

**AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER
THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM**

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act as amended, 33 U.S.C. §§1251 et seq.; (the “CWA”),

Massachusetts Port Authority

is authorized to discharge from a facility located at

**Massachusetts Port Authority
Logan International Airport
Fire Training Facility
East Boston, MA 02128**

to receiving water named

**Boston Harbor
Boston Harbor Watershed**

in accordance with 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 60 days after signature*].¹

This permit expires at midnight on [*five years from the last day of the month preceding the effective date*].

This permit supersedes the permit issued on August 15th, 2014.

This permit consists of this **cover page, Part I, Attachment A** (Marine Acute Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol, July 2012), and **Part II** (NPDES Part II Standard Conditions, April 2018).

Signed this day of

Ken Moraff, Director
Water Division
Environmental Protection Agency
Region 1
Boston, MA

¹ Pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations (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. Procedures for appealing EPA’s Final Permit decision may be found at 40 CFR. § 124.19.

PART I**A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

1. During the period beginning on the effective date and lasting through the expiration date, the Permittee is authorized to discharge treated fire training water and stormwater through Outfall Serial Number 001 to Boston Harbor. The discharge shall be limited and monitored as specified below.

Effluent Characteristic	Units	Effluent Limitations		Monitoring Requirements ^{1,2,3}	
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	Measurement Frequency ⁴	Sample Type
Effluent Flow	MGD	Report	0.021	1/Discharge Event	Estimate
Number of Discharge Events	Count/month	Report	---	1/Discharge Event	Count
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	Report	10	1/Discharge Event	Composite
pH ⁵	S.U.	6.5 - 8.5		1/Discharge Event	Composite
Fecal Coliform Bacteria ⁶	#/100 mL	Report	Report	1/Discharge Event	Composite
<i>Enterococcus</i> Bacteria ⁶	#/100 mL	Report	Report	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Oil and Grease (O&G) ⁷	mg/L	Report	15	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Total BTEX ⁸	µg/L	Report	100	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Benzene	µg/L	Report	5	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Toluene	µg/L	Report	Report	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	Report	Report	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Total Xylenes	µg/L	Report	Report	1/Discharge Event	Composite
PAHs, Total, Group I ⁹	µg/L	Report	1	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Benzo(a)anthracene	µg/L	Report	0.1	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Benzo(a)pyrene	µg/L	Report	0.1	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Benzo(b)fluoranthene	µg/L	Report	0.1	1/Discharge Event	Composite

Effluent Characteristic	Units	Effluent Limitations		Monitoring Requirements ^{1,2,3}	
		Average Monthly	Maximum Daily	Measurement Frequency ⁴	Sample Type
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	µg/L	Report	0.1	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Chrysene	µg/L	Report	0.1	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	µg/L	Report	0.1	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene	µg/L	Report	0.1	1/Discharge Event	Composite
PAHs, Total, Group II ¹⁰	µg/L	Report	100	1/Discharge Event	Composite
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) ^{11,12}	ng/L	---	Report	1/Quarter	Composite
Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) ^{11,12}	ng/L	---	Report	1/Quarter	Composite
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) ^{11,12}	ng/L	---	Report	1/Quarter	Composite
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) ^{11,12}	ng/L	---	Report	1/Quarter	Composite
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) ^{11,12}	ng/L	---	Report	1/Quarter	Composite
Perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA) ^{11,12}	ng/L	---	Report	1/Quarter	Composite
Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing – Acute LC ₅₀ ^{13,14}	%	Report		1/Permit Term	Composite

Footnotes:

1. Effluent samples shall yield data representative of the discharge. A routine sampling program shall be developed in which samples are taken during each discharge event and prior to discharge from the above ground holding tank. This holding tank shall consist only of water that has undergone treatment through this facility, including oil/water separation, equalization, and carbon filtration. Each sample shall be a composite of two (2) equally weighted (identical volume) grab samples taken during the first five (5) minutes of discharge and the last five (5) minutes of discharge. For those months when there are no discharges, the Permittee must report a No Data Indicator (NODI) Code (e.g., “C” for “No Discharge”) on the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR). Changes in sampling location or methodology must be approved in writing by the Environmental Protection Agency Region 1 (EPA). The Permittee shall report the results to EPA and the State of any additional testing above that required herein, if testing is done in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136.

2. In accordance with 40 CFR. § 122.44(i)(1)(iv), the Permittee shall monitor according to sufficiently sensitive test procedures (i.e., methods) approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N or O, for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters (except WET). A method is “sufficiently sensitive” when: 1) The method minimum level (ML) is at or below the level of the effluent limitation established in the permit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or 2) The method has the lowest ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N or O for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter. The term “minimum level” refers to either the sample concentration equivalent to the lowest calibration point in a method or a multiple of the method detection limit (MDL), whichever is higher. Minimum levels may be obtained in several ways: They may be published in a method; they may be based on the lowest acceptable calibration point used by a laboratory; or they may be calculated by multiplying the MDL in a method, or the MDL determined by a laboratory, by a factor.
3. When a parameter is not detected above the ML, the Permittee must report the data qualifier signifying less than the ML for that parameter (e.g., < 50 µg/L, if the ML for a parameter is 50 µg/L). For calculating and reporting the average monthly concentration when one or more values are not detected, assign a value of zero to all non-detects and report the average of all the results. The number of exceedances shall be enumerated for each parameter in the field provided on every Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR).
4. Measurement frequency of 1/discharge event is defined as the recording of one measurement for each discharge event. Each month in NetDMR those values will be reported as an average and/or maximum based on the effluent limitations described above. For WET testing, one test will be conducted for the initial discharge of the permit term. If no sample is collected during the measurement frequencies defined above, the Permittee must report an appropriate No Data Indicator Code (e.g., “C” for “No Discharge”).
5. The pH shall be within the specified range at all times. The minimum and maximum pH sample measurement values for the month shall be reported in standard units (S.U.).
6. Fecal coliform and *Enterococcus* units may be expressed as MPN for samples tested using the Most Probable Number method, or CFU when using the Membrane Filter method.
7. O&G is to be measured using EPA Method 1664.
8. The ML for analysis for benzene shall be no greater than 2 µg/L. The ML is not the minimum level of detection, but rather the lowest level at which the test equipment produces a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point for an analyte, representative of the lowest concentration at which an analyte can be measured with a known level of confidence. When reporting sample data at or below the ML, see the latest EPA Region 1 NPDES Permit Program Instructions for the Discharge Monitoring Report Forms (DMRs) for guidance. For benzene, analysis must be completed using an EPA approved method in 40 CFR Part 136, Table IC – Non-Pesticide Organic Compounds. The practical quantitation limit (PQL) for each analyte must be recorded. When an analyte is not detected above the PQL, the Permittee

must report using the data qualifier signifying less than the PQL for that analyte (i.e. <0.1 µg/L, if the PQL for an analyte is 0.1 µg/L).

9. Total Group I PAHs is the sum of: benzo(a)anthracene (CAS No. 56-55-3); benzo(a)pyrene (CAS No. 50-32-8); benzo(b)fluoranthene (CAS No. 205-99-2); benzo(k)fluoranthene (CAS No. 207-08-9); chrysene (CAS No. 218-01); dibenzo(a,h)anthracene (CAS No. 53-70-3); indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene (CAS No. 193-39-5). The compliance level for each individual PAH is 0.1 µg/L using a test method in 40 CFR Part 136 with selected ion monitoring. The extractable petroleum hydrocarbon (EPH) method cannot be used for analysis of this parameter.
10. Total Group II PAHs is the sum of: acenaphthene (CAS No. 83-32-9); acenaphthylene (CAS No. 208-96-8); anthracene (CAS No. 120-12-7); benzo(g,h,i)perylene (CAS No. 191-24-2); fluoranthene (CAS No. 206-44-0); fluorene (CAS No. 86-73-7); naphthalene (CAS No. 91-20-3); phenanthrene (CAS No. 85-01-8); pyrene (CAS No. 129-00-0). The EPH method cannot be used for analysis of this parameter.
11. The reporting requirement for the listed PFAS parameters takes effect six months after EPA's multi-lab validated method for wastewater is made available to the public on EPA's CWA methods program website. See <https://www.epa.gov/cwa-methods/other-clean-water-act-test-methods-chemical> and <https://www.epa.gov/cwa-methods>.
12. After one year of monitoring, if all samples are non-detect for all six PFAS compounds, using EPA's multi-lab validated method for wastewater, the Permittee may request to remove the requirement for PFAS monitoring. See Special Conditions in Part I.C.4.
13. The Permittee shall conduct an acute toxicity test (LC₅₀) during the initial discharge of the permit term in accordance with test procedures and protocols specified in **Attachment A** of this permit. LC₅₀ is defined in Part II.E. of this permit. The Permittee shall test the Mysid shrimp, *Americamysis bahia*, and the Inland Silverside, *Menidia beryllina*. The complete report for the toxicity test shall be submitted as an attachment to the monthly DMR submittal immediately following the completion of the test. On the DMR for subsequent discharges, the Permittee should use the "NODI: 9" code.
14. For Part I.A.1., Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing, the Permittee shall conduct the analyses specified in **Attachment A**, Part VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS for the effluent sample. If toxicity test(s) using the receiving water as diluent show the receiving water to be toxic or unreliable, the Permittee shall follow procedures outlined in **Attachment A**, Section IV., DILUTION WATER. Even where alternate dilution water has been used, the results of the receiving water control (0% effluent) analyses must be reported. Minimum levels and test methods are specified in **Attachment A**, Part VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

Part I.A. continued.

2. The discharge shall not cause a violation of the water quality standards of the receiving water.
3. The discharge shall be free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that, in the receiving water, settle to form objectionable deposits; float as debris, scum or other matter to form nuisances; produce objectionable odor, color, taste or turbidity; or produce undesirable or nuisance species of aquatic life.
4. The discharge shall be free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that adversely affect the physical, chemical, or biological nature of the bottom.
5. The discharge shall not result in pollutants in concentrations or combinations in the receiving water that are toxic to humans, aquatic life or wildlife.
6. The discharge shall be free from floating, suspended and settleable solids in concentrations or combinations that would impair any use assigned to the receiving water.
7. The discharge shall 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 portions of aquatic life, coat the banks or bottom of the water course, or are deleterious or become toxic to aquatic life.
8. All existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural dischargers must notify EPA as soon as they know or have reason to believe (40 CFR § 122.42):
 - a. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent 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) 100 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$);
 - (2) 200 $\mu\text{g/L}$ for acrolein and acrylonitrile; 500 $\mu\text{g/L}$ for 2,4-dinitrophenol and for 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter (mg/L) for antimony;
 - (3) Five 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 EPA in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.44(f) and State 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) 500 $\mu\text{g/L}$;
 - (2) One mg/L for antimony;

- (3) 10 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 EPA in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.44(f) and State regulations.
- c. That they have begun or expect to begin to use or manufacture as an intermediate or final product or byproduct any toxic pollutant which was not reported in the permit application.

B. UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGES

1. This permit authorizes discharges only from the outfall listed in Part I.A.1, in accordance with the terms and conditions of this permit. Discharges of wastewater from any other point sources are not authorized by this permit and shall be reported in accordance with Part D.1.e.(1) of the Standard Conditions of this permit (24-hour reporting).

C. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. Best Management Practices (BMPs)

The Permittee shall design, install, and implement control measures to minimize the discharge of pollutants from the operations at the Facility to the receiving water. At a minimum, the Permittee must implement control measures, both structural controls (e.g., oil water separator, containment areas, holding tanks) and non-structural (e.g., operational procedures and operator training).

- a. The Permittee must comply with the following limitations described in Part 2.1.2 of EPA's Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP):
 - (1) Minimize exposure of processing and material storage areas to stormwater discharges;
 - (2) Design good housekeeping measures to maintain areas that are potential sources of pollutants;
 - (3) Implement preventative maintenance programs to avoid leaks, spills, and other releases of pollutants to stormwater that is discharged to receiving waters;
 - (4) Implement spill prevention and response procedures to ensure effective response to spills and leaks if or when they occur. The Permittee shall report immediately the appearance of any size sheen attributable to the discharge from the Facility to the appropriate U.S. Coast Guard Officer in accordance with Section 311 of the Clean Water Act (CWA);
 - (5) Design of erosion and sediment controls to stabilize exposed areas and contain runoff using structural and/or non-structural control measures to minimize onsite erosion and sedimentation, and the resulting discharge of pollutants;
 - (6) Utilize runoff management practices to divert, infiltrate, reuse, contain, or otherwise reduce stormwater runoff;
 - (7) Develop proper handling procedures for salt or materials containing chlorides that are used for snow and ice control;

- (8) Conduct employee training to ensure personnel understand the requirements of this permit;
 - (9) Evaluate for the presence of non-stormwater, non-fire training wastewater discharges. Any discharges not explicitly authorized in the Draft Permit or covered by another NPDES permit must be eliminated; and
 - (10) Minimize dust generation and vehicle tracking of industrial materials.
- b. In addition to the general limitations described above, the Permittee must design, install, and implement the following BMPs:
- (1) The Permittee shall comply with the inspection requirements in Part 3.1 and 3.2 of the 2015 MSGP and the corrective action requirements in Part 4.1 through 4.5 of the 2015 MSGP.² For the purposes of this permit, the following must be included: areas exposed to stormwater, potential pollutant sources, discharge points, and control measures.
 - (2) The Permittee shall comply with the control measure requirements in Part 2.1 and 2.1.1 of the 2015 MSGP in order to identify pollutant sources and select, design, install and maintain the pollution control technology necessary to meet the effluent limitations in the permit that ensure dilution is not used as a form of treatment.

2. Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)

The Permittee shall develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to document the selection, design and installation of control measures, including BMPs, selected to meet the effluent limitations required in this permit, and, consistent with Parts 2.1.2 and applicable Parts of 8.S.4 of the 2015 MSGP, minimize the discharge of pollutants from fire training operations to the receiving water. The SWPPP shall be a written document and consistent with the terms of this Permit. The Facility's SWPPP can be contained within another NPDES permitted facility's SWPPP (e.g. Massport Logan's NPDES Permit No. MA0000787) as long as that plan's documentation is consistent with the requirements herein and pertains to the unique stormwater discharge at the Facility.

- a. The SWPPP shall be developed and signed consistent with the signatory requirements in Part II.D.2 of this Permit within ninety (90) days after the effective date of this Permit.
- b. The SWPPP shall be consistent with the general provisions for SWPPPs included in Part 5 of EPA's MSGP. The SWPPP shall be prepared in accordance with good engineering practices and manufacturer's specifications. The SWPPP must identify potential sources of pollution that may reasonably be expected to affect the quality of the stormwater discharges, and document the implementation of non-numeric technology based effluent limitations in Part I.C.1 that will be used to reduce the pollutants and assure compliance with this Permit, including any corrective action taken when non-compliance occurs.

² Where the MSGP refers to limitations, conditions or benchmarks, including the SWPPP, for the purposes of this permit, these shall refer to the limitations and conditions in this permit.

Specifically, the SWPPP shall contain the elements listed in Parts 5.2.1 through 5.2.5 of the 2015 MSGP and briefly described below:

- (1) Stormwater pollution prevention team;
 - (2) Site description;
 - (3) Drainage area site map;
 - (4) Summary of potential pollutant sources;
 - (5) Description of all stormwater control measures; and
 - (6) Schedules and procedures pertaining to implementation of stormwater control measures, inspections and assessments, and monitoring.
- c. The Permittee shall amend and update the SWPPP within fourteen (14) days of any changes at the facility affecting the SWPPP. Changes that may affect the SWPPP include, but are not limited to: a change in design, construction, operation, or maintenance, which has a significant effect on the potential for the discharge of pollutants to the waters of the United States; a release of a reportable quantity of pollutants as described in 40 CFR § 302; a determination by the Permittee or EPA that the SWPPP appears to be ineffective in achieving the general objective of controlling pollutants in stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity; and revisions or improvements are made to the stormwater management program based on new information and experiences with wet weather events. Any amended or new versions of the SWPPP shall be re-certified by the Permittee. Such re-certifications also shall be signed in accordance with the requirements identified in Part II.D.2 of this Permit.
- d. The Permittee shall certify at least annually that the previous year's required inspections, corrective actions, control measures, and training activities were conducted, results were recorded, and records were maintained, as described. If the facility is not in compliance with any limitations and/or BMPs, the annual certification shall state the non-compliance and the remedies which are or will be undertaken. Such annual certifications also shall be signed in accordance with the requirements identified in Part II.D.2 of this Permit. The Permittee shall keep a copy of the current SWPPP and all SWPPP certifications (i.e., the initial certification, recertifications, and annual certifications) signed during the effective period of this Permit at the Facility and shall make them available for inspection by EPA and the State. All documentation of SWPPP activities shall be kept at the Facility for at least five years and provided to EPA or the State upon request.

