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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

AMENDMENT TO THE ATLANTIC COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

Take notice that on DEC 1 1 1997, pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Water Quality Planning Act, N.J.S.A. 58:11A-1 et seq., and the Statewide Water Quality Management Planning rules (N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.4), an amendment to the Atlantic County Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). The amendment proposal was submitted on behalf of Galloway Township and Egg Harbor City. This amendment modifies the Galloway Township and Egg Harbor City Wastewater Management Plans (WMP) with regard to two sewer service area expansions and one sewer service area deletion to the Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA) City-Island Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) and the closure of one existing New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) permitted facility. One sewer service area expansion adds approximately 348 acres which fall within the boundaries of Jimmie Leeds Road, the dividing line between Blocks 985 and 986, Pitney Road, up to and including Lots 14.01-14.03, 14.05 and 10 of Block 1170, Sylvan Avenue, Highlands Avenue, and Seaview Avenue in Galloway Township. This sewer service area will generate a total wastewater flow of approximately 79,200 gallons per day (gpd) of which 18,025 gpd will be served by the Pomona Metering Station and 61,175 gpd will be served by the Absecon Metering Station.

The other sewer service area expansion will serve approximately 285 acres located along Bremen Avenue north of Moss Mill Road, of which 140 acres are in Egg Harbor City and 145 acres are located in Galloway Township. This sewer service area expansion includes the existing Renault Winery NJPDES #NJ0082848 permitted discharge which presently discharges less than 2,000 gpd to an on-site ground water disposal facility. The proposed service area expansion will serve an expanded Renault Winery facility which is proposed to include an eighteen hole golf course, a 112 room hotel and support facilities, a 35 room Bed and Breakfast Inn and an expanded banquet hall. The maximum projected wastewater flow from this added sewer service area is 86,628 gpd. The Renault Winery discharge to ground water facility will be closed when the service connection becomes available and all wastewater flows from this area will be conveyed to the ACUA City-Island STP via the Egg Harbor City collection system and their existing allocated capacity to the ACUA. The ACUA accepts wastewater from within its sewer service area on a first come, first served basis and no expansion to the City-Island STP has been proposed as part of this amendment.

As the result of an agreement with the Pinelands Commission and in exchange for the proposed sewer service area expansion in the vicinity of Renault Winery, portions of Egg Harbor City were removed from the designation of "Proposed Service Area" which refers to sewer service by ACUA as originally identified in the Egg Harbor City WMP. Small sewer service area additions also occurred in this vicinity. All sewer service area changes correspond to revised Pinelands Town Areas and Pinelands Forest Areas designations as identified and approved by the City of Egg Harbor Ordinance Number 2-96 which was certified by the Pinelands Commission in February of 1997. All modified areas designated as Pinelands Town Areas will now receive sewer service while all areas now designated as Pinelands Forest Areas will not receive sewer service.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on July 21, 1997. A comment on this amendment was received during the public comment period and is summarized below with the Department's response.

Comment: The ACUA commented that two paragraphs in the Galloway Township WMP document regarding the available capacity in the ACUA's system based on contributory flow from Galloway Township were inaccurate and misleading because they did not account for flow contributions from other areas or towns outside of Galloway Township and such assumptions would become outdated rather quickly even if they were accurate. In addition, ACUA would not confirm the capacity of the ACUA interceptors as presented in the plan. The ACUA would only confirm that ACUA facilities can accommodate the proposed flows at this time. The ACUA requested that these two paragraphs be deleted from the text of the WMP.

Response: The Department agrees with ACUA that the statements in the Galloway Township WMP are inaccurate and misleading in the scope of the whole ACUA system, as the Galloway Township WMP is designed to only address contributory wastewater flows from Galloway Township and is not a regional wastewater management plan. Since this information is incorrect, correction of this data goes beyond the scope of the subject WQMP amendment, and since the Atlantic County Department of Regional Planning and Economic Development is developing a county-wide WMP which will address regional issues such as this, the Department agrees to delete these two paragraphs from the Galloway Township WMP text.

This amendment represents only one part of the permit process and other issues will be addressed prior to final permit issuance. Additional issues which were not reviewed in conjunction with this amendment but which may need to be addressed may include, but are not limited to, the following: antidegradation; effluent limitations; water quality analysis; exact locations and designs of future treatment works (pump stations, interceptors, sewers, outfalls, wastewater treatment plants); and development in wetlands,

flood prone areas, designated Wild and Scenic River areas, or other environmentally sensitive areas which are subject to regulation under Federal or State statutes or rules.

Robert Tudor

Administrator

Office of Environmental Planning

Department of Environmental Protection

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