

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES
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: August 18, 2017

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: PN 17-03

DRAFT RIPDES PERMITS:

RIPDES PERMIT NUMBER: **RI0100111**

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

City of Woonsocket
City Hall
169 Main Street
Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Woonsocket Regional Wastewater Commission
11 Cumberland Hill Road
Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895

RECEIVING WATER: **Blackstone River (Waterbody ID# RI0001003R-01A)**

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: **B1**

The facility, which is the source of the discharge, is located in Woonsocket and is engaged in the treatment of domestic and industrial wastewater contributed by the City of Woonsocket and the Towns of North Smithfield, RI and Blackstone and Bellingham, MA. The facility has applied to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management for reissuance of an individual RIPDES permit to discharge water from the treatment plant, which includes the use of the following equipment and processes: coarse screening, communitation, aerated grit removal, primary settling, biological treatment with nutrient removal, secondary settling, effluent polishing filters, chlorination, and dechlorination. The discharge of treated effluent is made to the Blackstone River through outfall 001A. The draft permit has been updated to include reporting requirements to comply with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule. This permit includes limits to ensure that the discharge will not cause a water quality violation.

DRAFT RIPDES PERMIT MODIFICATIONS:

RIPDES PERMIT NUMBER: **RI0023442**

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation
65 Shun Pike
Johnston, RI 02919

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation
65 Shun Pike
Johnston, RI 02919

RECEIVING WATER:

Quarry Stream and Cedar Swamp Brook (Waterbody ID# RI0006018R-01); and Upper Simmons Reservoir (Waterbody ID# RI0006018L-03)

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: **B**

This Public Notice serves as official notification that DEM proposes to modify the existing Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (RIPDES) Permit No. RI0023442. The permit was reissued on April 24, 2015 and became effective July 1, 2015. In a May 22, 2015 letter RIRRC requested an adjudicatory hearing and moved to stay certain conditions of the permit. In order to resolve RIRRC's appeal of the above conditions of the April 2015 permit the DEM and RIRRC entered into Consent Agreement No. RIA-422 on June 22, 2017. Paragraph 10 of the Consent Agreement requires that within (60) days of the date of execution of this Agreement, the DEM shall initiate the permit modification in Attachment A of the Agreement. The draft permit modification includes the following: revised erosion control measure inspection and maintenance language in Part I.C of the permit and updated monitoring requirements for Ponds 4 and 13. This permit modification contains limitations and conditions to ensure that the discharge of storm water and underdrain wastewater is protective of water quality.

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 downloaded at <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/water/permits/ripdes/> or a hard copy may be obtained at no cost by writing or calling DEM as noted below:

Aaron Mello
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
RIPDES Program
235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5767
Phone: 401-222-4700, extension 7405
E-mail: 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 COMMENT AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

Pursuant to Chapters 46-12 and 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws, a public hearing has been tentatively scheduled to consider these draft RIPDES permits, if requested. Requests for a Public Hearing must be submitted in writing to the attention of Aaron Mello at the address indicated above. Notice should be taken that if DEM receives a request from twenty-five (25) people, a governmental agency or subdivision, or an association having no less than twenty-five (25) members on or before 4:00 PM, Monday, September 18, 2017, the public hearing will be held at the following time and place:

Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 5:00 PM
Room 280
235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

Interested persons should contact DEM in advance to confirm if a hearing will be held at the time and location noted above.

235 Promenade 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.

Interested parties must submit comments on the permit actions and the administrative record to the address above no later than 4:00 P.M. September 22, 2017.

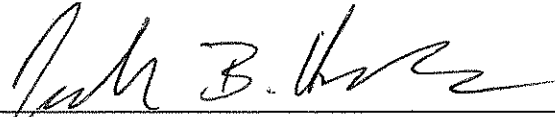
All persons who believe any condition of the draft permit is inappropriate, must raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably available arguments and factual grounds supporting their position, including all supporting material, by the close of the public comment period on September 22, 2017. Commenters may request a longer comment period if necessary to provide a reasonable opportunity to comply with these requirements. Comments should be directed to Aaron Mello as directed above.

If, during the public comment period, significant new questions are raised concerning the permit, DEM may require a new draft permit or fact sheet 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 a public hearing, if such hearing is held, the Director will issue a final permit decision and forward a copy of the final decision to each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice. Within 30 days following the notice of the final permit decision, any interested person may submit a request for a formal hearing in accordance with the requirements of Rule 49 of the Regulations for the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

8/10/17
Date



Joseph B. Haberek, P.E.
Supervising Sanitary Engineer
Office of Water Resources
Department of Environmental Management