3. Discharges of Chemicals and Additives

The discharge of any chemical or additive, including chemical substitution, which was not reported in the application submitted to EPA and the State or provided through a subsequent written notification submitted to EPA and the State is prohibited. Upon the effective date of this permit, chemicals and/or additives which have been disclosed to EPA and the State may be discharged up to the frequency and level disclosed, provided that such discharge does not violate §§ 307 or 311 of the CWA or applicable State water quality standards. Discharges of a new chemical or additive are authorized under this permit 30 days following written notification to EPA and the State unless otherwise notified by EPA and/or the State. To request authorization to

discharge a new chemical or additive, the Permittee must submit a written notification to EPA and the State in accordance with Part I.D.3 of this permit. The written notification must include the following information, at a minimum:

- a. The following information for each chemical and/or additive that will be discharged:
 - (1) Product name, chemical formula, general description, and manufacturer of the chemical/additive;
 - (2) Purpose or use of the chemical/additive;
 - (3) Safety Data Sheet (SDS), Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Registry number, and EPA registration number, if applicable, for each chemical/additive;
 - (4) The frequency (e.g., daily), magnitude (i.e., maximum application concentration), duration (e.g., hours), and method of application for the chemical/additive;
 - (5) The maximum discharge concentration; and
 - (6) The vendor's reported aquatic toxicity, if available (i.e., NOAEL and/or LC₅₀ in percent for aquatic organism(s)).
 - b. Written rationale which demonstrates that the discharge of such chemicals and/or additives as proposed will not: 1) will not add any pollutants in concentrations which exceed any permit effluent limitation; and 2) will not add any pollutants that would justify the application of permit conditions different from, or in addition to those currently in this permit.
4. After one year of monitoring, if all samples are non-detect for all six PFAS compounds, using EPA's multi-lab validated method for wastewater, the Permittee may request to remove the requirement for PFAS monitoring. Until written notice is received from EPA indicating that the PFAS monitoring requirements have been changed, the Permittee is required to continue the monitoring specified in this permit. *See Reporting Requirements in Part I.D.3.a(5).*

D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

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

1. Submittal of DMRs Using NetDMR

The Permittee shall continue to submit its monthly monitoring data in discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) to EPA and the State no later than the 15th day of the month following the monitoring period electronically using NetDMR. When the Permittee submits DMRs using NetDMR, it is not required to submit hard copies of DMRs to EPA or the State. NetDMR is accessible through EPA's Central Data Exchange at <https://cdx.epa.gov/>.

2. Submittal of Reports as NetDMR Attachments

Unless otherwise specified in this permit, the Permittee shall electronically submit all reports to EPA as NetDMR attachments rather than as hard copies. *See* Part I.D.5. for more information on State reporting. Because the due dates for reports described in this permit may not coincide with the due date for submitting DMRs (which is no later than the 15th day of the month following the monitoring period), a report submitted electronically as a NetDMR attachment shall be considered timely if it is electronically submitted to EPA using NetDMR with the next DMR due following the particular report due date specified in this permit.

3. Submittal of Requests and Reports to EPA Water Division (WD)

- a. The following requests, reports, and information described in this permit shall be submitted to the NPDES Applications Coordinator in the EPA WD:
 - (1) Transfer of Permit notice;
 - (2) Request for changes in sampling location;
 - (3) Notification of proposal to add or replace chemicals (including types of fuels used) and bio-remedial agents including microbes;
 - (4) Report on unacceptable dilution water/request for alternative dilution water for WET testing; and
 - (5) Request for discontinuation of per- and polyfluoralkyl substances (PFAS) sampling requirements.
- b. These reports, information, and requests shall be submitted to EPA WD electronically at R1NPDESReporting@epa.gov or by hard copy mail to the following address:

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Water Division
NPDES Applications Coordinator
5 Post Office Square - Suite 100 (06-03)
Boston, MA 02109-3912**

4. Submittal of Reports in Hard Copy Form

- a. The following notifications and reports shall be signed and dated originals, submitted in hard copy, with a cover letter describing the submission:
 - (1) Prior to December 21, 2020, written notifications required under Part II. Starting on December 21, 2020, such notifications must be done electronically using EPA's NPDES Electronic Reporting Tool ("NeT"), or another approved EPA system, which will be accessible through EPA's Central Data Exchange at <https://cdx.epa.gov/>.
- b. This information shall be submitted to EPA ECAD at the following address:

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division**

**Water Compliance Section
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (04-SMR)
Boston, MA 02109-3912**

5. State Reporting

Duplicate signed copies of all WET test reports shall be submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Watershed Management, at the following address:

**Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Resources
Division of Watershed Management
8 New Bond Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01606**

6. Verbal Reports and Verbal Notifications

- a. 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 the State. This includes verbal reports and notifications which require reporting within 24 hours (e.g., Part II.B.4.c. (2), Part II.B.5.c. (3), and Part II.D.1.e.).
- b. Verbal reports and verbal notifications shall be made to EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division at:

617-918-1510

- c. Verbal reports and verbal notifications shall be made to the State's Emergency Response at:

888-304-1133

E. STATE PERMIT CONDITIONS

1. This permit is in the process of receiving state water quality certification issued by the State under § 401(a) of the CWA and 40 CFR § 124.53. EPA will incorporate by reference all state water quality certification requirements (if any) into the final permit.

MARINE 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:

- **2007.0 - Mysid Shrimp (Americamysis bahia) definitive 48 hour test.**
- **2006.0 - Inland Silverside (Menidia beryllina) definitive 48 hour test.**

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

II. METHODS

The permittee shall use the most recent 40 CFR Part 136 methods. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Test Methods and guidance may be found at:

<http://water.epa.gov/scitech/methods/cwa/wet/index.cfm#methods>

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 and receiving water sample shall be collected. The receiving water control sample must be collected immediately upstream of the permitted discharge's zone of influence. The acceptable holding times until initial use of a sample are 24 and 36 hours for on-site and off-site testing, respectively. A written waiver is required from the regulating authority for any holding time extension. Sampling guidance dictates that, where appropriate, aliquots for the analysis required in this protocol shall be split from the samples, containerized and immediately preserved, or analyzed as per 40 CFR Part 136. EPA approved test methods require that samples collected for metals analyses be preserved immediately after collection. Testing for the presence of total residual chlorine¹ (TRC) must be analyzed immediately or as soon as possible, for all effluent samples, prior to WET testing. TRC analysis may be performed on-site or by the toxicity testing laboratory and the samples must be dechlorinated, as necessary, using sodium thiosulfate

¹ For this protocol, total residual chlorine is synonymous with total residual oxidants.
(July 2012)

prior to sample use for toxicity testing. If performed on site the results should be included on the chain of custody (COC) presented to WET laboratory.

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 mg/L chlorine. If dechlorination is necessary, a thiosulfate control consisting of the maximum concentration of thiosulfate used to dechlorinate the sample in the toxicity test control water must also be run in the WET test.

All samples submitted for chemical and physical analyses will be analyzed according to Section VI of this protocol. Grab samples must be used for pH, temperature, and total residual chlorine (as per 40 CFR Part 122.21).

All samples held for use beyond the day of sampling shall be refrigerated and maintained at a temperature range of 0-6° C.

IV. DILUTION WATER

Samples of receiving water must be collected from a reasonably accessible location in the receiving water body immediately upstream of the permitted discharge's zone of influence. Avoid collection near areas of obvious road or agricultural runoff, storm sewers or other point source discharges and areas where stagnant conditions exist. EPA strongly urges that screening for toxicity be performed prior to the set up of a full, definitive toxicity test any time there is a question about the test dilution water's ability to achieve test acceptability criteria (TAC) as indicated in Section V of this protocol. The test dilution water control response will be used in the statistical analysis of the toxicity test data. All other control(s) required to be run in the test will be reported as specified in the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Instructions, Attachment F, page 2, Test Results & Permit Limits.

The test dilution water must be used to determine whether the test met the applicable TAC. When receiving water is used for test dilution, an additional control made up of standard laboratory water (0% effluent) is required. This control will be used to verify the health of the test organisms and evaluate to what extent, if any, the receiving water itself is responsible for any toxic response observed.

If dechlorination of a sample by the toxicity testing laboratory is necessary a "sodium thiosulfate" control, representing the concentration of sodium thiosulfate used to adequately dechlorinate the sample prior to toxicity testing, must be included in the test.

If the use of alternate dilution water (ADW) is authorized, in addition to the ADW test control, the testing laboratory must, for the purpose of monitoring the receiving water, also run a receiving water control.

If the receiving water is found to be, or suspected to be toxic or unreliable, ADW of known quality with hardness similar to that of the receiving water may be substituted. Substitution is

species specific meaning that the decision to use ADW is made for each species and is based on the toxic response of that particular species. Substitution to an ADW is authorized in two cases. The first case is when repeating a test due to toxicity in the site dilution water requires an **immediate decision** for ADW use by the permittee and toxicity testing laboratory. The second is when two of the most recent documented incidents of unacceptable site dilution water toxicity require ADW use in future WET testing.

For the second case, written notification from the permittee requesting ADW use **and** written authorization from the permit issuing agency(s) is required **prior to** switching to a long-term use of ADW for the duration of the permit.

Written requests for use of ADW must be mailed with supporting documentation to the following addresses:

Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection (CAA)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
Five Post Office Square, Suite 100
Mail Code OEP06-5
Boston, MA 02109-3912

and

Manager
Water Technical Unit (SEW)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Five Post Office Square, Suite 100
Mail Code 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/enforcementandassistance/dmr.html> for further important details on alternate dilution water substitution requests.

V. TEST CONDITIONS AND TEST ACCEPTABILITY CRITERIA

EPA Region 1 requires tests be performed using four replicates of each control and effluent concentration because the non-parametric statistical tests cannot be used with data from fewer replicates. The following tables summarize the accepted Americamysis and Menidia toxicity test conditions and test acceptability criteria:

EPA NEW ENGLAND EFFLUENT TOXICITY TEST CONDITIONS FOR THE MYSID, AMERICAMYSIS BAHIA 48 HOUR TEST¹

1. Test type	48hr Static, non-renewal
2. Salinity	25ppt $\pm$ 10 percent for all dilutions by adding dry ocean salts
3. Temperature (°C)	20°C $\pm$ 1°C or 25°C $\pm$ 1°C, temperature must not deviate by more than 3°C during test
4. Light quality	Ambient laboratory illumination
5. Photoperiod	16 hour light, 8 hour dark
6. Test chamber size	250 ml (minimum)
7. Test solution volume	200 ml/replicate (minimum)
8. Age of test organisms	1-5 days, <u>< 24 hours age range</u>
9. No. Mysids per test chamber	10
10. No. of replicate test chambers per treatment	4
11. Total no. Mysids per test concentration	40
12. Feeding regime	Light feeding using concentrated <u>Artemia</u> naupli while holding prior to initiating the test
13. Aeration ²	None
14. Dilution water	5-30 ppt, +/- 10%; Natural seawater, or deionized water mixed with artificial sea salts
15. Dilution factor	≥ 0.5
16. Number of dilutions ³	5 plus a control. An additional dilution at the permitted effluent concentration (%)

	effluent) is required if it is not included in the dilution series.
17. Effect measured	Mortality - no movement of body appendages on gentle prodding
18. Test acceptability	90% or greater survival of test organisms in control solution
19. Sampling requirements	For on-site tests, samples are used within 24 hours of the time that they are removed from the sampling device. For off-site tests, samples must be first used within 36 hours of collection.
20. Sample volume required	Minimum 1 liter for effluents and 2 liters for receiving waters

Footnotes:

- ¹ Adapted from EPA 821-R-02-012.
- ² If dissolved oxygen falls below 4.0 mg/L, aerate at rate of less than 100 bubbles/min. Routine D.O. checks are recommended.
- ³ When receiving water is used for dilution, an additional control made up of standard laboratory dilution water (0% effluent) is required.

EPA NEW ENGLAND TOXICITY TEST CONDITIONS FOR THE INLAND SILVERSIDE, MENIDIA BERYLLINA 48 HOUR TEST¹

1. Test Type	48 hr Static, non-renewal
2. Salinity	25 ppt $\pm$ 10 % by adding dry ocean salts
3. Temperature	20°C $\pm$ 1°C or 25°C $\pm$ 1°C, temperature must not deviate by more than 3°C during test
4. Light Quality	Ambient laboratory illumination
5. Photoperiod	16 hr light, 8 hr dark
6. Size of test vessel	250 mL (minimum)
7. Volume of test solution	200 mL/replicate (minimum)
8. Age of fish	9-14 days; 24 hr age range
9. No. fish per chamber	10 (not to exceed loading limits)
10. No. of replicate test vessels per treatment	4
11. Total no. organisms per concentration	40
12. Feeding regime	Light feeding using concentrated <u>Artemia</u> nauplii while holding prior to initiating the test
13. Aeration ²	None
14. Dilution water	5-32 ppt, +/- 10% ; Natural seawater, or deionized water mixed with artificial sea salts.
15. Dilution factor	≥ 0.5
16. Number of dilutions ³	5 plus a control. An additional dilution at the permitted concentration (% effluent) is required if it is not included in the dilution series.
17. Effect measured	Mortality-no movement on gentle prodding.

18. Test acceptability	90% or greater survival of test organisms in control solution.
19. Sampling requirements	For on-site tests, samples must be used within 24 hours of the time they are removed from the sampling device. Off-site test samples must be used within 36 hours of collection.
20. Sample volume required	Minimum 1 liter for effluents and 2 liters for receiving waters.

Footnotes:

- ¹ Adapted from EPA 821-R-02-012.
- ² If dissolved oxygen falls below 4.0 mg/L, aerate at rate of less than 100 bubbles/min. Routine D.O. checks recommended.
- ³ When receiving water is used for dilution, an additional control made up of standard laboratory dilution water (0% effluent) is required.

V.1. Test Acceptability Criteria

If a test does not meet TAC the test must be repeated with fresh samples within 30 days of the initial test completion date.

V.2. Use of Reference Toxicity Testing

Reference toxicity test results and applicable control charts must be included in the toxicity testing report.

In general, if reference toxicity test results fall outside the control limits established by the laboratory for a specific test endpoint, a reason or reasons for this excursion must be evaluated, correction made and reference toxicity tests rerun as necessary as prescribed below.

If a test endpoint value exceeds the control limits at a frequency of more than one out of twenty then causes for the reference toxicity test failure must be examined and if problems are identified corrective action taken. The reference toxicity test must be repeated during the same month in which the exceedance occurred.

If two consecutive reference toxicity tests fall outside control limits, the possible cause(s) for the exceedance must be examined, corrective actions taken and a repeat of the reference toxicity test must take place immediately. Actions taken to resolve the problem must be reported.

V.2.a. Use of Concurrent Reference Toxicity Testing

In the case where concurrent reference toxicity testing is required due to a low frequency of testing with a particular method, if the reference toxicity test results fall slightly outside of laboratory established control limits, but the primary test met the TAC, the results of the primary test will be considered acceptable. However, if the results of the concurrent test fall well outside the established **upper** control limits i.e. ≥ 3 standard deviations for IC25s and LC50 values and $\geq$ two concentration intervals for NOECs or NOAECs, and even though the primary test meets TAC, the primary test will be considered unacceptable and must be repeated.

VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

At the beginning of the static acute test, pH, salinity, and temperature must be measured at the beginning and end of each 24 hour period in each dilution and in the controls. The following chemical analyses shall be performed for each sampling event.

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Effluent</u>	<u>Diluent</u>	<u>Minimum Level for effluent^{*1} (mg/L)</u>
pH	x	x	---
Salinity	x	x	ppt(o/oo)
Total Residual Chlorine ^{*2}	x	x	0.02
Total Solids and Suspended Solids	x	x	---
Ammonia	x	x	0.1
Total Organic Carbon	x	x	0.5
<u>Total Metals</u>			
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

Superscript:

^{*1} These are the minimum levels for effluent (fresh water) samples. Tests on diluents (marine waters) shall be conducted using the Part 136 methods that yield the lowest MLs.

^{*2} Either of the following methods from the 18th Edition of the APHA Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater must be used for these analyses:

- Method 4500-Cl E Low Level Amperometric Titration (the preferred method);
- Method 4500-CL G DPD Photometric Method.

VII. TOXICITY TEST DATA ANALYSIS

LC50 Median Lethal Concentration

An estimate of the concentration of effluent or toxicant that is lethal to 50% of the test organisms during the time prescribed by the test method.

