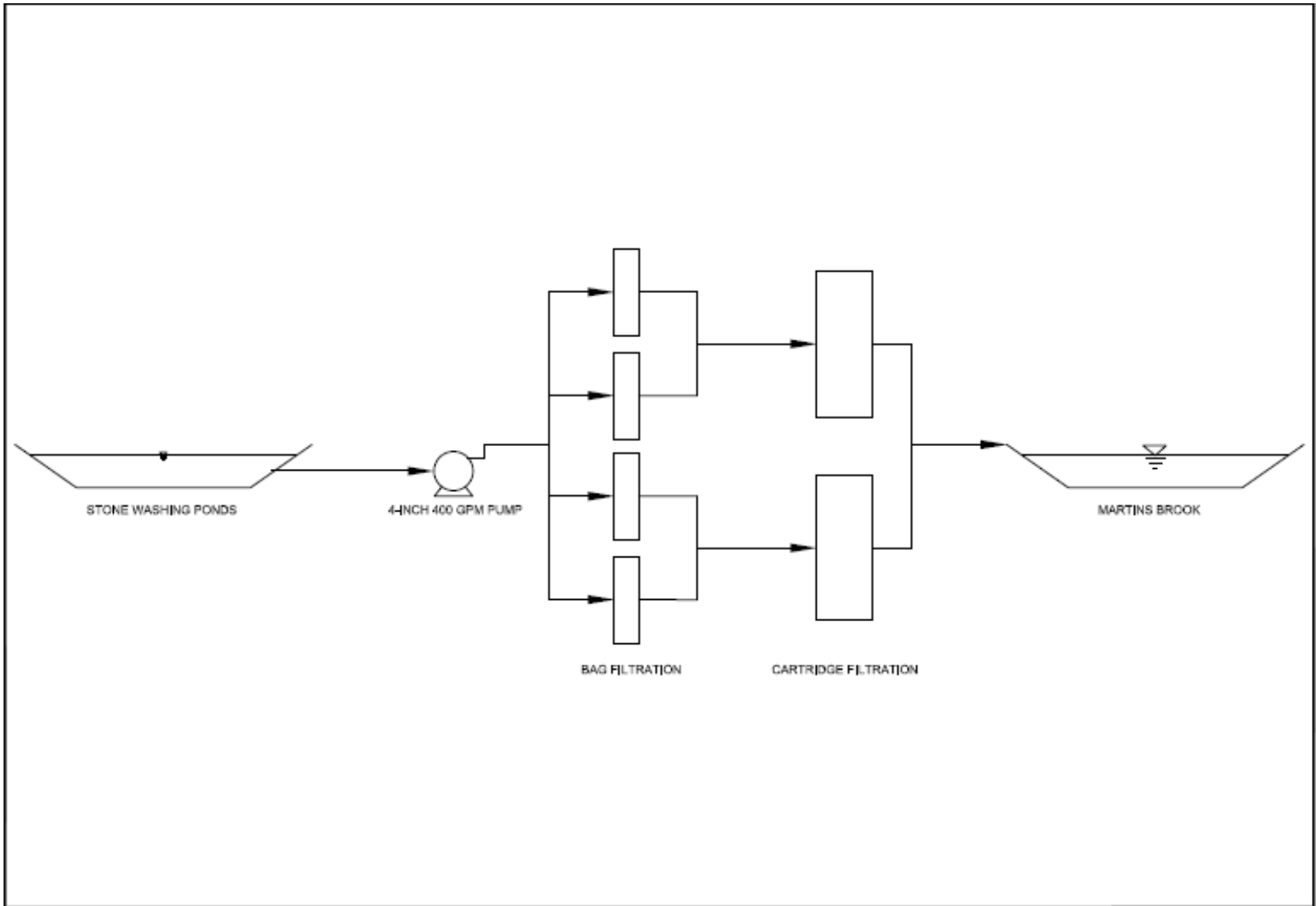
January 2016

Ken Moraff, Director  
Office of Ecosystem Protection  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1  
Boston, MA

