

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES
RIPDES PROGRAM
235 PROMENADE STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02908-5767**

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT ACTIONS UNDER THE RHODE ISLAND POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (RIPDES) PROGRAM WHICH REGULATES DISCHARGES INTO THE WATERS OF THE STATE UNDER CHAPTER 46-12 OF THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS OF 1956, AS AMENDED.

DATE OF NOTICE: April 4, 2016

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: PN16-01

DRAFT RIPDES PERMIT

RIPDES PERMIT NUMBER: **RI0100196**

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

**New Shoreham Sewer Commission & New Shoreham Water Commission
P.O. Box 774
Block Island, RI 02807**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

**New Shoreham Water Pollution Control Facility, Spring Street
& Block Island Water Company, Sands Pond Road
New Shoreham, RI 02807**

RECEIVING WATER: **Rhode Island Sound (Waterbody ID# RI0010046E-02B)**

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: **SB1**

The above-named applicant has applied to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) for reissuance of its RIPDES Permit. The New Shoreham Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) is engaged in the treatment of domestic sewage. The Block Island Water Company is engaged in the operation of a Reverse Osmosis (RO) process located on Sands Pond Road to treat well water for domestic consumption. The discharges are from the New Shoreham WPCF effluent (Outfall 100A), the Block Island Water Company RO Water Treatment System concentrate waste stream (Outfall 200A), and the combined waste stream of the above two discharges (Outfall 001A) that discharges into Rhode Island Sound. The above two facilities are the sources of the wastewater discharges. The New Shoreham Sewer Commission's most recent RIPDES permit, authorizing discharges from the above-mentioned facilities, was issued on August 19, 2008 and expired September 30, 2013. James J. Geremia & Associates, Inc. on behalf of the New Shoreham Sewer Commission submitted an application for permit reissuance to the DEM on July 15, 2013. On August 20, 2013 the DEM issued an application complete letter and, in accordance with Rule 13(a) of the

RIPDES Regulations, the Sewer Commission's 2008 permit remained in effect. Once this permit is reissued, it will supersede the 2008 permit. The draft permit has been updated to include the addition of Enterococci limitations to be consistent with effluent monitoring requirements at other wastewater treatment facilities and the RI Water Quality Regulations, and updated reporting requirements to comply with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's recently published NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule. This permit includes limits to ensure that the discharges will not cause a water quality violation.

FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRAFT PERMIT:

A fact sheet (describing the type of facility and significant factual, legal and policy questions considered in these permit actions) may be obtained at no cost by writing or calling DEM as noted below:

Mr. Aaron Mello
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Water Resources
235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5767
(401) 222-4700, Extension: 7405
aaron.mello@dem.ri.gov

The administrative record containing all documents relating to these permit actions is on file and may be inspected, by appointment, at the DEM's Providence office mentioned above between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Pursuant to Chapter 42-17.4 of the Rhode Island General Laws a public hearing has been scheduled to consider the permit. Notice should be taken that a public hearing will be held at the following time and place:

Monday, May 9, 2016 at 5:00 PM
Room 280
235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

In accordance with Rule 43 of the RIPDES Regulations, the following is a summary of the procedures that shall be followed at the Public Hearing:

- a. The Presiding Officer shall have the authority to open and conclude the Hearing and to maintain order; and
- b. Any persons appearing at such a hearing may submit oral or written statements and data concerning the draft permit.

In addition, for the sake of accuracy, it is requested that statements be submitted in writing at the time of the hearing or be mailed to the DEM's Office of Water Resources RIPDES Program, at the above address, before the date of the hearing. Oral testimony will also be heard at the

Public Hearing, but will be limited to five (5) minutes in duration.

235 Promenade Street is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the DEM at 831-5508 (T.D.D.) 72 hours in advance of the hearing date.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: (April 4, 2016 TO May 10, 2016)

Interested parties may submit comments on the permit actions and the administrative record to the address above no later than 4:00 PM on May 10, 2016.

All persons, including the applicant, who believe any condition of the draft permit is inappropriate, must raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably available arguments and factual grounds supporting their position, including all supporting material, by the close of the public comment period on May 10, 2016. Commentators may request a longer comment period if necessary to provide a reasonable opportunity to comply with these requirements. Comments should be directed to the DEM's Office of Water Resources, RIPDES Program at the address above.

If, during the public comment period, significant new questions are raised concerning the permit, DEM may require a new draft permit, fact sheet, and/or development document or may reopen the public comment period. A public notice will be issued for any of these actions.

FINAL DECISION AND APPEALS:

Following the close of the comment period, and after the public hearing, the Director will issue a final decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the permittee and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice. Within 30 days following the notice of the final decision, any interested person may submit a request for a formal hearing in accordance with the requirements of Rule 49.

3/30/16

Date



Eric A. Beck, P.E.
Supervising Sanitary Engineer
Office of Water Resources
Department of Environmental Management