Methods of Estimation:

- Probit Method
- Spearman-Kärber
- Trimmed Spearman-Kärber
- Graphical

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

No Observed Acute Effect Level (NOAEL)

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

VIII. TOXICITY TEST REPORTING

A report of results must include the following:

- Toxicity Test summary sheet(s) (Attachment F to the DMR Instructions) which includes:
 - o Facility name
 - o NPDES permit number
 - o Outfall number
 - o Sample type
 - o Sampling method
 - o Effluent TRC concentration
 - o Dilution water used
 - o Receiving water name and sampling location
 - o Test type and species
 - o Test start date
 - o Effluent concentrations tested (%) and permit limit concentration
 - o Applicable reference toxicity test date and whether acceptable or not
 - o Age, age range and source of test organisms used for testing
 - o Results of TAC review for all applicable controls
 - o Permit limit and toxicity test results
 - o Summary of any test sensitivity and concentration response evaluation that was conducted

Please note: The NPDES Permit Program Instructions for the Discharge Monitoring Report Forms (DMRs) are available on EPA's website at

<http://www.epa.gov/NE/enforcementandassistance/dmr.html>

In addition to the summary sheets the report must include:

- A brief description of sample collection procedures;
- Chain of custody documentation including names of individuals collecting samples, times and dates of sample collection, sample locations, requested analysis and lab receipt with time and date received, lab receipt personnel and condition of samples upon receipt at the lab(s);
- Reference toxicity test control charts;
- All sample chemical/physical data generated, including minimum levels (MLs) and analytical methods used;
- All toxicity test raw data including daily ambient test conditions, toxicity test chemistry, sample dechlorination details as necessary, bench sheets and statistical analysis;
- A discussion of any deviations from test conditions; and
- Any further discussion of reported test results, statistical analysis and concentration-response relationship and test sensitivity review per species per endpoint.

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(April 26, 2018)¹

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¹ Updated July 17, 2018 to fix typographical errors.

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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 or Act) and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit renewal application.

- a. The Permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act for toxic pollutants and with standards for sewage 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, or standards for sewage sludge use or disposal, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.
- b. Penalties for Violations of Permit Conditions: The Director will adjust the civil and administrative penalties listed below in accordance with the Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule (83 Fed. Reg. 1190-1194 (January 10, 2018) and the 2015 amendments to the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, 28 U.S.C. § 2461 note. See Pub. L. 114-74, Section 701 (Nov. 2, 2015)). These requirements help ensure that EPA penalties keep pace with inflation. Under the above-cited 2015 amendments to inflationary adjustment law, EPA must review its statutory civil penalties each year and adjust them as necessary.

(1) Criminal Penalties

- (a) *Negligent Violations.* The CWA provides that any person who negligently violates permit conditions implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to criminal penalties of not less than \$2,500 nor more than \$25,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than 1 year, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a negligent violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$50,000 per day of violation or by imprisonment of not more than 2 years, or both.
- (b) *Knowing Violations.* The CWA provides that any person who knowingly violates permit conditions implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act 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. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$100,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than 6 years, or both.
- (c) *Knowing Endangerment.* The CWA provides that any person who knowingly violates permit conditions implementing Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act and who knows at that time that he or she is placing another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury shall upon conviction be subject to a fine of not more than \$250,000 or by imprisonment of not more than 15 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing

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endangerment violation, a person shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500,000 or by imprisonment of not more than 30 years, or both. An organization, as defined in Section 309(c)(3)(B)(iii) of the Act, shall, upon conviction of violating the imminent danger provision, be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000,000 and can be fined up to \$2,000,000 for second or subsequent convictions.

- (d) *False Statement.* 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 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. The Act further 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 non-compliance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months per violation, or by both.
- (2) *Civil Penalties.* The CWA provides that any person who violates a permit condition implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(d) of the Act, the 2015 amendments to the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, 28 U.S.C. § 2461 note, and 40 C.F.R. Part 19. See Pub. L.114-74, Section 701 (Nov. 2, 2015); 83 Fed. Reg. 1190 (January 10, 2018).
- (3) *Administrative Penalties.* The CWA provides that any person who violates a permit condition implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to an administrative penalty as follows:
 - (a) *Class I Penalty.* Not to exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(g)(2)(A) of the Act, the 2015 amendments to the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, 28 U.S.C. § 2461 note, and 40 C.F.R. Part 19. See Pub. L.114-74, Section 701 (Nov. 2, 2015); 83 Fed. Reg. 1190 (January 10, 2018).
 - (b) *Class II Penalty.* Not to exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(g)(2)(B) of the Act the 2015 amendments to the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, 28 U.S.C. § 2461 note, and 40 C.F.R. Part 19. See Pub. L.114-74, Section 701 (Nov. 2, 2015); 83 Fed. Reg. 1190 (January 10, 2018).

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 a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any permit

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condition.

3. Duty to Provide Information

The Permittee shall furnish to the Director, within a reasonable time, any information which the Director 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 Director, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

4. 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).

5. Property Rights

This permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege.

6. Confidentiality of Information

a. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 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 C.F.R. 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.

c. Information required by NPDES application forms provided by the Director under 40 C.F.R. § 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.

7. Duty to Reapply

If the Permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, 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 Director. (The Director shall not grant permission for applications to be submitted later than the expiration date of the existing permit.)

8. State Authorities

Nothing in Parts 122, 123, or 124 precludes more stringent State regulation of any activity

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covered by the regulations in 40 C.F.R. Parts 122, 123, and 124, whether or not under an approved State program.

9. Other Laws

The issuance of a permit does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of State or local law or regulations.

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. 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 which are installed by a Permittee 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.
- (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 reasonably be 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 provisions of paragraphs (c) and (d) of this Section.

c. Notice

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- (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. As of December 21, 2020 all notices submitted in compliance with this Section must be submitted electronically by the Permittee to the Director or initial recipient, as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 127.2(b), in compliance with this Section and 40 C.F.R. Part 3 (including, in all cases, Subpart D to Part 3), § 122.22, and 40 C.F.R. Part 127. Part 127 is not intended to undo existing requirements for electronic reporting. Prior to this date, and independent of Part 127, Permittees may be required to report electronically if specified by a particular permit or if required to do so by state law.
- (2) *Unanticipated bypass.* The Permittee shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in paragraph D.1.e. of this part (24-hour notice). As of December 21, 2020 all notices submitted in compliance with this Section must be submitted electronically by the Permittee to the Director or initial recipient, as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 127.2(b), in compliance with this Section and 40 C.F.R. Part 3 (including, in all cases, Subpart D to Part 3), § 122.22, and 40 C.F.R. Part 127. Part 127 is not intended to undo existing requirements for electronic reporting. Prior to this date, and independent of Part 127, Permittees may be required to report electronically if specified by a particular permit or required to do so by law.

d. *Prohibition of bypass.*

- (1) Bypass is prohibited, and the Director may take enforcement action against a Permittee for bypass, unless:
 - (a) Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;
 - (b) 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
 - (c) The Permittee submitted notices as required under paragraph 4.c of this Section.
- (2) The Director may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Director 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

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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 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; and
 - (3) The Permittee submitted notice of the upset as required in paragraph D.1.e.2.b. (24-hour notice).
 - (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.

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 of 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 5 years (or longer as required by 40 C.F.R. § 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. This period may be extended by request of the Director 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 must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. § 136 unless another method is required under 40 C.F.R. Subchapters N or O.
- e. The Clean Water Act provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or

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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 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 Director, 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 Clean Water Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Reporting Requirements

- a. *Planned Changes.* The Permittee shall give notice to the Director as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required only 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 C.F.R. § 122.29(b); or
 - (2) The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements at 40 C.F.R. § 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 that are 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 Director of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.

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- c. *Transfers.* This permit is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Director. The Director may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the permit to change the name of the Permittee and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the Clean Water Act. See 40 C.F.R. § 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. As of December 21, 2016 all reports and forms submitted in compliance with this Section must be submitted electronically by the Permittee to the Director or initial recipient, as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 127.2(b), in compliance with this Section and 40 C.F.R. Part 3 (including, in all cases, Subpart D to Part 3), § 122.22, and 40 C.F.R. Part 127. Part 127 is not intended to undo existing requirements for electronic reporting. Prior to this date, and independent of Part 127, Permittees may be required to report electronically if specified by a particular permit or if required to do so by State law.
 - (2) If the Permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by the permit using test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. § 136, or another method required for an industry-specific waste stream under 40 C.F.R. Subchapters N or O, the results of such 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 report shall also be provided within 5 days of the time the Permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The written report 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. For noncompliance events related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events, these reports must include the data described above (with the exception of time of discovery) as well as the type of event (combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events), type of sewer overflow structure (e.g., manhole, combined sewer overflow outfall), discharge volumes untreated by the treatment works treating domestic sewage, types of human health and environmental impacts of the sewer overflow event, and whether the noncompliance was related to wet weather. As of December 21, 2020 all

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reports related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events submitted in compliance with this section must be submitted electronically by the Permittee to the Director or initial recipient, as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 127.2(b), in compliance with this Section and 40 C.F.R. Part 3 (including, in all cases Subpart D to Part 3), § 122.22, and 40 C.F.R. Part 127. Part 127 is not intended to undo existing requirements for electronic reporting. Prior to this date, and independent of Part 127, Permittees may be required to electronically submit reports related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events under this section by a particular permit or if required to do so by state law. The Director may also require Permittees to electronically submit reports not related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events under this section.

- (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 C.F.R. § 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 Director in the permit to be reported within 24 hours. *See* 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(g).
 - (3) The Director may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis for reports under paragraph D.1.e. of this Section if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.
- f. *Compliance Schedules.* Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or 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. For noncompliance events related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events, these reports shall contain the information described in paragraph D.1.e. and the applicable required data in Appendix A to 40 C.F.R. Part 127. As of December 21, 2020 all reports related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events submitted in compliance with this section must be submitted electronically by the Permittee to the Director or initial recipient, as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 127.2(b), in compliance with this Section and 40 C.F.R. Part 3 (including, in all cases, Subpart D to Part 3), §122.22, and 40 C.F.R. Part 127. Part 127 is not intended to undo existing requirements for electronic reporting. Prior to this date, and independent of Part 127, Permittees may be required to electronically submit reports related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events under this section by a particular permit or if required to do so by state law. The Director may also require Permittees to electronically submit reports not related to combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, or bypass events under this Section.
 - h. *Other information.* Where the Permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any

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relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Director, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

- i. *Identification of the initial recipient for NPDES electronic reporting data.* The owner, operator, or the duly authorized representative of an NPDES-regulated entity is required to electronically submit the required NPDES information (as specified in Appendix A to 40 C.F.R. Part 127) to the appropriate initial recipient, as determined by EPA, and as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 127.2(b). EPA will identify and publish the list of initial recipients on its Web site and in the FEDERAL REGISTER, by state and by NPDES data group (see 40 C.F.R. § 127.2(c) of this Chapter). EPA will update and maintain this listing.

2. Signatory Requirement

- a. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Director shall be signed and certified. See 40 C.F.R. §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 non-compliance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months per violation, or by both.

3. Availability of Reports.

Except for data determined to be confidential under paragraph A.6. 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 Director. 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.

E. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

1. General Definitions

For more definitions related to sludge use and disposal requirements, see EPA Region 1's NPDES Permit Sludge Compliance Guidance document (4 November 1999, modified to add regulatory definitions, April 2018).

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 under the CWA, 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 or disposal" under Sections 301, 302, 303, 304, 306, 307, 308, 403 and 405 of the CWA.

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

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“approved States,” including any approved modifications or revisions.

Approved program or *approved State* means a State or interstate program which has been approved or authorized by EPA under Part 123.

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” over a calendar week, calculated as the sum of all “daily discharges” measured during a calendar week divided by the number of “daily discharges” measured during that 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.

Bypass see B.4.a.1 above.

C-NOEC or “*Chronic (Long-term Exposure Test) – No Observed Effect Concentration*” means 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.

Class I sludge management facility is any publicly owned treatment works (POTW), as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 501.2, required to have an approved pretreatment program under 40 C.F.R. § 403.8 (a) (including any POTW located in a State that has elected to assume local program responsibilities pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 403.10 (e)) and any treatment works treating domestic sewage, as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 122.2, 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 its sewage sludge use or disposal practice to affect public health and the environment adversely.

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) Public Law 92-500, as amended by Public Law 95-217, Public Law 95-576, Public Law 96-483 and Public Law 97-117, 33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*

CWA and regulations means the Clean Water Act (CWA) and applicable regulations promulgated thereunder. In the case of an approved State program, it includes State program requirements.

Daily Discharge means the “discharge of a pollutant” measured during a calendar day or any

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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.

Direct Discharge means the “discharge of a pollutant.”

Director means the Regional Administrator or an authorized representative. In the case of a permit also issued under Massachusetts’ authority, it also refers to the Director of the Division of Watershed Management, Department of Environmental Protection, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Discharge

- (a) When used without qualification, *discharge* means the “discharge of a pollutant.”
- (b) As used in the definitions for “interference” and “pass through,” *discharge* means the introduction of pollutants into a POTW from any non-domestic source regulated under Section 307(b), (c) or (d) of the Act.

Discharge Monitoring Report (“DMR”) means the EPA uniform 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.

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 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 Director 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.”

Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) means the United States Environmental Protection

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Agency.

Grab Sample means an individual sample collected in a period of less than 15 minutes.

Hazardous substance means any substance designated under 40 C.F.R. Part 116 pursuant to Section 311 of CWA.

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

Indirect discharger means a nondomestic discharger introducing “pollutants” to a “publicly owned treatment works.”

Interference means a discharge (see definition above) 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, 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 that is not a land application unit, surface impoundment, injection well, or waste pile.

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

LC₅₀ means the concentration of a sample that causes mortality of 50% of the test population at a specific time of observation. The LC₅₀ = 100% is defined as a sample of undiluted effluent.

Maximum daily discharge limitation means the highest allowable “daily discharge.”

Municipal solid waste landfill (MSWLF) unit means a discrete area of land or an excavation that receives household waste, and that is not a land application unit, surface impoundment, injection well, or waste pile, as those terms are defined under 40 C.F.R. § 257.2. A MSWLF unit also may receive other types of RCRA Subtitle D wastes, such as commercial solid waste, nonhazardous sludge, very small quantity generator waste and industrial solid waste. Such a landfill may be

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publicly or privately owned. A MSWLF unit may be a new MSWLF unit, an existing MSWLF unit or a lateral expansion. A construction and demolition landfill that receives residential lead-based paint waste and does not receive any other household waste is not a MSWLF unit.

Municipality

- (a) When used without qualification *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 tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under Section 208 of CWA.
- (b) As related to sludge use and disposal, *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.

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 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 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 Director 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 Director shall consider the factors specified in 40 C.F.R. §§ 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 (see definition above) 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).

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

Permit means an authorization, license, or equivalent control document issued by EPA or an “approved State” to implement the requirements of Parts 122, 123, and 124. “Permit” includes an NPDES “general permit” (40 C.F.R § 122.28). “Permit” does not include any permit which has not yet been the subject of final agency action, such as a “draft permit” or “proposed permit.”

Person means 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 measured at 25° Centigrade or measured at another temperature and then converted to an equivalent value at 25° Centigrade.

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 C.F.R. § 122.3).

Pollutant means dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, filter backwash, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials

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(except those regulated under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2011 *et seq.*)), heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharged into water. It does not mean:

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

Primary industry category means any industry category listed in the NRDC settlement agreement (*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 C.F.R. Part 122.

Privately owned treatment works means any device or system which is (a) used to treat wastes from any facility whose operator is not the operator of the treatment works and (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 a treatment works as defined by Section 212 of the Act, which is owned by a State or municipality (as defined by Section 504(4) of the Act). This definition includes any devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling and reclamation of municipal sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature. It also includes sewers, pipes and other conveyances only if they convey wastewater to a POTW Treatment Plant. The term also means the municipality as defined in Section 502(4) of the Act, which has jurisdiction over the indirect discharges to and the discharges from such a treatment works.

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

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

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, semi-solid, or liquid residue removed during the treatment of municipal waste water or domestic sewage. Sewage sludge includes, but is not limited to, solids removed during primary, secondary, or advanced waste water treatment, scum, septage, portable toilet pumpings, type III marine sanitation device pumpings (33 C.F.R. Part 159), and sewage sludge products. Sewage sludge does not include grit or screenings, or ash generated during the incineration of sewage sludge.

Sewage sludge 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

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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 C.F.R. § 122.2.

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; finished materials such as metallic products; 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 Section 313 of title III of SARA; 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 C.F.R. §§ 110.10 and 117.21) or Section 102 of CERCLA (see 40 C.F.R. § 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 C.F.R. § 122.1(b)(2).

State means any of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or an Indian Tribe as defined in the regulations which meets the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 123.31.

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.

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 that is used for collecting and conveying storm water and that is directly related to manufacturing, processing, or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant.

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

Toxic pollutant 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 waste water 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 waste water 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 Director may designate any person subject to the standards for sewage sludge use and

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disposal in 40 C.F.R. 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 C.F.R. Part 503.

Upset see B.5.a. above.

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

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

Waters of the United States or *waters of the U.S.* 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 the 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 CWA (other than cooling ponds as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 423.11(m) which also meet the criteria of this definition) are not waters of the United States. This exclusion applies only to manmade bodies of water which neither were originally created in waters of the United States (such as disposal area in wetlands) nor resulted from the impoundment of waters of the United States. Waters of the United States do not include prior converted cropland.

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Notwithstanding the determination of an area's status as prior converted cropland by any other federal agency, for the purposes of the Clean Water Act, the final authority regarding Clean Water Act jurisdiction remains with EPA.

Wetlands means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient 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.

