

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES
PERMITS SECTION
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: July 18, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: PN 23-03

DRAFT RIPDES PERMITS

RIPDES PERMIT NUMBER: RI0100048

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

City of East Providence
145 Taunton Avenue
East Providence, RI 02914

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

East Providence Water Pollution Control Facility
1 Crest Avenue
East Providence, RI 02915

RECEIVING WATER: Providence River

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: SB1{a}

The facility, which is the source of the discharge, is a wastewater treatment facility located in East Providence. The discharge consists of treated sanitary sewage contributed by the municipalities of East Providence and Barrington. The facility has reapplied 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 (Bar Rack), Fine Screening, Comminution, Primary Settling, Aeration, Secondary Settling, Chlorination, and Dechlorination. The discharge of treated effluent is made to the Providence River through outfall 001A. This permit includes limits to ensure that the discharge will not cause a water quality violation.

The draft permit contains new requirements for monitoring perflourinated compounds, for the submittal of a resiliency plan, development of a Species Sensitivity Screening, and for inspection of the facility's outfall.

RIPDES PERMIT NUMBER: RI0100188

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Town of Narragansett
Narragansett Town Hall
25 Fifth Avenue
Narragansett, Rhode Island 02882

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Scarborough Wastewater Treatment Facility
990 Ocean Road
Narragansett, Rhode Island 02882

RECEIVING WATER: Rhode Island Sound

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: SB1

The facility, which is the source of discharge, is located in Narragansett and is engaged in the treatment of wastewater from the sanitary sewer system in the town of Narragansett. The facility has reapplied to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management for reissuance of an individual RIDPES permit to discharge water from the treatment plant, which includes the use of the following equipment and processes: coarse screening, fine screening, aerated grit removal, grit removal via screw conveyer, extended aeration, secondary settling, chlorination, and dechlorination. The discharge of treated effluent is made to Rhode Island Sound through outfall 001A. This permit includes limits to ensure that the discharge will not cause a water quality violation.

The draft permit contains new requirements for monitoring TKN, Nitrate, Nitrite, Total Nitrogen, and perflourinated compounds. Additional requirements include submittal of a resiliency plan, evaluation of Industrial Users, development of a Species Sensitivity Screening, and inspection of the facilities outfall.

II. DRAFT RIPDES PERMIT MODIFICATIONS

RIPDES PERMIT NUMBER: RI0100005

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Town Bristol
Bristol Town Hall
10 Court Street
Bristol, Rhode Island 02809

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Bristol Wastewater Treatment Facility
Plant Avenue
Bristol, Rhode Island 02809

RECEIVING WATER: Bristol Harbor

RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION: SB1

The facility, which is the source of the discharge, is located in Bristol and is engaged in the treatment of wastewater from the sanitary sewer system in the town of Bristol. On January 5, 2023, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) reissued the RIPDES permit for the facility. The permit became effective on April 1, 2023.

The purposes of the proposed modification to the April 1, 2023 permit are to:

1. Correct a typographical errors related to Whole Effluent Toxicity limitations and Table I of the Fact Sheet.
2. Clarify language related to the Outfall inspection requirement.
3. Increase the number of perfluorinated compound parameters to be analyzed from 6 PFAS analytes to 40 PFAS analytes.
4. Change the sampling type and frequency of perflourinated compound parameters.
5. Clarify which analysis method should be used to analyze for PFAS.

All other remaining effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions in the permit are unchanged, and unaffected by the proposed permit modification.

The DEM has determined that the proposed activities comply with the Policy on the Implementation of the Antidegradation Provisions of the Rhode Island Water Quality Regulations and that existing uses will be maintained and protected. A detailed evaluation of the water quality impact from the proposed activities and any important benefits demonstrations, if required, may be found in the fact sheets which is available as noted below.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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:

Cameron Murray
Environmental Engineering Associate
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Water Resources
Permits Section
235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5767
(401) 222-4700 ext. 2777274
cameron.murray@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 Chapter 42-17.4 of the Rhode Island General Laws a public hearing has been

scheduled to consider these permits if requested. Requests for a Public Hearing must be submitted in writing to the attention of Cameron Murray 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 on Monday, August 21, 2023 a public hearing will be held at the following time and place:

5:00 PM Thursday, August 24, 2023
Room 280
235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

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

235 Promenade Street is accessible to individuals who are handicapped. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call Cameron Murray or RI Relay 711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting.

Interested parties may submit comments on the permit actions and the administrative record to the address above no later than 4:00 PM on Friday, August 25.

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

Any person, including the permittee/applicant, who believes these permit actions are 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 under 250-RICR-150-10-1.42 of the Regulations of the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. The public comment period is from Tuesday, July 18 to Friday, August 25. Commenters may request a longer comment period if necessary to provide a reasonable opportunity to comply with these requirements. Comments should be directed to DEM as noted above.

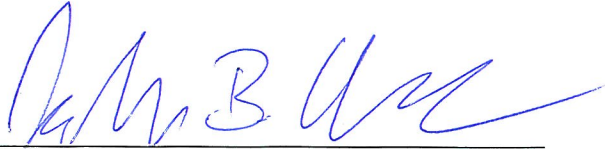
FINAL DECISION AND APPEALS:

Following the close of the comment period, and after a public hearing, if such hearing is held, the Director will issue a final 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 250-RICR-150-10-1.50 of the Regulations of the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

Date

7/12/2023

for


Heidi Travers, P.E.
Environmental Engineer IV
RIPDES Program
Office of Water Resources
Department of Environmental Management