Attachment A: Site Location Map

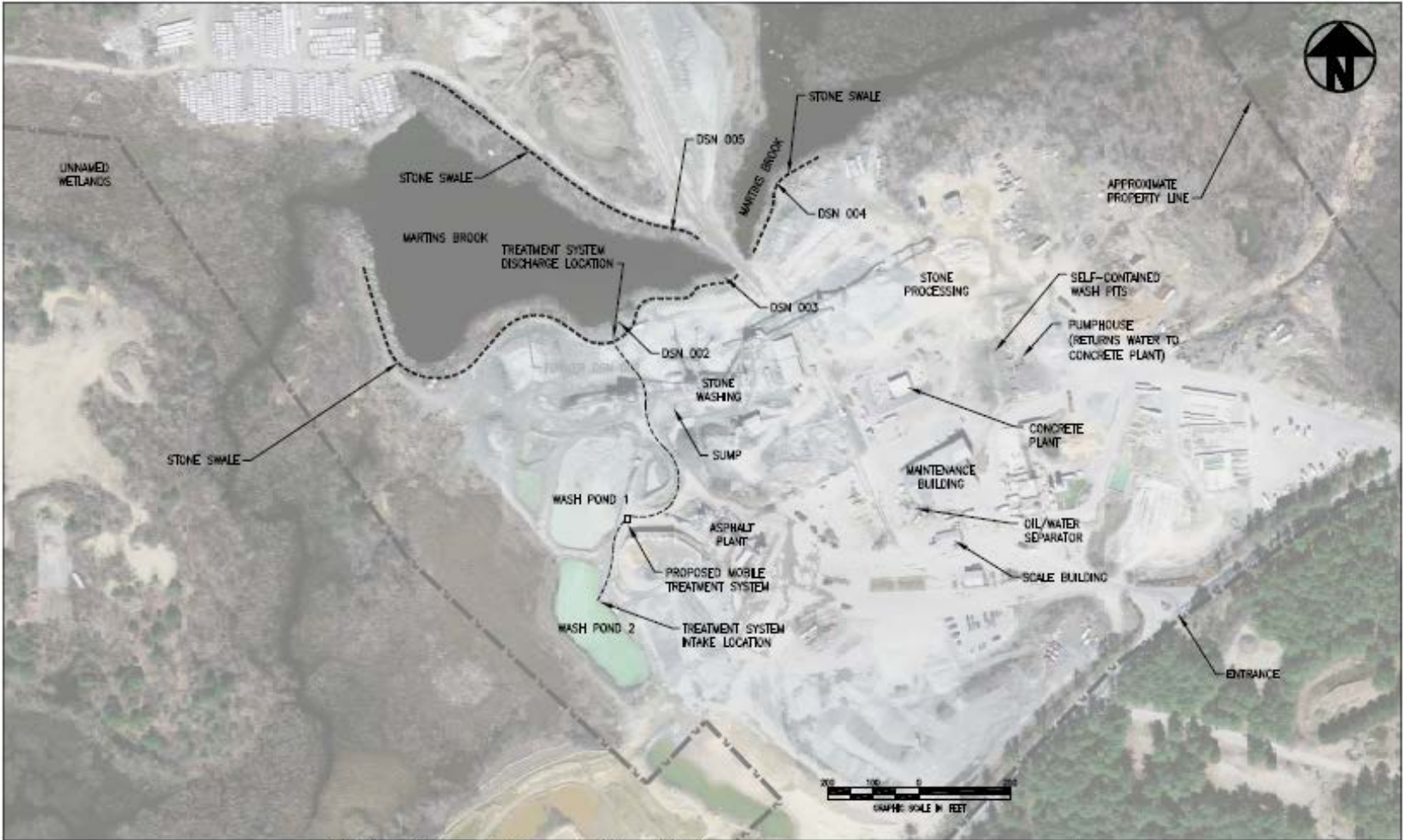


Attachment B: Flow Schematic



 <b>EA</b> ENGINEERING, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY	DISCHARGE PERMIT APPLICATION BENEVENTO SAND & STONE 900 SALEM STREET, WILMINGTON, MA	FILTRATION SYSTEM SCHEMATIC	DESIGNED BY	DRAWN BY	DATE	PROJECT NO.
			RGM	RGM	OCT 2013	14882.01
			CHECKED BY	PROJECT MGR.	SCALE	FIGURE
			FBP	FBP	NTS	3

Attachment C: Site Map



	DESIGNED BY	DRAWN BY	DATE	PROJECT NO.	FILE NAME	BENEVENTO SAND AND GRAVEL 900 SALEM STREET WILMINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS	PROPOSED CONDITIONS FIGURE 2
	RCM	DPA	OCTOBER 2011	14882.01	SITE PLAN		
	CHECKED BY	PROJECT MGR.	SCALE	DRAWING NO.	FIGURE		
	FBP	FBP	1" = 200'	1 OF 1	2		

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
1 WINTER STREET  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION AGENCY – REGION 1  
OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION  
5 POST OFFICE SQUARE  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109

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

PUBLIC NOTICE DATES: **February 3, 2016 – March 3, 2016**

PERMIT NUMBER: **MA0040436**

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: **MA-007-16**

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Benevento Sand and Stone Corporation  
P.O. Box 454  
Wilmington, MA 01887

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Benevento Sand and Stone Corporation  
900 Salem Street  
Wilmington, MA 01887

RECEIVING WATER: Martins Brook (Class B)

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

INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRAFT PERMIT:

The draft permit and explanatory fact sheet may be obtained at no cost at [http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/draft\\_permits\\_listing\\_ma.html](http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/draft_permits_listing_ma.html) or by contacting:

Suzanne Warner  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 1  
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OEP06-4)  
Boston, MA 02109-3912  
Telephone: (617) 918-1383

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING:**

All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of this draft permit is inappropriate, must raise all issues and submit all available arguments and all supporting material for their arguments in full by **March 3, 2016** to the address listed above. Any person, prior to such date, may submit a request in writing to EPA and MassDEP for a public hearing to consider this draft permit. Such requests shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. A public hearing may be held after at least thirty days public notice whenever the Regional Administrator finds that response to this notice indicates significant public interest. In reaching a final decision on this draft permit, the Regional Administrator will respond to all significant comments and make the responses available to the public at EPA's Boston office.

**FINAL PERMIT DECISION:**

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

DAVID FERRIS, DIRECTOR  
MASSACHUSETTS WASTEWATER  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

KEN MORAFF, DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION  
EPA-REGION 1