Zone of Initial Dilution (ZID) means the region of initial mixing surrounding or adjacent to the end of the outfall pipe or diffuser ports, provided that the ZID may not be larger than allowed by mixing zone restrictions in applicable water quality standards.

2. 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 ₂	Total residual chlorine
TRC	Total residual chlorine which is a combination of free available chlorine (FAC, see below) and combined chlorine (chloramines, etc.)
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 recording of the parameter being monitored, i.e. flow, temperature, pH, etc.
Cu. M/day or M ³ /day	Cubic meters per day
DO	Dissolved oxygen

NPDES PART II STANDARD CONDITIONS
(April 26, 2018)

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 ₃ -N	Ammonia nitrogen as nitrogen
NO ₃ -N	Nitrate as nitrogen
NO ₂ -N	Nitrite as nitrogen
NO ₃ -NO ₂	Combined nitrate and nitrite nitrogen as nitrogen
TKN	Total Kjeldahl nitrogen as nitrogen
Oil & Grease	Freon extractable material
PCB	Polychlorinated biphenyl
Surfactant	Surface-active agent
Temp. °C	Temperature in degrees Centigrade
Temp. °F	Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit
TOC	Total organic carbon
Total P	Total phosphorus
TSS or NFR	Total suspended solids or total nonfilterable residue
Turb. or Turbidity	Turbidity measured by the Nephelometric Method (NTU)
µg/L	Microgram(s) per liter
WET	“Whole effluent toxicity”
ZID	Zone of Initial Dilution

**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 NUMBER: MA0032751

PUBLIC NOTICE START AND END DATES: July 16, 2020 – August 14, 2020

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Massachusetts Port Authority
Environmental Management Unit
One Harborside Drive, Suite 200S
East Boston, Massachusetts 02128

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Fire Training Facility
Logan International Airport
1 Harborside Drive
East Boston, Massachusetts 02128

RECEIVING WATER AND CLASSIFICATION:

Boston Harbor (MA70-01)
Boston Harbor Watershed
Class SB

SIC CODE: 4581 (Airports, Flying Fields, and Airport Terminal Services)

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1.0 Proposed Action

Massachusetts Port Authority (the “Permittee”) has applied to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for reissuance of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to discharge from the Logan International Airport – Fire Training Facility (the “Facility”) into Boston Harbor.

The permit currently in effect was issued on August 15, 2014 with an effective date of August 15, 2014 and expired on July 31, 2019 (the “2014 Permit”). The Permittee filed an application for permit reissuance with EPA dated January 28, 2019, as required by 40 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) § 122.6. Since the permit application was deemed timely and complete by EPA on February 6, 2019, the Facility’s 2014 Permit has been administratively continued pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 122.6 and § 122.21(d). EPA and the State conducted a site visit on February 24, 2020.

2.0 Statutory and Regulatory Authority

Congress enacted the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, codified at 33 U.S.C. § 1251 – 1387 and commonly known as the Clean Water Act (CWA), “to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters.” CWA § 101(a). To achieve this objective, the CWA makes it unlawful for any person to discharge any pollutant into the waters of the United States from any point source, except as authorized by specific permitting sections of the CWA, one of which is § 402. *See* CWA §§ 301(a), 402(a). Section 402(a) established one of the CWA’s principal permitting programs, the NPDES Permit Program. Under this section, EPA may “issue a permit for the discharge of any pollutant or combination of pollutants” in accordance with certain conditions. CWA § 402(a). NPDES permits generally contain discharge limitations and establish related monitoring and reporting requirements. *See* CWA § 402(a)(1) and (2). The regulations governing EPA’s NPDES permit program are generally found in 40 CFR §§ 122, 124, 125, and 136.

“Congress has vested in the Administrator [of EPA] broad discretion to establish conditions for NPDES permits” in order to achieve the statutory mandates of Section 301 and 402. *Arkansas v. Oklahoma*, 503 U.S. 91, 105 (1992). *See also* 40 CFR §§ 122.4(d), 122.44(d)(1), 122.44(d)(5). CWA §§ 301 and 306 provide for two types of effluent limitations to be included in NPDES permits: “technology-based” effluent limitations (TBELs) and “water quality-based” effluent limitations (WQBELs). *See* CWA §§ 301 and 304(b); 40 C.F.R. §§ 122, 125, and 131.

2.1 Technology-Based Requirements

Technology-based treatment requirements represent the minimum level of control that must be imposed under CWA §§ 301(b) and 402 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. *See* 40 CFR. § 125 Subpart A.

Subpart A of 40 CFR. Part 125 establishes criteria and standards for the imposition of technology-based treatment requirements in permits under § 301(b) of the CWA, including the application of EPA promulgated Effluent Limitation Guidelines (ELGs) and case-by-case determinations of effluent limitations under CWA § 402(a)(1). EPA promulgates New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) under CWA § 306 and 40 CFR § 401.12. *See also* 40 CFR §§ 122.2 (definition of “new source”) and 122.29.

In general, ELGs 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. 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).

2.2 Water Quality-Based Requirements

The CWA and federal regulations require that effluent limitations based on water quality considerations be established for point source discharges when such limitations are necessary to meet state or federal water quality standards that are applicable to the designated receiving water. This is necessary when less stringent TBELs would interfere with the attainment or maintenance of water quality criteria in the receiving water. *See* CWA § 301(b)(1)(C) and 40 CFR §§ 122.44(d)(1), 122.44(d)(5), 125.84(e) and 125.94(i).

2.2.1 Water Quality Standards

The CWA requires that each state develop water quality standards (WQSs) for all water bodies within the State. *See* CWA § 303 and 40 CFR §§ 131.10-12. Generally, WQSs consist of three parts: 1) beneficial designated use or uses for a water body or a segment of a water body; 2) numeric or narrative water quality criteria sufficient to protect the assigned designated use(s); and 3) antidegradation requirements to ensure that once a use is attained it will not be degraded and to protect high quality and National resource waters. *See* CWA § 303(c)(2)(A) and 40 CFR. § 131.12. The applicable State WQSs can be found in Title 314 of the Code of Massachusetts Regulations, Chapter 4 (314 CMR 4.00).

As a matter of state law, state WQSs specify different water body classifications, each of which is associated with certain designated uses and numeric and narrative water quality criteria. When using chemical-specific numeric criteria to develop permit limitations, acute and chronic aquatic life criteria and human health criteria are used and expressed in terms of maximum allowable in-stream pollutant concentrations. In general, aquatic-life acute criteria are considered applicable to daily time periods (maximum daily limit) and aquatic-life chronic criteria are considered applicable to monthly time periods (average monthly limit). Chemical-specific human health criteria are typically based on lifetime chronic exposure and, therefore, are typically applicable to monthly average limits.

When permit effluent limitation(s) are necessary to ensure that the receiving water meets narrative water quality criteria, the permitting authority must establish effluent limits in one of the following three ways: 1) based on a “calculated numeric criterion for the pollutant which the permitting authority demonstrates will attain and maintain applicable narrative water quality criteria and fully protect the designated use,” 2) based on a “case-by-case basis” using CWA § 304(a) recommended water quality criteria, supplemented as necessary by other relevant information; or, 3) in certain circumstances, based on use of an indicator parameter. *See* 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(vi)(A-C).

2.2.2 Antidegradation

Federal regulations found at 40 CFR § 131.12 require states to develop and adopt a statewide antidegradation policy that maintains and protects existing in-stream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect these existing uses. In addition, the antidegradation policy ensures maintenance of high quality waters which exceed levels necessary to support propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and to support recreation in and on the water, unless the State finds that allowing degradation is necessary to accommodate important economic or social development in the area in which the waters are located.

Massachusetts’ statewide antidegradation policy, entitled “Antidegradation Provisions,” is found in the State’s WQSs at 314 CMR 4.04. Massachusetts guidance for the implementation of this policy is in an associated document entitled “Implementation Procedure for the Anti-Degradation Provisions of the State Water Quality Standards,” dated October 21, 2009. According to the policy, no lowering of water quality is allowed, except in accordance with the antidegradation policy, and all existing in-stream uses, and the level of water quality necessary to protect the existing uses, of a receiving water body must be maintained and protected.

This permit is being reissued with effluent limitations sufficiently stringent to satisfy the State’s antidegradation requirements, including the protection of the existing uses of the receiving water.

2.2.3 Assessment and Listing of Waters and Total Maximum Daily Loads

The objective of the CWA is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters. To meet this goal, the CWA requires states to develop information on the quality of their water resources and report this information to EPA, the U.S. Congress, and the public. To this end, EPA released guidance on November 19, 2001, for the preparation of an integrated “List of Waters” that could combine reporting elements of both § 305(b) and § 303(d) of the CWA. The integrated list format allows states to provide the status of all their assessed waters in one list. States choosing this option must list each water body or segment in one of the following five categories: 1) unimpaired and not threatened for all designated uses; 2) unimpaired waters for some uses and not assessed for others; 3) insufficient information to make assessments for any uses; 4) impaired or threatened for one or more uses but not requiring the calculation of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL); and 5) impaired or threatened for one or more uses and requiring a TMDL.

A TMDL is a planning tool and potential starting point for restoration activities with the ultimate goal of attaining water quality standards. A TMDL essentially provides a pollution budget designed to restore the health of an impaired water body. A TMDL typically identifies the source(s) of the pollutant from point sources and non-point sources, determines the maximum load of the pollutant that the water body can tolerate while still attaining WQSs for the designated uses, and allocates that load among the various sources, including point source discharges, subject to NPDES permits. *See* 40 CFR § 130.7.

For impaired waters where a TMDL has been developed for a particular pollutant and the TMDL includes a waste load allocation (WLA) for a NPDES permitted discharge, the effluent limitation in the permit must be “consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any available WLA”. 40 CFR. § 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B).

2.2.4 Reasonable Potential

Pursuant to CWA § 301(b)(1)(C) and 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1), NPDES permits must contain any requirements in addition to TBELs that are necessary to achieve water quality standards established under § 303 of the CWA. *See also* 33 U.S.C. § 1311(b)(1)(C). In addition, limitations “must control any pollutant or pollutant parameter (conventional, non-conventional, or toxic) which the permitting authority determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality.” 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(i). To determine if the discharge causes, or has the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any WQS, EPA considers: 1) existing controls on point and non-point sources of pollution; 2) the variability of the pollutant or pollutant parameter in the effluent; 3) the sensitivity of the species to toxicity testing (when evaluating whole effluent toxicity); and 4) where appropriate, the dilution of the effluent by the receiving water. *See* 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(ii).

If the permitting authority determines that the discharge of a pollutant will cause, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above WQSs, the permit must contain WQBELs for that pollutant. *See* 40 CFR. § 122.44(d)(1)(i).

2.2.5 State Certification

EPA may not issue a permit unless the State Water Pollution Control Agency with jurisdiction over the receiving water(s) 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 the State WQSs, the State waives, or is deemed to have waived, its right to certify. *See* 33 U.S.C. § 1341(a)(1). Regulations governing state certification are set forth in 40 CFR. § 124.53 and § 124.55. EPA has requested permit certification by the State pursuant to 40 CFR § 124.53 and expects that the Draft Permit will be certified.

If the State believes that conditions more stringent than those contained in the Draft Permit are necessary to meet the requirements of either CWA §§ 208(e), 301, 302, 303, 306 and 307, or applicable requirements of State law, the State should include such conditions in its certification

and, in each case, cite the CWA or State law provisions upon which that condition is based. Failure to provide such a citation waives the right to certify as to that condition. EPA includes properly supported State certification conditions in the NPDES permit. The only exception to this is that the permit conditions/requirements regulating sewage sludge management and implementing CWA § 405(d) are not subject to the State certification requirements. Reviews and appeals of limitations and conditions attributable to State certification shall be made through the applicable procedures of the State and may not be made through EPA's permit appeal procedures of 40 CFR. Part 124.

In addition, the State should provide a statement of the extent to which any condition of the Draft Permit can be made less stringent without violating the requirements of State law. Since the State's certification is provided prior to final permit issuance, any failure by the State to provide this statement waives the State's right to certify or object to any less stringent condition.

It should be noted that under CWA § 401, EPA's duty to defer to considerations of state law is intended to prevent EPA from relaxing any requirements, limitations or conditions imposed by state law. Therefore, "[a] State may not condition or deny a certification on the grounds that State law allows a less stringent permit condition." 40 CFR § 124.55(c). In such an instance, the regulation provides that, "The Regional Administrator shall disregard any such certification conditions or denials as waivers of certification." *Id.* EPA regulations pertaining to permit limitations based upon QWSs and State requirements are contained in 40 CFR. §§ 122.4(d) and 122.44(d).

2.3 Effluent Flow Requirements

Generally, EPA uses effluent flow both to determine whether an NPDES permit needs certain effluent limitations and to calculate the effluent limitations themselves. EPA practice is to use effluent flow as a reasonable and important worst-case condition in EPA's reasonable potential and QWBEL calculations to ensure compliance with QWSs under CWA § 301(b)(1)(C). Should the effluent flow exceed the flow assumed in these calculations, the in-stream dilution would be reduced and the calculated effluent limitations might not be sufficiently protective (i.e., might not meet QWSs). Further, pollutants that do not have the reasonable potential to exceed QWSs at a lower discharge flow may have reasonable potential at a higher flow due to the decreased dilution. In order to ensure that the assumptions underlying EPA's reasonable potential analyses and permit effluent limitation derivations remain sound for the duration of the permit, EPA may ensure the validity of its "worst-case" effluent flow assumptions through imposition of permit conditions for effluent flow.¹ In this regard, the effluent flow limitation is a component of QWBELs because the QWBELs are premised on a maximum level flow. The effluent flow limit

¹ EPA's regulations regarding "reasonable potential" require EPA to consider "where appropriate, the dilution of the effluent in the receiving water," *id.* 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(ii). Both the effluent flow and receiving water flow may be considered when assessing reasonable potential. *In re Upper Blackstone Water Pollution Abatement Dist.*, 14 E.A.D. 577, 599 (EAB 2010). EPA guidance directs that this "reasonable potential" analysis be based on "worst-case" conditions. *See In re Washington Aqueduct Water Supply Sys.*, 11 E.A.D. 565, 584 (EAB 2004).

is also necessary to ensure that other pollutants remain at levels that do not have a reasonable potential to exceed WQSs.

The limitation on effluent flow is within EPA's authority to condition a permit to carry out the objectives and satisfy the requirements of the CWA. *See* CWA §§ 402(a)(2) and 301(b)(1)(C); 40 CFR §§ 122.4(a) and (d), 122.43 and 122.44(d). A condition on the discharge designed to ensure the validity of EPA's QBELs and reasonable potential calculations that account for "worst case" conditions is encompassed by the references to "condition" and "limitations" in CWA §§402 and 301 and the implementing regulations, as QBELs are designed to assure compliance with applicable water quality regulations, including antidegradation requirements. Regulating the quantity of pollutants in the discharge through a restriction on the quantity of effluent is also consistent with the CWA.

In addition, as provided in Part II.B.1 of this permit and 40 CFR § 122.41(e), the Permittee is required to properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control. Improper operation and maintenance may result in non-compliance with permit effluent limitations. Consequently, the effluent flow limit is a permit condition that relates to the Permittee's duty to mitigate (*i.e.*, minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of the permit that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment) and to properly operate and maintain the treatment works. *See* 40 CFR §§ 122.41(d), (e).

2.4 Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

2.4.1 Monitoring Requirements

Sections 308(a) and 402(a)(2) of the CWA and the implementing regulations at 40 CFR Parts 122, 124, 125, and 136 authorize EPA to include monitoring and reporting requirements in NPDES permits.

The monitoring requirements included in this permit have been established to yield data representative of the Facility's discharges in accordance with CWA §§ 308(a) and 402(a)(2), and consistent with 40 CFR §§ 122.41(j), 122.43(a), 122.44(i) and 122.48. The Draft Permit specifies routine sampling and analysis requirements to provide ongoing, representative information on the levels of regulated constituents in the wastewater discharges. The monitoring program is needed to enable EPA and the State to assess the characteristics of the Facility's effluent, whether Facility discharges are complying with permit limits, and whether different permit conditions may be necessary in the future to ensure compliance with technology-based and water quality-based standards under the CWA. EPA and/or the State may use the results of the chemical analyses conducted pursuant to this permit, as well as national water quality criteria developed pursuant to CWA § 304(a)(1), State water quality criteria, and any other appropriate information or data, to develop numerical effluent limitations for any pollutants, including, but not limited to, those pollutants listed in Appendix D of 40 CFR Part 122.

NPDES permits require that the approved analytical procedures found in 40 CFR Part 136 be used for sampling and analysis unless other procedures are explicitly specified. Permits also include requirements necessary to comply with the *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination*

*System (NPDES): Use of Sufficiently Sensitive Test Methods for Permit Applications and Reporting Rule.*² This Rule requires that where EPA-approved methods exist, NPDES applicants must use sufficiently sensitive EPA-approved analytical methods when quantifying the presence of pollutants in a discharge. Further, the permitting authority must prescribe that only sufficiently sensitive EPA-approved methods be used for analyses of pollutants or pollutant parameters under the permit. The NPDES regulations at 40 CFR § 122.21(e)(3) (completeness), 40 CFR § 122.44(i)(1)(iv) (monitoring requirements) and/or as cross referenced at 40 CFR § 136.1(c) (applicability) indicate that an EPA-approved method is sufficiently sensitive where:

- The method minimum level³ (ML) is at or below the level of the effluent limitation established in the permit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or
- In the case of permit applications, the ML is above the applicable water quality criterion, but the amount of the pollutant or pollutant parameter in a facility's discharge is high enough that the method detects and quantifies the level of the pollutant or parameter in the discharge; or
- The method has the lowest ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N or O for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter.

2.4.2 Reporting Requirements

The Draft Permit requires the Permittee to report monitoring results obtained during each calendar month to EPA and the State electronically using NetDMR. The Permittee must submit a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) for each calendar month no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period.

NetDMR is a national web-based tool enabling regulated CWA permittees to submit DMRs electronically via a secure internet application to EPA through the Environmental Information Exchange Network. NetDMR has eliminated the need for participants to mail in paper forms to EPA under 40 CFR §§ 122.41 and 403.12. NetDMR is accessible through EPA's Central Data Exchange at <https://cdx.epa.gov/>. Further information about NetDMR can be found on EPA's NetDMR support portal webpage.⁴

With the use of NetDMR, the Permittee is no longer required to submit hard copies of DMRs and reports to EPA and the State unless otherwise specified in the Draft Permit. In most cases, reports required under the permit shall be submitted to EPA as an electronic attachment through

² Fed. Reg. 49,001 (Aug. 19, 2014).

³ The term "minimum level" refers to either the sample concentration equivalent to the lowest calibration point in a method or a multiple of the method detection limit (MDL), whichever is higher. Minimum levels may be obtained in several ways: They may be published in a method; they may be based on the lowest acceptable calibration point used by a laboratory; or they may be calculated by multiplying the MDL in a method, or the MDL determined by a laboratory, by a factor. EPA is considering the following terms related to analytical method sensitivity to be synonymous: "quantitation limit," "reporting limit," "level of quantitation," and "minimum level." See Fed. Reg. 49,001 (Aug. 19, 2014).

⁴ <https://netdmr.zendesk.com/hc/en-us>

NetDMR. Certain exceptions are provided in the permit such as for providing written notifications required under the Part II Standard Conditions.

2.5 Standard Conditions

The standard conditions, included as Part II of the Draft Permit, are based on applicable regulations found in the Code of Federal Regulations. *See generally* 40 CFR Part 122.

2.6 Anti-backsliding

The CWA's anti-backsliding requirements prohibit a permit from being renewed, reissued or modified to include less stringent limitations or conditions than those contained in a previous permit except in compliance with one of the specified exceptions to those requirements. *See* CWA §§ 402(o) and 303(d)(4) and 40 CFR § 122.44(l). Anti-backsliding provisions apply to effluent limits based on technology, water quality, and/or State certification requirements.

All proposed limitations in the Draft Permit are at least as stringent as limitations included in the 2014 Permit unless specific conditions exist to justify relaxation in accordance with CWA § 402(o) or § 303(d)(4). Discussion of any less stringent limitations and corresponding exceptions to anti-backsliding provisions is provided in the sections that follow.

3.0 Description of Facility and Discharge

3.1 Location and Type of Facility

The Facility is located at Logan International Airport adjacent to Boston Harbor in Boston, Massachusetts. A location map is provided in Figure 1. The Facility typically operates from mid-March through November each year and is used for fire training for the Permittee's fire department as well as other municipal fire departments in New England. The main features of the Facility are a 120-foot diameter burn pit, which has a lined containment system and contains a mock-up aircraft, a control building, permanent structures to house the treatment system and underground piping for oil and water delivery. A site plan is provided in Figure 2.

The Facility uses the burn pit to simulate general airplane engine fires. A fixed amount of TekflameTM fuel is ignited with a small volume of starter fuel at fixed locations within the pit. TekflameTM fuel is a cleaner burning alternative to jet fuel that is routinely used for training industrial and aircraft firefighters. It produces considerably less flame and smoke than jet or aviation fuel. Fire trucks and fire fighters line the burn pit and spray water – supplied from adjacent fire hydrants connected to the municipal water supply – to suppress the fire. In addition, water piped from the above ground storage tank to the burn pit is used to aid fire suppression by both flooding the burn pit from the ground surface up and releasing water from pipes located on top of the mock airplane.

The process water, unburned fuel, and any stormwater collected in the burn pit are discharged to the treatment train via an overflow weir. The fire training events occur anywhere from 35 to 70 times a year, using roughly 8,000 to 15,000 gallons of water and 800 gallons of fuel per test. The

water/oil mix is first moved to four, 6,000-gallon flow equalization tanks where it is fed to an oil/water separator then subsequently filtered and treated with a granular activated carbon (GAC) unit at a flow rate of 40 gallons per minute. Periodically, the filtration system is backwashed with the treated water. Once treated, the water is sent to the aboveground storage tank. Water in the aboveground storage tank is either reused during future fire training events, shipped off site by the Facility's contractor, Clean Harbors, or discharged to Boston Harbor. A schematic of water flow is provided in Figure 3.

3.1.1 Effluent Limitation Guidelines

EPA has not promulgated technology-based effluent limitation guidelines (ELGs) for Airports, Flying Fields, and Airport Terminal Services (SIC 4581) in 40 C.F.R. Subchapter N Parts 405 through 471. Therefore, in accordance with CWA § 402(a)(1)(B) and 40 CFR § 125.3(c)(2), EPA may establish effluent limitations on a case-by-case basis using BPJ. The NPDES regulations in 40 CFR § 125.3(c)(2) state that permits developed on a case-by-case basis under Section 402 (a)(1) of the CWA shall apply the appropriate factors listed in 40 CFR § 125.3(d) and must consider, (1) the appropriate technology for the category class of point sources of which the applicant is a member, based on available information, and (2) any unique factors relating to the applicant.

To the extent applicable to the Facility, EPA has incorporated effluent limitations and conditions from EPA Region 1's 2017 *Remediation General Permit for Massachusetts and New Hampshire*⁵ since the site discharges are analogous to those authorized by EPA's Remediation General Permit (RGP) for pipeline and tank dewatering activities⁶. Effluent limitations derived from the RGP are explained in their applicable sections below.

3.2 Location and Type of Discharge

Outfall 001 is located at Latitude 42° 20' 56.9" Longitude -71° 00' 18.1" on the North shore of Boston Harbor. The Permittee has requested authorization to discharge wastewater from the Facility through Outfall 001 into Boston Harbor. The discharge from Outfall 001 consists of treated water from the above ground storage tank mentioned above. Again, that water is sourced from pre-existing above ground storage tank water, water from the municipal water supply used during fire training events, stormwater collected in the burn pit, and fuel residue. Discharges only occur when the above ground storage tank can no longer store the water. Possible reasons for discharging include multiple precipitation events between training sessions or at the end of the fire training season when water must be removed from the entire facility to prevent equipment from freezing.

A quantitative description of the discharge in terms of effluent parameters, based on monitoring data submitted by the Permittee, including Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs), from

⁵ The *Remediation General Permit* can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/remediation-general-permit-rgp-massachusetts-new-hampshire>

⁶ See *Section 1.1 Subject Discharges*, item 4 of the *Remediation General Permit* referenced above.

December 2014 through November 2019, is provided in Appendix A of this Fact Sheet. According to the total monthly flow reported during this period, 189,900 gallons of effluent were discharged from Outfall 001 over 10 separate discharge events. EPA notes that the Permittee submitted additional monitoring data since November 30, 2019. EPA reviewed these additional data to ensure that the results are consistent with the data used to derive the effluent limitations and conditions in the Draft Permit. EPA finds that these additional data are consistent. As a result, these additional data are not included in Appendix A or discussed further in this Fact Sheet.

4.0 Description of Receiving Water and Dilution

4.1 Receiving Water

The Facility discharges through Outfall 001 to Boston Harbor (Segment ID MA70-01). Boston Harbor is classified as Class SB in the Massachusetts WQSs, 314 Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR) 4.05(4)(b). Class SB waters are described in CMR 4.05(4)(b) as follows: *“designated 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. In certain waters, habitat for fish, other aquatic life and wildlife may include, but is not limited to, seagrass. Where designated in the tables to 314 CMR 4.00 for shellfishing, these waters shall be suitable for shellfish harvesting with depuration (Restricted and Conditionally Restricted Shellfish Areas). These waters shall have consistently good aesthetic value.”*

Boston Harbor is listed in the *Massachusetts Year 2016 Integrated List of Waters* (“303(d) List”) as Category 5 “Waters Requiring a TMDL.”⁷ The cause of impairment listed is fecal coliform, PCB in fish tissue, and cause unknown (contaminants in fish and/or shellfish). A final pathogen TMDL has been prepared by MassDEP and approved by EPA for the Boston Harbor Watershed⁸. Among this report’s findings is that the majority of pathogen impairments among the various segments in the watershed are due to discharges from Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs), municipal point sources, illicit sewer connections, and urban runoff/storm sewers. However, for Class SB water types, any regulated discharge, particularly those that include stormwater runoff, could be sources of pathogens. TMDLs for the other Boston Harbor impairments have yet to be developed.

According to the Boston Harbor Water Quality Assessment Report⁹, this water body segment is attaining designated uses for aquatic life, as well as primary and secondary contact recreation. The aesthetics designated use has not been assessed. Fish consumption and shellfish harvesting are impaired. Impairments for fish consumption are related to elevated concentrations of PCBs in fish tissue as well as other contaminants. Shellfish harvesting is impaired primarily due to

⁷ *Massachusetts Year 2016 Integrated List of Waters*. MassDEP Division of Watershed Management Watershed Planning Program, Worcester, Massachusetts; December 2019.

⁸ *Final Pathogen TMDL for the Boston Harbor, Weymouth-Weir, and Mystic Watersheds*. MassDEP Division of Watershed Management, Worcester, Massachusetts; October, 2018, Control Number CN 157.1.

⁹ Water Quality Assessment Report. MassDEP Division of Watershed Management, Worcester, Massachusetts; August, 2010, Report Number: 7-AC-2.

elevated fecal coliform counts in stormwater and CSO discharges to the harbor. The status of each designated use is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of Designated Uses and Listing Status

Designated Use	Status
Aquatic Life	Support
Aesthetics	Not Assessed
Fish Consumption	Impaired
Primary Contact Recreation	Support
Secondary Contact Recreation	Support
Shellfish Harvesting	Impaired

4.2 Available Dilution

To ensure that discharges do not cause or contribute to violations of WQSs under all expected conditions, WQBELs are derived assuming critical conditions for the receiving water.¹⁰

The critical low flow in marine and coastal waters is determined on a case-by-case basis. State WQSs specify that, “the Department will establish extreme hydrologic conditions at which aquatic life criteria must be applied on a case-by-case basis. In all cases existing uses shall be protected and the selection shall not interfere with the attainment of designated uses.” See 314 CMR 4.03(3)(c). State WQSs further specify that, “human health-based criteria may be applied at conditions the Department determines will result in protection at least equivalent to that provided for rivers and streams.” See 314 CMR 4.03(3)(d). This Draft Permit does not contain quantitative WQBELs requiring a dilution factor.

5.0 Proposed Effluent Limitations and Conditions

The proposed effluent limitations and conditions derived under the CWA and State WQSs are described below. These proposed effluent limitations and conditions, the basis of which is discussed throughout this Fact Sheet, may be found in Part I of the Draft Permit.

In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 122.45(b)(2), EPA based the calculation of effluent limitations upon a reasonable measure of actual production of the Facility, or flow. EPA determined that the measure of production appropriate for this Facility is the maximum daily effluent flow in gallons per day (GPD). The maximum daily effluent flow reflects the magnitude, frequency, and duration of effluent discharged during the maximum facility production. Given that the Facility has discharged no more than the volume of the above ground storage tank in any given day, EPA has used the tank’s volume (21,000 gallons) to derive the Facility’s maximum expected production rate, 21,000 gallons per day (GPD).

¹⁰ [EPA Permit Writer’s Manual, Section 6.2.4](#)

5.1 Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements

The State and Federal regulations and data from discharge monitoring reports, were the primary sources used during the effluent limitation's development process. Discharge data are included in Appendix A.

5.1.1 Effluent Flow

The 2014 Permit restricted maximum daily flow to 100 gallons per minute reflecting the maximum flow rate that could be pumped from the storage tank. However, given the Facility's estimated maximum production rate of 21,000 GPD (see justification above), the Draft Permit contains a maximum daily effluent limit of 21,000 GPD or 0.021 million gallons per day (MGD). While this limit differs from the 2014 Permit maximum daily flow limit, this limit is more representative of actual facility effluent flow.

From December 2014 through November 2019 (Appendix A) total monthly flow has ranged from 18,480 to 95,780 gallons per month (GPM). Given these measurements and discussions with the Permittee, 10 discharge events have occurred during this monitoring period. Reporting of total monthly effluent flow continues under this Draft Permit. In addition, to better track the number of discharges from the Facility in a given month, the Draft Permit requires a count of the number of discharge events in a given month.

5.1.2 Total Suspended Solids

The solids of concern include inorganic (e.g., silt, sand, clay, and insoluble hydrated metal oxides) and organic matter (e.g., flocculated colloids and compounds that contribute to color). Solids can clog fish gills, resulting in an increase in susceptibility to infection or asphyxiation. When suspended, solids can increase turbidity in receiving waters and reduce light penetration through the water column or settle to form bottom deposits in the receiving water. Suspended solids also provide a medium for the transport of other adsorbed pollutants, such as metals, which may accumulate in settled deposits that can have a long-term impact on the water column through cycles of re-suspension.

In the absence of published technology-based ELGs, the permit writer is authorized under CWA §402(a)(1)(B) to establish effluent limitations on a case-by-case basis using BPJ. EPA conducted a site-specific BPJ analysis to determine the appropriate TBEL for the permit as there is no applicable ELG for TSS for this category of dischargers. The 2014 Permit did not impose any TSS limitations.

From December 2014 through November 2019 (Appendix A), daily maximum total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations have ranged from below minimum levels to 11 mg/L. As mentioned previously, a GAC unit is used on site for the treatment of solids. According to the Federal Remediation Technology Roundtable's *Remediation Technologies Screening Matrix and*

Reference Guide for GAC¹¹, properly designed treatment systems are effective for removing contaminants, like TSS, to concentrations less than 10 mg/L. As demonstrated by the Facility's effluent data, the Facility has been able to achieve comparable results.

In order to ensure the continued optimal performance of the Facility's treatment system, a daily maximum TBEL of 10 mg/L has been established in the Draft Permit. Pursuant to CWA § 402(a)(1)(B), this limit is a BPJ determination based on the treatment performance of technologies similar to the facility's GAC system. Average monthly reporting is continued in the Draft Permit to record treatment performance for those months when multiple discharges occur.

5.1.3 pH

The hydrogen-ion concentration in an aqueous solution is represented by the pH using a logarithmic scale of 0 to 14 standard units (S.U.). Solutions with pH 7.0 S.U. are neutral, while those with pH less than 7.0 S.U. are acidic and those with pH greater than 7.0 S.U. are basic. Discharges with pH values markedly different from the receiving water pH can have a detrimental effect on the environment. Sudden pH changes can kill aquatic life. pH can also have an indirect effect on the toxicity of other pollutants in the water.

The pH limitations stated by the Massachusetts WQS for Coastal and Marine Water, Class SB at 4.05(4)(b)(3), require that the pH of the receiving water *"shall be in the range of 6.5 through 8.5 standard units and not more than 0.2 units outside the natural background range. There shall be no change from natural background conditions that would impair any use assigned to this Class."* During the reporting period December 2014 through November 2019, the pH ranged from 6.62 to 7.94 S.U. The Facility performs no pH adjustment. The Draft Permit continues the WQS-based permit limits for the next permit term.

5.1.4 Bacteria

Stormwater runoff can readily transport bacteria from surfaces susceptible to the waste products of warm-blooded animals or pathogens onto organic and inorganic particles. Fecal coliform, *E. coli*, and *Enterococci* bacteria, are indicators of contamination from sewage and/or the feces of warm-blooded wildlife (mammals and birds). Such contamination may pose a risk to human health.

As described above, Boston Harbor is a Class SB water. The Massachusetts WQSs for Class SB waters have different indicator bacteria for recreational uses and for shellfishing use. *See* 314 CMR 4.05(4)(b)(4). For Class SB waters designated for shellfishing, fecal coliform is the applicable indicator bacteria. The WQS limit fecal coliform to a geometric mean MPN (most probable number) of 88 organisms per 100 ml and not more than 10% of the samples exceeding an MPN of 260 organisms per 100 ml or other values of equivalent protection based on sampling and analytical methods used by the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries and approved by

¹¹ *Remediation Technologies Screening Matrix and Reference Guide – Section 4.46 Granulated Activated Carbon (GAC)/Liquid Phase Carbon Adsorption*, Version 4.0 (2007) available at <https://frtr.gov/matrix2/section4/4-47.html>.

the National Shellfish Sanitation Program in the latest revision of the *Guide For The Control of Molluscan Shellfish* (more stringent regulations may apply, *see* 314 CMR 4.06(1)(d)(5)). In addition, the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) Shellfish Sanitation and Management classifies the shellfish area (GBH5.3) where Outfall 001 is located as Conditionally Restricted for shellfishing (Contains a limited degree of contamination at all times. Subject to intermittent pollution events and may close due to poor water quality from rainfall events or season. When open, only commercial harvesting of softshell clams for depuration is allowed).¹²

For Class SB waters designated for recreational uses, *Enterococcus* is the applicable indicator bacteria. The WQSs state “no single *Enterococci* sample taken during the bathing season shall exceed 104 colonies per 100 ml and the geometric mean of the five most recent samples taken within the same bathing season shall not exceed 35 *Enterococci* colonies per 100 ml. In non-bathing beach waters and bathing beach waters during the non-bathing season, no single *Enterococci* sample shall exceed 104 colonies per 100 ml and the geometric mean of all of the samples taken during the most recent six months typically based on a minimum of five samples shall not exceed 35 *Enterococci* colonies per 100 ml.”

In addition, Boston Harbor has a pathogen TMDL that reiterates that both *Enterococci* and fecal coliform contribute to Boston Harbor’s impaired water status⁶. Since there are no bacteria monitoring data available for this discharge to Boston Harbor, the Class SB wasteload allocation for Boston Harbor Proper (MA 70-01) has not been imposed by the Draft Permit, nor has a limit based on the state WQSs. However, to verify that the Permittee is not a contributing source to the pathogen impairments in Boston Harbor from this discharge, the Draft Permit includes monitoring for both fecal coliform and *Enterococci*, once per discharge event.

5.1.5 Oil and Grease (O&G)

Oil and Grease (O&G) is not a single chemical constituent, but includes a large range of organic compounds, which can be both petroleum-related (e.g., hydrocarbons) and non-petroleum (e.g., vegetable and animal oils and greases, fats, and waxes). These compounds have varying physical, chemical, and toxicological properties. Generally, oils and greases in surface waters either float on the surface, are solubilized or emulsified in the water column, adsorb onto floating or suspended solids and debris, or settle on the bottom or banks of the water body. Oil and grease, as well as certain compounds within an oil and grease mixture, can be lethal to fish, benthic organisms and water-dwelling wildlife.

The Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards at 314 CMR 4.05(4)(b)(7) require that Class SB waters “shall 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 portions of aquatic life, coat the banks or bottom of the water course, or are deleterious or become toxic to aquatic life.” In addition, a concentration of 15 mg/L is recognized as the level

¹² Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries Shellfish Area Classification Map. Growing Area Code GBH5. Available at <http://www.massmarinefisheries.net/shellfish/dsga/GBH5.pdf>.

at which many oils produce a visible sheen and/or cause an undesirable taste in fish¹³.

Of the four discharge events that took place during the monitoring period, there was one O&G detection of 8 mg/L. To ensure compliance with Massachusetts WQSs and anti-backsliding requirements found in 40 C.F.R. §122.44(l), the Draft Permit maintains the maximum daily limit for O&G of 15 mg/L, to be monitored once per discharge event.

5.1.6 Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)

Refined petroleum products contain numerous types of hydrocarbons. Individual components partition to environmental media based on physical and chemical properties including solubility and vapor pressure. Rather than establishing effluent limits for every compound found in petroleum products, limits are typically established for the compounds that would be the most difficult to remove from the environment and demonstrate the greatest degree of toxicity. Generally, the higher the solubility of a VOC in water, the more difficult it is to remove. VOCs such as benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and the three xylene compounds (i.e., total xylenes), also referred to as BTEX compounds, are found at relatively high concentrations in petroleum products, including jet fuel.

Due to the low organic carbon adsorption coefficient (K_{oc}) value of benzene, it is the parameter most likely to “breakthrough” during carbon treatment and appear in the effluent when the carbon’s absorptive capacity is becoming exhausted and needs replacement. Since benzene is an indicator compound, benzene breakthrough would also indicate that other hydrocarbons are no longer being sorbed as well. Benzene is also highly toxic, listed as a carcinogen in EPA’s drinking water standards. Therefore, an effluent limitation for benzene is needed to ensure adequate control of any other volatile constituents in the discharge.

The most commonly used technology-based effluent limit (TBEL) for benzene is 5.0 µg/L. This TBEL has been established in the RGP, which is required for the discharges from sites which treat for gasoline and other petroleum product contamination.

In consideration of water quality-based effluent limits (WQBEL) for benzene, the most recently published (2015) EPA recommended water quality criteria values for human health for benzene are 0.58-2.1 µg/L (consumption of water and organisms) and 16-58 µg/L (consumption of organism only). Thus, in certain low flow or zero dilution receiving waters where the effluent constitutes the majority of flow, the current effluent limitation of 5.0 µg/L could exceed the human health-based water quality standard for consumption of water and organisms. However, the human health criteria values are based on a “lifetime” exposure scenario or continuous consumption of certain amounts of water at the concentration levels of concern. Since this discharge is of low volume and very low frequency and there is no consumption of water from Boston Harbor, neither of the WQBELs are appropriate for this discharge. Therefore, the TBEL of 5 µg/L is the more appropriate limit to consider.

¹³ *The Red Book – Quality Criteria for Water*. Environmental Protection Agency. July 1976.

The 2014 Permit established a TBEL for benzene of 5.0 µg/L as a maximum daily limit monitored once per discharge event. From December 2014 to November 2019, there were no detections of benzene. Due to the nature of this discharge, treated water mixed with jet fuel, and the need to verify that the treatment system is functioning properly, the 5.0 µg/L TBEL has been continued in the Draft Permit.

In addition to benzene, the 2014 permit established a daily maximum limit of 100 µg/L for the BTEX constituents collectively. While BTEX compounds have closely related chemical characteristics to benzene, the composition of petroleum products is highly variable and for some products, any one of the four BTEX compounds could be the dominant constituent. Therefore, regulating the total of the four constituents, rather than specific individual constituents, would provide a secondary indicator for control of discharges containing volatile petroleum contaminants.

Based on EPA's observed performance of control equipment at historical or existing cleanup sites in New England, the RGP set a TBEL for BTEX at 100 µg/L. Since the treatment provided for this discharge is believed to be similar to that considered in the RGP, with Tekflame™ fuel being the primary constituent of this discharge, the limit for BTEX of 100 µg/L continues to be appropriate. Therefore, the Draft Permit continues the TBELs for benzene of 5 µg/L and for total BTEX compounds of 100 µg/L, to be monitored once per discharge event. Reporting requirements for the other BTEX constituents – ethylbenzene, toluene, total xylenes – have been continued in the Draft Permit.

5.1.7 Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

PAHs are a group of organic compounds that form through the incomplete combustion of hydrocarbons and are present in petroleum derivatives and residuals. Discharge of these products can introduce PAHs into surface water where they may volatilize, oxidize, biodegrade, bind to suspended particles or sediments or accumulate in aquatic organisms. In soils, PAHs may also undergo degradation or transport via groundwater. In estuarine environments, volatilization and adsorption to suspended sediments with subsequent deposition are the primary removal processes for medium and high molecular weight PAHs. Several PAHs are well known animal carcinogens, while others can enhance the response of the carcinogenic PAHs.

There are 16 PAH isomers, or compounds, identified as priority pollutants in the CWA (see Appendix A to 40 C.F.R. Part 423). Group I PAHs are comprised of seven known animal carcinogens: benzo(a)anthracene, benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(k)fluoranthene, chrysene, dibenzo(a,h)anthracene, and indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene. Group I PAHs are primarily products of incomplete combustion of fossil fuels and, with the exception of chrysene, are not produced commercially for use. Group II PAHs are comprised of nine priority pollutant PAHs which are not considered carcinogens, but which can enhance or inhibit the response of the carcinogenic PAHs. These are acenaphthene, acenaphthylene, anthracene, benzo(g,h,i)perylene, fluoranthene, fluorene, naphthalene, phenanthrene, and pyrene. The Group II compounds are more common and are significant components of fuels and coal tar products, as well as being used in manufacturing other products.

The 2014 Permit required monitoring for Total Group I PAHs and Total Group II PAHs during every discharge event and placed an RGP-derived TBEL of a daily maximum of 100 µg/L for both Group I and Group II. During the period of December 2014 through November 2019, the Facility had no detections of Group I or Group II PAHs greater than the method detection limit of 2 µg/L. Given the controlled nature of the Facility's fire training events and effluent discharge, the historical performance of the treatment system for other analytes (such as Oil & Grease and BTEX) and the non-detections of Group I and II PAHs in the Facility's effluent at the reported detection level, a strong case can be made that the Facility does not have reasonable potential to cause an excursion from state WQS. However, given that jet fuel is the primary wastewater pollutant and the detection limits reported in the Facility's effluent data are orders of magnitude greater than water quality criteria, there remains enough uncertainty to not conclude that the Facility has no reasonable potential. Therefore, PAH testing is continued in the Draft Permit.

At 314 CMR 4.05(5)(e), the Massachusetts WQSs state that “*All surface waters shall be free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that are toxic to humans, aquatic life or wildlife.*” As described above, Boston Harbor is impaired for the Fish Consumption and Shellfish Harvesting designated uses with the causes listed as PCBs in fish tissue, Fecal Coliform, and Unknown for other contaminants in fish and shellfish. Continued in the same section of the Massachusetts state standards, the state recommends the use of EPA published water quality criterion in establishing site specific criterion.

Given the water quality impairments in Boston Harbor, the uncertainty as to the cause of those impairments, and the potential for PAHs to contribute to the impairments, the Draft Permit establishes QBELs for Group I PAHs based on the National Recommended Water Quality Criteria – Human Health Criteria Table¹⁴. Criteria for “Human Health for the consumption of Organism Only” were chosen given the listed impairments. For Group II PAHs, the criteria listed are not stricter than the 100 µg/L TBEL currently in the 2014 Permit, therefore the effluent limit for Total Group II PAHs remains the same. For Group I PAHs, the promulgated criteria ranging from 0.13 µg/L for Chrysene down to 0.00013 µg/L for benzo(a)pyrene are at or below the ML for analysis of PAHs. Therefore, as described below, compliance levels have been implemented in the Draft Permit representing QBELs.

Where effluent limits have been established in NPDES permits but compliance cannot be determined using currently approved analytical methods, EPA must establish a compliance level. The *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES): Use of Sufficiently Sensitive Test Methods for Permit Applications and Reporting Rule*¹⁵ requires use of an EPA-approved method that is sufficiently sensitive. Therefore, the Draft Permit requires that the quantitative methodology used for PAH analysis must achieve the ML of ≤0.1 µg/L for each Group I PAH compound. This ML is based on the method that has the lowest ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136,¹⁶ and is consistent with EPA Region 1's Remediation General

¹⁴ See <https://www.epa.gov/wqc/national-recommended-water-quality-criteria-human-health-criteria-table>

¹⁵ Fed. Reg. 49,001 (Aug. 19, 2014).

¹⁶ Method 624.1 with the selected ion monitoring modification.

Permit. This approach is also consistent with EPA's TSD, page 111, which recommends, "the compliance level be defined in the permit as the minimum level (ML)."

In summary, the Draft Permit maintains the Total Group II TBEL and has added WQBELs for Group I PAHs. The quantitative methodology used for PAH analysis must achieve the ML of ≤ 0.1 $\mu\text{g/L}$ for each Group I PAH compound. These revised limits for Group I PAHs have been updated to account for the MLs that are achievable for individual Group I PAH compounds as described in 40 CFR §136. The Permittee may use any approved analytical method in 40 CFR §136 for which the detection limit (DL) is at or below these MLs.

5.1.8 Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

As explained at <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>, PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals that have been in use since the 1940s. PFAS are found in a wide array of consumer and industrial products. PFAS manufacturing and processing facilities, facilities using PFAS in production of other products, airports, and military installations can be contributors of PFAS releases into the air, soil, and water. Due to their widespread use and persistence in the environment, most people in the United States have been exposed to PFAS. Exposure to some PFAS above certain levels may increase risk of adverse health effects.¹⁷ EPA is collecting information to evaluate the potential impacts that discharges of PFAS from wastewater treatment plants may have on downstream drinking water, recreational and aquatic life uses.

On January 27, 2020, Massachusetts DEP established an Office of Research and Standards Guideline (ORSG) level for drinking water that applies to the sum of the following PFAS:^{18,19}

- Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)
- Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)
- Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)
- Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)
- Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)
- Perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA)

Based on the ORSG, MassDEP recommends that:

1. Consumers in sensitive subgroups (pregnant women, nursing mothers and infants) not consume water when the level of the six PFAS substances, individually or in combination, is above 20 ppt.
2. Public water suppliers take steps expeditiously to lower levels of the six PFAS individually or in combination, to below 20 ppt for all consumers.

¹⁷ EPA, *EPA's Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Action Plan*, EPA 823R18004, February 2019. Available at: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-02/documents/pfas_action_plan_021319_508compliant_1.pdf

¹⁸ <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/per-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>

¹⁹ <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massdep-ors-guideline-for-pfas/download>

In December 2019, MassDEP proposed revisions to 310 CMR 22.00: Drinking Water Regulation that would set a new PFAS Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 20 ppt (ng/L) for the sum of the concentrations of six PFAS compounds, including all six compounds addressed by the ORSG (listed above).

Although the Massachusetts water quality standards do not include numeric criteria for PFAS, the Massachusetts narrative criterion for toxic substances at 314 CMR 4.05(5)(e) states:

All surface waters shall be free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that are toxic to humans, aquatic life or wildlife.

The narrative criterion is further elaborated at 314 CMR 4.05(5)(e)2 which states:

Human Health Risk Levels. Where EPA has not set human health risk levels for a toxic pollutant, the human health-based regulation of the toxic pollutant shall be in accordance with guidance issued by the Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Research and Standards. The Department's goal is to prevent all adverse health effects which may result from the ingestion, inhalation or dermal absorption of toxins attributable to waters during their reasonable use as designated in 314 CMR 4.00.

Since PFAS chemicals are persistent in the environment and may lead to adverse human health and environmental effects, the Draft Permit requires that the facility conduct quarterly effluent sampling for PFAS chemicals, six months after appropriate, multi-lab validated test methods are made available by EPA to the public.

The purpose of this monitoring and reporting requirement is to better understand potential discharges of PFAS from this facility and to inform future permitting decisions, including the potential development of water quality-based effluent limits on a facility-specific basis. EPA is authorized to require this monitoring and reporting by CWA § 308(a), which states:

“SEC. 308. (a) Whenever required to carry out the objective of this Act, including but not limited to (1) developing or assisting in the development of any effluent limitation, or other limitation, prohibition, or effluent standard, pretreatment standard, or standard of performance under this Act; (2) determining whether any person is in violation of any such effluent limitation, or other limitation, prohibition or effluent standard, pretreatment standard, or standard of performance; (3) any requirement established under this section; or (4) carrying out sections 305, 311, 402, 404 (relating to State permit programs), 405, and 504 of this Act—

A. the Administrator shall require the owner or operator of any point source to (i) establish and maintain such records, (ii) make such reports, (iii) install, use, and maintain such monitoring equipment or methods (including where appropriate, biological monitoring methods), (iv) sample such effluents (in accordance with such methods, at such locations, at such

intervals, and in such manner as the Administrator shall prescribe), and (v) provide such other information as he may reasonably require....”

Since an EPA method for sampling and analyzing PFAS in wastewater is not currently available, the PFAS sampling requirement in the Draft Permit includes a compliance schedule which delays the effective date of this requirement until six months after EPA’s multi-lab validated method for wastewater is made available to the public on EPA’s CWA methods program website. For wastewater see <https://www.epa.gov/cwa-methods/other-clean-water-act-test-methods-chemical> and <https://www.epa.gov/cwa-methods>. EPA expects this method will be available by the end of 2021. This approach is consistent with 40 CFR § 122.44(i)(1)(iv)(B) which states that in the case of pollutants or pollutant parameters for which there are no approved methods under 40 CFR Part 136 or methods are not otherwise required under 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N or O, monitoring shall be conducted according to a test procedure specified in the permit for such pollutants or pollutant parameters. After one year of monitoring, if all samples are non-detect for all six PFAS compounds, using EPA’s multi-lab validated method for wastewater, the Permittee may request to remove the requirement for PFAS monitoring.

5.1.9 Whole Effluent Toxicity

CWA §§ 402(a)(2) and 308(a) provide EPA and States with the authority to require toxicity testing. Section 308 specifically describes biological monitoring methods as techniques that may be used to carry out objectives of the CWA. Whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing is conducted to ensure that the additivity, antagonism, synergism, and persistence of the pollutants in the discharge do not cause toxicity, even when the individual pollutants are present at low concentrations in the effluent. The inclusion of WET requirements in the Draft Permit will ensure that the Facility does not discharge combinations of pollutants into the receiving water in amounts that would be toxic to aquatic life or human health.

In addition, under CWA § 301(b)(1)(C), discharges are subject to effluent limitations based on WQSs. Under CWA §§ 301, 303 and 402, EPA and the States may establish toxicity-based limitations to implement narrative water quality criteria calling for “no toxics in toxic amounts.” See also 40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1) and the corresponding Massachusetts WQSs at 314 CMR 4.05(5)(e). In addition, the Massachusetts WQSs at 314 CMR 4.03(2)(a) require no lethality to organisms passing through a mixing zone.

In order to evaluate the potential toxicity of the intermittent discharge, the 2014 permit required once per year acute toxicity testing for two marine species. During the period of December 2014 to November 2019, three WET tests were conducted which resulted in LC₅₀ values of greater than 100% for both the Mysid Shrimp, *Americamysis bahia*, and the Inland Silverside, *Menidia beryllina*. LC₅₀ is defined as the concentration of the effluent which causes mortality to 50% of the test organisms. Given these results, the Draft Permit has modified WET testing requirements to once during the first year of the permit term that the Facility discharges. See Attachment A (Acute Marine Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol) to the Draft Permit for a description of the testing requirements.

5.2 Special Conditions

5.2.1 Best Management Practices

Best management practices (BMPs) may be expressly incorporated into a permit on a case-by-case basis where it is determined that they are necessary to achieve effluent limitations and standards or to carry out the purpose and intent of the CWA under § 402(a)(1). BMPs may be necessary to control or abate the discharge of pollutants when: 1) authorized under section 304(e) of the CWA for the control of toxic pollutants and hazardous substances from ancillary industrial activities; 2) authorized under CWA § 402(p) for the control of stormwater discharges; 3) numeric effluent limitations are infeasible; or 4) the practices are reasonably necessary to achieve effluent limitations and standards or to carry out the purposes and intent of the CWA. *See* 40 CFR 122.44(k). Pollutants may be present because they are generated during Facility operations, which could result in significant amounts of these pollutants reaching waters of the United States via discharges of wastewater and stormwater.

In this case, the Draft Permit requires the selection, design, installation, and implementation of control measures for stormwater associated with fire training operations to comply with the non-numeric technology-based effluent limits in the Draft Permit. In essence, the Draft Permit requires the Permittee to implement and continually evaluate the Facility's structural controls (e.g., treatment systems, containment areas, holding tanks), operational procedures, and operator training. Proper implementation of BMPs will minimize the potential discharge of pollutants related to inadequate treatment, human error, and/or equipment malfunction. The non-numeric limitations are consistent with the limitations specified in Part 2.1.2 of EPA's Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP).²⁰ Non-numeric limitations include:

- Minimize exposure of processing and material storage areas to stormwater discharges;
- Design good housekeeping measures to maintain areas that are potential sources of pollutants;
- Implement preventative maintenance programs to avoid leaks, spills, and other releases of pollutants to stormwater that is discharged to receiving waters;
- Implement spill prevention and response procedures to ensure effective response to spills and leaks if or when they occur;
- Design of erosion and sediment controls to stabilize exposed areas and contain runoff using structural and/or non-structural control measures to minimize onsite erosion and sedimentation, and the resulting discharge of pollutants;
- Utilize runoff management practices to divert, infiltrate, reuse, contain, or otherwise reduce stormwater runoff;
- Develop proper handling procedures for salt or materials containing chlorides that are used for snow and ice control;
- Conduct employee training to ensure personnel understand the requirements of this permit;

²⁰ The MSGP is currently available at: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/final-2015-msgp-documents>.

- Evaluate for the presence of non-stormwater discharges. Any non-stormwater discharges not explicitly authorized in the Draft Permit or covered by another NPDES permit must be eliminated; and
- Minimize dust generation and vehicle tracking of industrial materials.

In addition to the non-numeric limitations described above, the Draft Permit includes additional BMPs from EPA's MSGP, including Part 8, Sector S (Air Transportation). Those BMP requirements include:

- The Draft Permit requires the Permittee to comply with the inspection requirements in Part 3.1 and 3.2 of the 2015 MSGP and the corrective action requirements in Part 4.1 through 4.5 of the 2015 MSGP;²¹
- The Draft Permit requires the Permittee to comply with the control measure requirements in Part 2.1 and 2.1.1 of the 2015 MSGP in order to identify pollutant sources and select, design, install and maintain the pollution control technology necessary to meet the effluent limitations in the permit that ensure dilution is not used as a form of treatment;²²
- The Draft Permit requires the Permittee to comply with sector specific non-numeric technology-based effluent limitations included in Sector S (Air Transportation) of the MSGP;

These non-numeric effluent limitations support, and are as equally enforceable as, the numeric effluent limitations included in the Draft Permit. The purpose of these requirements is to reduce or eliminate the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States. They have been selected on a case-by-case basis based on those appropriate for this specific facility. *See* CWA §§ 304(e) and 402(a)(1) and 40 CFR § 122.44(k). These requirements will also ensure that discharges from the Facility will meet State WQSs pursuant to CWA § 301(b)(1)(C) and 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1). Unless otherwise stated, the Permittee may select, design, install, implement and maintain BMPs as the Permittee deems appropriate to meet the permit requirements. The selection, design, installation, implementation and maintenance of control measures must be in accordance with good engineering practices and manufacturer's specifications.

5.2.2 Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

On September 9, 1992, EPA issued its general permit for stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity (a predecessor to the 2015 MSGP), which, among other things, required all facilities to prepare a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to implement technology-based pollution prevention measures in lieu of numeric limitations.²³ The general permit

²¹ Where the MSGP refers to limitations, conditions or benchmarks, including the SWPPP, for the purposes of this permit, these shall refer to the limitations and conditions in this permit.

²² Page 7-113 of EPA-821-R-04-014 states, "[w]astewater requiring primary and/or secondary treatment (because it is contaminated with oil and grease and total petroleum hydrocarbons) is typically tank bottom water, loading/unloading rack water, a portion of the tank basin water, wastewater generated during remediation, and water used for hydrostatic testing." *See* Part 2.5.2.d of the 2017 RGP for example technologies and additional resources.

²³ Fed. Reg. 41264 (September 9, 1992).

established a process whereby the operator of the industrial facility evaluates potential pollutant sources at the site and selects and implements appropriate measures designed to prevent or control the discharge of pollutants in stormwater runoff.²⁴ This Draft Permit contains BMPs for stormwater associated with the fire training operations. In addition to BMPs, the Draft Permit also contains requirements for the Permittee to develop, implement, and maintain a SWPPP for stormwater discharges associated with fire training operations. These requirements are consistent with EPA's MSGP effective June 4, 2015. The Draft Permit specifies that the SWPPP must include the following, at a minimum:

- Stormwater pollution prevention team;
- Site description;
- Summary of potential pollutant sources;
- Description of all stormwater control measures; and
- Schedules and procedures pertaining to implementation of stormwater control measures, inspections and assessments, and monitoring.

The development and implementation of the SWPPP is an enforceable element of the permit. The Draft Permit directs the Permittee to incorporate BMPs, as described above, directly into the SWPPP, which serves to document the selection, design and installation of control measures selected to meet the permit effluent limitations. The goal of the SWPPP is to reduce or prevent the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States either directly or indirectly through stormwater runoff. Specific elements of the Massport Logan NPDES Permit (MA0000787) SWPPP that relate to the fire training facility may be incorporated into this Permit's SWPPP by reference.

The Draft Permit requires the Permittee within ninety (90) days of the effective date of the permit to certify that the SWPPP has been prepared, meets the requirements of the permit, and documents the control measures, including BMPs, that have been implemented to reduce or eliminate the discharge of pollutants from stormwater associated with the fire training operations. The Permittee must also certify at least annually that the Facility has complied with the BMPs described in the SWPPP, including inspections, maintenance, and training activities. The Permittee is required to amend and update the SWPPP if any change occurs at the Facility affecting the SWPPP, such as changes in the design, construction, operation, or maintenance of the Facility. The SWPPP must be maintained on site at the Facility and provided to EPA and/or the State upon request. All SWPPP records must be maintained on-site for at least three years.

5.2.3 Discharges of Chemicals and Additives

Chemicals and additives include, but are not limited to: algaecides/biocides, antifoams, coagulants, corrosion/scale inhibitors/coatings, disinfectants, flocculants, neutralizing agents, oxidants, oxygen scavengers, pH conditioners, and surfactants. The Draft Permit allows the discharge of only those chemicals and additives specifically disclosed by the Permittee to EPA.

²⁴ Fed. Reg. 41242 (September 9, 1992).

EPA recognizes that chemicals and additives in use at the Facility may change during the term of the permit. As a result, the Draft Permit includes a provision that requires the Permittee to notify EPA in writing of the discharge a new chemical or additive; allows for EPA review of the change; and provides the factors for consideration of such changes. The Draft Permit specifies that for each chemical or additive, the Permittee must submit the following information, at a minimum, in writing to EPA:

- Product name, chemical formula, and manufacturer of the chemical/additive.
- Purpose or use of the chemical/additive.
- Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Registry number for each chemical/additive.
- The frequency (e.g., hourly, daily), magnitude (e.g., maximum and average), duration (e.g., hours, days), and method of application for the chemical/additive.
- If available, the vendor's reported aquatic toxicity (i.e., NOAEL and/or LC₅₀ in percent for aquatic organism(s)).

The Permittee must also provide an explanation which demonstrates that the discharge of such chemical or additive: 1) will not add any pollutants in concentrations which exceed any permit effluent limitation; and 2) will not add any pollutants that would justify the application of permit conditions different from, or in addition to those currently in this permit.

Assuming these requirements are met, discharges of a new chemical or additive is authorized under the permit upon notification to EPA unless otherwise notified by EPA.

6.0 Federal Permitting Requirements

6.1 Endangered Species Act

Section 7(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA), grants authority to and imposes requirements on Federal agencies regarding endangered or threatened species of fish, wildlife, or plants (listed species) and any habitat of such species that has been designated as critical under the ESA (i.e., "critical habitat").

Section 7(a)(2) of 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 listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) administers Section 7 consultations for freshwater species. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries (NOAA Fisheries) administers Section 7 consultations for marine and anadromous species.

The Federal action being considered in this case is EPA's proposed NPDES permit for the Facility's discharges of pollutants. The Draft Permit is intended to replace the 2014 Permit in governing the Facility. As the federal agency charged with authorizing the discharge from this

Facility, EPA determines potential impacts to federally listed species, and initiates consultation with the Services, when required under § 7(a)(2) of the ESA.

EPA has reviewed the federal endangered or threatened species of fish, wildlife, and plants in the action area to determine if EPA's proposed NPDES permit could potentially impact any such listed species. No federally listed threatened or endangered species under the jurisdiction of the USFWS have been identified as occurring in the action area.²⁵ However, one listed endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), was identified as "statewide". According to the USFWS, the northern long-eared bat is found in "winter – mines and caves, summer – wide variety of forested habitats." This species is not aquatic. Therefore, the proposed permit action will have no direct or indirect effect on this listed species.

Regarding protected species under the jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries, a number of federally listed species inhabit (seasonally) waters in the broad general area associated with coastal Massachusetts. Coastal areas of Massachusetts provide habitat for a number of federally protected marine species, including: adult and juvenile life stages of the following sea turtles - leatherback sea turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*), the Northwest Atlantic Ocean Distinct Population Segment loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*), Kemp's Ridley sea turtles (*Lepidochelys kempii*), green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*); adult and juvenile life stages of the following whales - North Atlantic right whales (*Eubalaena glacialis*) and fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus*), and North Atlantic Right Whale Critical Habitat. Further analysis was done with regard to the presence or absence of these protected species and critical habitat areas in the near shore inner harbor action area. Based on this review, EPA does not consider the near shore urban areas of Boston Harbor adjacent to the Massport Fire Training Facility to be suitable habitat for the marine species listed above. Based on the normal distribution of these species, it is unlikely that any of the coastal NOAA Fisheries listed species identified in coastal Massachusetts waters would be expected to be present in the vicinity of the action area.

In addition, shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) and Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*), two federally protected anadromous fish species under the jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries, can possibly be found transiting areas along the Massachusetts coast. However, these sturgeon species are not expected to be associated with the tidal rivers that flow into Boston Harbor or the near shore urban areas associated with the Massport Fire Training Facility. Based on the normal distribution of these anadromous species, it is unlikely that the protected sturgeon species identified above would be expected to be present in the vicinity of the action area.

EPA has made the determination that these protected marine and anadromous species are not present in the action area of the discharges. Therefore, consultation under ESA Section 7 is not required.

Re-initiation of consultation will take place: (a) if new information reveals effects of the action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously

²⁵ See [for USFWS at <https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>] and/or [for NMFS at <https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/protected/section7/index.html>]

considered in the consultation; (b) if the identified action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to the listed species or critical habitat that was not considered in the consultation; or (c) if a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the identified action.

At the beginning of the public comment period, EPA notified NOAA Fisheries and USFWS that the Draft Permit and Fact Sheet were available for review and provided a link to the EPA NPDES Permit website to allow direct access to the documents.

6.2 Essential Fish Habitat

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

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

Proposed Action and Resources: As described in Section 1.0 of this Fact Sheet, Massport has applied for re-issuance of the NPDES Permit for Massport's Fire Training Facility (FTF). With limitations, the permit allows Massport to discharge treated water from fire training exercises and stormwater to Boston Harbor. EPA intends to reissue the facility's NPDES permit for the discharges described above. Thus, Massport will continue to discharge treated water from fire training exercises and stormwater to Boston Harbor through Outfall 001. The outfall, treatment system, and potential sources of pollution associated with the fire training exercises conducted at the airport are described previously in this Fact Sheet.

A review of the relevant EFH information provided by NOAA Fisheries indicates that EFH has been designated for 27 managed species and one habitat of particular concern within the NOAA Fisheries boundaries during one or more of the life stage categories (*i.e.*, eggs, larvae, juveniles, adults, and spawning adults) encompassing Massachusetts Bay. It is possible that a number of these species utilize these receiving waters for spawning, while others are present seasonally. The species are listed in Appendix B.

Based on prior discussions with NOAA Fisheries, managed species of particular concern in these receiving waters are Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) and winter flounder (*Pseudopleuronectes americanus*).

Winter flounder eggs are negatively buoyant and adhesive. Except for their presence on the major offshore banks, the eggs are generally deposited in very shallow coastal embayments. Winter flounder larvae are initially pelagic, but become more bottom oriented as metamorphosis approaches. Overall, winter flounder and Atlantic cod are largely demersal species, or live near the sea bottom.

Analysis of Effects: The discharges of treated fire training exercise water and stormwater from the facility may impact EFH directly or indirectly. A potential direct impact is the effect of individual pollutants or a combination of pollutants in the discharge.

Regarding potential toxic effects due to pollutants in the discharge, EPA believes that the discharge from the outfall, as restricted by the Draft Permit conditions, will not directly or indirectly cause adverse effects to EFH species. The Draft Permit contains effluent limits that comply with MASWQS for Class SB waters. The Draft Permit continues to require effluent limitations for flow, pH, oil and grease, total BTEX, Group I and Group II PAHs. In addition, the Draft Permit has established effluent TSS limits and a monitoring requirement for fecal coliform and *Enterococcus*. To further ensure the protection of species, a Whole Effluent Toxicity Test will also be conducted once during the permit term as previously described in the Fact Sheet.

In addition, there are BMPs which require the Permittee to specifically address measures that will reduce the discharge of pollutants to the receiving water and assure that the treatment system is operating adequately to meet the permit limits, thereby minimizing the discharge of pollutants to the receiving water from the fire training exercises that are conducted by Massport.

EPA believes that the effluent limitations, conditions, and monitoring requirements contained in the Draft Permit are protective of state water quality standards, will provide a continual assessment of the quality of the discharges, and will minimize impacts to aquatic organisms, including EFH species and the habitat of particular concern. If effluent monitoring detects pollutants at concentrations which reasonably could be expected to cause or contribute to a violation of state water quality standards, then EPA can modify this permit to include additional numeric limits for those pollutants.

EPA's Opinion of all Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation: With the adoption of the mitigating measures contained in the Draft Permit, EPA concludes that the discharges from the permitted outfall at the Massport Fire Training Facility will not have significant adverse effects on EFH. This conclusion is based on the following factors:

- The discharges are infrequent and of limited discharge volume.
- This Draft Permit action does not constitute a new source of pollutants because it is the reissuance of an existing NPDES permit;
- The Facility withdraws no water from Boston Harbor, so no life stages of EFH species are subject to impingement or entrainment;

- The effluent discharged consists of *treated* stormwater water and *treated* extinguishing water, minimizing the likelihood of any toxic pollutants in the discharge;
- A maximum daily flow limit of 0.021 MGD will be implemented year-round in order to allow predicted mixing with the receiving water;
- Discharge limits have been proposed for flow, total suspended solids, pH, oil and grease, total BTEX, total group I PAHs, benzo(a)anthracene, benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(k) fluoranthene, chrysene, dibenzo(a,h)anthracene, indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene and total group II PAS, in order to meet federal effluent limitations guidelines and state water quality standards;
- The Draft Permit prohibits the discharge of pollutants or combination of pollutants in toxic amounts;
- The Draft Permit contains extensive BMPs to minimize pollutant loadings and to ensure that the treatment system is operating adequately.
- The effluent limitations and conditions in the Draft Permit were developed to be protective of all aquatic life; and
- The Draft Permit prohibits violations of the state water quality standards.

A number of sensitive marine resources, including salt marsh, soft shell clams and eelgrass, exist and thrive along the very edge of the airfield. As described below, the eelgrass habitat over the last 10 years has expanded in area off the southeast corner of the airport and there is an area of conditionally restricted shellfish habitat on the north side of the airport property.

Eelgrass is a designated critical habitat for several species under EFH in Magnuson-Stevens Act. Therefore, an assessment of the status of existing eelgrass beds in the vicinity of the airport's outfalls was conducted for the reissuance of this Permit. According to MassDEP's eelgrass maps²⁶, there are currently two (2) separate established eelgrass areas in the vicinity of the airport in Boston Harbor. One of these areas is adjacent to airfield outfalls A28 and A29 off Runway 22 while the other is near airfield outfalls A36 and A37, near Governor Island flats. MassDEP has been surveying and mapping these eelgrass areas since 1995 and they have shown to be growing consistently during this time from 20.6 acres in 1995 to 77.6 acres during the 2010-2013 survey period. Based on this enlargement of the eelgrass beds during this period, EPA has determined that they have not been adversely affected by Massport's discharges. EPA believes that the Draft Permit's effluent limits and other conditions are sufficiently stringent to allow for protection and continued propagation of eelgrass beds in the vicinity of these discharges.

Further mitigation for unavoidable impacts associated with reissuance of this permit is not

²⁶ See http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/images/dep/celgrass/celgrass_map.htm.

warranted at this time because it is EPA's opinion that impacts will be negligible due to the permit limits and conditions that are required by the Draft Permit. These permit conditions are designated to be protective of all aquatic species, including those with EFH designations.

EPA believes that the conditions and limitations contained within the Draft Permit adequately protect all aquatic life, including those species with EFH designation. The Draft Permit proposes ongoing monitoring for all pollutants, as well as new BMP and SWPPP requirements.

Future Environmental Review: The Draft Permit will require the ongoing collection of data to determine if WQS in the receiving waters are maintained. The Draft Permit contains a number of monitoring provisions which will be useful in future environmental reviews. This NPDES Permit will be due for renewal five years from its effective date. At that time, EPA will reassess the requirements necessary to meet WQS and protect EFH.

The NOAA Fisheries Habitat Conservation Division will be notified and consultation will be reinitiated if adverse impacts to EFH are detected as a result of this permit action or if new information becomes available that changes the basis for these conclusions.

At the beginning of the public comment period, EPA notified NOAA Fisheries Habitat Division that the Draft Permit and Fact Sheet were available for review and provided a link to the EPA NPDES Permit website to allow direct access to the documents.

In addition, information to support EPA's finding has been included in a letter under separate cover that will be sent to the NOAA Fisheries Habitat Conservation Division during the public comment period.

7.0 Public Comments, Hearing Requests, and Permit Appeals

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:

Nathaniel Chien
EPA Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (06-1)
Boston, MA 02109-3912
Telephone: (617) 918-1649
Email: Chien.Nathan@epa.gov

Prior to the close of the public comment period, any person may submit a written request to EPA for a public hearing to consider the Draft Permit. Such requests shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. A public hearing may be held if the criteria stated in 40 CFR § 124.12 are satisfied. In reaching a final decision on the Draft Permit, EPA will respond to all significant comments in a Response to Comments document attached to the Final Permit and make these responses available to the public at EPA's Boston office and on EPA's website.

Following the close of the comment period, and after any public hearings, if such hearings are held, EPA will issue a Final Permit decision, forward a copy of the final decision to the applicant, and provide a copy or notice of availability of the final decision to each person who submitted written comments or requested notice. Within 30 days after EPA serves notice of the issuance of the Final Permit decision, an appeal of the federal NPDES permit may be commenced by filing a petition for review of the permit with the Clerk of EPA's Environmental Appeals Board in accordance with the procedures at 40 CFR § 124.19.

8.0 Administrative Record

The administrative record on which this Draft Permit is based may be accessed at EPA's Boston office by appointment, Monday through Fridays, excluding holidays from Nathan Chien, EPA Region 1, Water Division, Industrial Permits Section, 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100, Boston, Massachusetts 02109-3912 or via email to Chien.Nathan@epa.gov.

July 13, 2020

Date

Ken Moraff, Director
Water Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Figures

Figure 1: Location Map



FIRE TRAINING FACILITY
42 deg 21 min 15 sec, -71, 0 min, 16 sec

MUD FLATS

20 0 20 40 60
SCALE: 1"=20'

AS CONSTRUCTED PLANS
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE SECT OF THE
FOOTING, ELEVATIONS, AND DISTANCES ARE
AS SHOWN ON THIS SHEET AND HAVE BEEN
AS APPROVED BY THE ENGINEER.

HNTB
ENGINEERS ARCHITECTS PLANNERS
DATE: 10/11/11

NO.	DATE	BY	CHKD.	APP.
1	10/11/11	AS-BUILT		
2	10/11/11	REVISION		

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
BOSTON LOGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
EAST BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
FIRE TRAINING FACILITY REHABILITATION

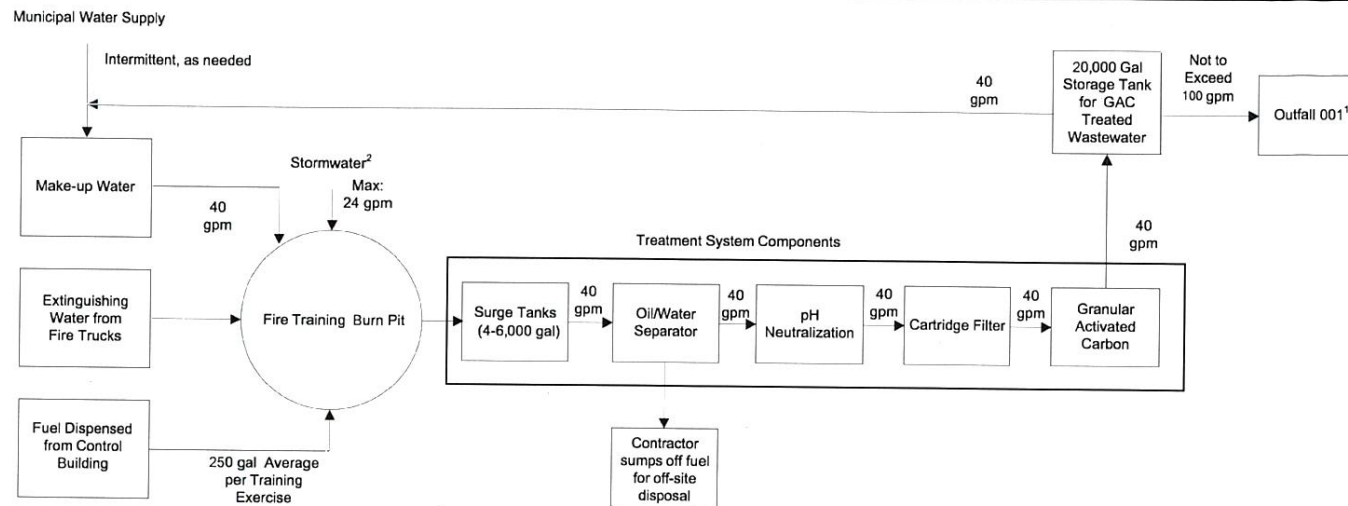
EXISTING SITE PLAN

CONTRACT NO. 11039-C1

SHEET NO. 3 OF 3

Figure 2
Site Plan

Figure 3: Schematic of Water Flow
Logan International Airport
Fire Training Facility – Wastewater Flow Diagram

**Notes:**

1. In 2017 and 2018 surface water discharges occurred as shown on Table 1. There were no surface water discharges in 2014, 2015, and 2016. The system routinely treats and recycles all wastewater generated from training exercises. Discharges, when needed, typically occur during facility shutdown at the end of the training season.
2. The wastewater treatment system can process up to 4.9 inches per hour of stormwater runoff from the fire training "burn pit" and has 4.9 inches of potential storage in the systems surge tanks. This capacity exceeds the 100 year storm event (2.2 inches in 1 hour storm or 24 gpm from the burn pit).

Table 1 - Discharge Summary

Discharge Date	Flow Rate	Total Gallons
11/20/2017	80	18,500
11/29/2017	80	18,880
12/5/2017	80	18,480
12/4/2018	80	19,360
12/7/2018	80	19,330
12/13/2018	80	18,400
12/18/2018	80	19,360
12/26/2018	80	19,330

Massachusetts Port Authority
 NPDES Permit Re-Application

Figure 3

Appendices

Appendix A: Discharge Monitoring Data

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY – FIRE TRAINING FACILITY								
Outfall Serial Number 001								
Monthly Effluent Monitoring								
Parameter	Flow rate	Flow rate	TSS	TSS	pH	pH	Oil & grease	BTEX
	TOTAL	Maximum	Monthly Avg	Daily Max	Minimum	Maximum	Daily Max	Daily Max
Units	gal/mo	gal/min	mg/L	mg/L	SU	SU	mg/L	ug/L
Effluent Limit	Report	100	Report	Report	6.5	8.5	15	100
Minimum	18480	80	0	0	6.62	7	0	No Data
Maximum	95780	80	11	11	7.94	7.94	8	No Data
Median	Non-Detect	Non-Detect	Non-Detect	Non-Detect	Non-Detect	Non-Detect	Non-Detect	No Data
No. of Violations	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	No Data
Monitoring Period								
End Date								
11/30/2017	37380	80	8.65	9	7.1	7.2	< 4	< 1
12/31/2017	18480	80	11	11	7.94	7.94	< 4	< 2
12/31/2018	95780	80	< 5	< 5	6.62	7	8	< 2
11/30/2019	38282	80	< 5	< 5	7.23	7.28	< 4	< 2

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY – FIRE TRAINING FACILITY										
Outfall Serial Number 001										
Monthly Effluent Monitoring										
Parameter	Benzene	Benzene	Ethylbenzene	Ethylbenzene	Toluene	Toluene	Xylene	Xylene	Total PAH Group 1	Total PAH Group 2
	Monthly Avg	Daily Max	Monthly Avg	Daily Max	Monthly Avg	Daily Max	Monthly Avg	Daily Max	Monthly Avg	Daily Max
Units	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L	ug/L
Effluent Limit	Report	5	Report	Report	Report	Report	Report	Report	Report	100
Minimum	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	0	No Data	No Data	No Data

Maximum	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	0	No Data	No Data	No Data
Median	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	Non-Detect	No Data	No Data	No Data
No. of Violations	N/A	No Data	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No Data
Monitoring Period End Date										
11/30/2017	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	0	< 1	< 2	< 2
12/31/2017	< 2	< 2	< 1	< 1	< 2	< 2	NODI: C	NODI: C	< 2	< 2
12/31/2018	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 2	NODI:	< 2	< 2
11/30/2019	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY – FIRE TRAINING FACILITY**Outfall Serial Number 001****Yearly Whole Effluent Toxicity Monitoring**

Parameter	LC50 Acute Menidia	LC50 Acute Mysid. Bahia
	Monthly Avg Min	Monthly Avg Min
Units	%	%
Effluent Limit	Report	Report
Minimum	100	100
Maximum	100	100
Median	Non-Detect	Non-Detect
No. of Violations	N/A	N/A
Monitoring Period End Date		
12/31/2017	>100	>100
12/31/2018	>100	>100
12/31/2019	>100	>100

Notes:

gal/mo = gallons per month

gal/min = gallons per minute

SU = standard units

NODI: = no data reported

NODI: C = no discharge

Blank cells = reporting input error

0 = parameter not detected

N/A = not applicable

Appendix B: Essential Fish Habitat Species

EFH Species and Life Stages in the Vicinity of Massport Fire Outfall at Latitude 42° 20' 56.9" Longitude -71° 00' 18.1"

Species/Management Unit	Lifestage(s) Found at Location
Atlantic Wolffish	ALL
Haddock	Juvenile
Winter Flounder	Eggs, Juvenile, Larvae/Adult
Little Skate	Juvenile, Adult
Ocean Pout	Adult, Eggs, Juvenile
Atlantic Herring	Juvenile, Adult, Larvae
Atlantic Cod	Larvae, Adult, Juvenile, Eggs
Pollock	Juvenile, Eggs, Larvae
Red Hake	Adult, Eggs/Larvae/Juvenile
Silver Hake	Eggs/Larvae, Adult
Yellowtail Flounder	Adult, Juvenile, Larvae, Eggs
White Hake	Larvae, Adult, Eggs, Juvenile
Windowpane Flounder	Adult, Larvae, Eggs, Juvenile
Winter Skate	Adult, Juvenile
American Plaice	Adult, Juvenile, Larvae, Eggs
Thorny Skate	Juvenile
Bluefin Tuna	Adult
White Shark	Juvenile/Adult
Northern Shortfin Squid	Adult
Longfin Inshore Squid	Juvenile, Adult
Atlantic Mackerel	Eggs, Larvae, Juvenile, Adult
Bluefish	Adult, Juvenile
Atlantic Butterfish	Eggs, Larvae, Adult
Spiny Dogfish	Sub-Adult Female, Adult Male, Adult Female
Atlantic Surfclam	Juvenile, Adult
Scup	Juvenile, Adult
Black Sea Bass	Adult

Habitat Area of Particular Concern
Inshore 20m Juvenile Cod

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY – REGION 1 (EPA)
WATER DIVISION
5 POST OFFICE SQUARE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE PERIOD: **July 16, 2020 – August 14, 2020**

PERMIT NUMBER: **MA0032751**

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: **MA-015-20**

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Massachusetts Port Authority
Environmental Management Unit
One Harborside Drive, Suite 200S
East Boston, Massachusetts 02128

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Logan International Airport
Fire Training Facility
East Boston, Massachusetts 02128

RECEIVING WATER AND CLASSIFICATION:

Boston Harbor (Class SB)

PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT PERMIT AND EPA REQUEST FOR CWA § 401 CERTIFICATION:

EPA is issuing for public notice and comment the Draft NPDES Permit for the Logan International Airport Fire Training Facility, which discharges treated stormwater and fire training water. The effluent limits and permit conditions imposed have been drafted pursuant to, and assure compliance with, the CWA, including EPA-approved State Surface Water Quality Standards at 314 CMR 4.00. MassDEP cooperated with EPA in the development of the Draft NPDES Permit. MassDEP retains independent authority under State law to issue a separate Surface Water Discharge Permit for the discharge, not the subject of this notice, under the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, M.G.L. c. 21, §§ 26-53.

In addition, EPA has requested that MassDEP grant or deny certification of this Draft Permit pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA and implementing regulations. Under federal regulations governing the NPDES program at 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 124.53(e), state certification shall contain conditions that are necessary to assure compliance with the applicable provisions of CWA sections 208(e), 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 and with appropriate requirements of State law, including any conditions more stringent than those in the Draft Permit that MassDEP finds necessary to meet these requirements. In addition, MassDEP may provide a statement of the extent to which each condition of the Draft Permit can be made

less stringent without violating the requirements of State law.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRAFT PERMIT:

The Draft Permit and explanatory Fact Sheet may be obtained at no cost at <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/massachusetts-draft-individual-npdes-permits> or by contacting:

Nathan Chien
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (06-1)
Boston, MA 02109-3912
Telephone: (617) 918-1649
Chien.Nathan@epa.gov

Following U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) guidance and specific state guidelines impacting our regional offices, EPA's workforce has been directed to telework to help prevent transmission of the coronavirus. While in this workforce telework status, there are practical limitations on the ability of Agency personnel to allow the public to review the administrative record in person at the EPA Boston office. However, any documents relating to this Draft Permit can be requested from the individual listed above.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS:

All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of this Draft Permit is inappropriate must raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably available arguments supporting their position by **August 14, 2020**, which is the close of the public comment period. Comments, including those pertaining to EPA's request for CWA § 401 certification, should be submitted to the EPA contact at the address or email listed above. Upon the close of the public comment period, EPA will make all comments available to MassDEP.

Any person, prior to the close of the public comment period, may submit a request in writing to EPA for a public hearing on the Draft Permit under 40 CFR § 124.10. 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 if 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.

Due to the COVID-19 National Emergency, if comments are submitted in hard copy form, please also email a copy to the EPA contact above.

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 notify the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice.

KEN MORAFF, DIRECTOR
WATER DIVISION
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY – REGION 1

LEALDON LANGLEY, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF WATERSHED MGMT
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION