F. Procedure for application and review: The landowner, or landowner's agent designated by a properly executed power of attorney, shall submit an application for financial assistance on a form provided by the Department. During its review, the Department may meet with the applicant to discuss the proposed projects, inspect the property and recommend any change it deems necessary. Within 30 days of receipt of the application the Department will either deny the application citing the reasons for denial or grant preliminary approval.

Final approval shall be contingent primarily upon receipt of all permits required to implement the proposed project; execution of an agreement which states the terms and conditions by which financial assistance will be disbursed; and execution of an access covenant in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 7:5B-1.10 which assures public access for a

specified time period.

G. Address of the division, office or official receiving the application: Applications for Open Lands Management grants may be requested from, and completed and submitted to:

Celeste Tracy Open Lands Management Program Office of Natural Lands Management Division of Parks and Forestry New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy CN 404 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0404 (609) 984-1339

H. Dates application will be accepted: Applications for funding during FY 1994 must be submitted by February 18, 1994.

I. Date by which applicant shall be notified of preliminary approval or disapproval: Within 30 days of receipt, the Department shall evaluate applications for funding under this program and either disapprove or grant preliminary approval of the application.

## (a)

## THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

## **Notice of Availability of State Grant Funds** Matching Grants Program for Local Environmental Agencies

Take notice that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, 34.5 and 34.6, the Department of Environmental Protection and Energy hereby announces the availability of State grant funds, as follows:

A. Name of program: Matching Grants Program for Local En-

vironmental Agencies.

B. Purpose: The purpose of this matching grants program is to assist local environmental agencies in inventorying and documenting environmental resources; preparing policy recommendations to protect those resources; and preparing and disseminating information to the public concerning the ways in which the public can participate in protecting the environment.

C. Amount of money in the program: Approximately \$200,000 will probably be available for this program, but the exact amount is not known at this time. The maximum grant will be \$2,500. Applicants must agree to fund at least 50 percent of the cost of the eligible project.

- D. Organizations which may apply for funding under this program: Any municipal environmental commission, joint environmental commission established by two or more municipalities, county environmental commission or soil conservation district.
- E. Qualifications needed by an applicant to be considered for the program: Applicant must be a "local environmental agency" as defined in N.J.S.A. 13:H-1 et seq. Applicant must use funds for a project having the purposes described in section B above. Detailed specifications of eligible projects and costs will be provided with the Application, as defined below.
- F. Procedure for eligible organizations to apply: Request a copy of the Matching Grants Program Guide and Application Form ("Application") from:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy Office of Environmental Services

CN-402, 401 East State Street, 7th Floor Trenton, New Jersey 08625 (609) 984-0828

Complete the application.

G. Address for application to be submitted: Completed application should be submitted to the address listed directly above.

H. Deadline by which completed application must be submitted: Applications must be delivered to the Office of Environmental Services or postmarked by December 1, 1993.

I. Date by which applicants shall be notified of approval or disapproval: On or about March 1, 1994.

(b)

## OFFICE OF LAND AND WATER PLANNING Amendment to the Ocean County Water Quality **Management Plan Public Notice**

Take notice that on July 30, 1993, 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 Ocean County Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department. This amendment designates the site of Plumsted Township Middle School (Block 41, Lot 11.03) as the service area for an on-site treatment facility with ground water discharge less than 20,000 gallons per day (gpd). The amendment allows construction of a new Plumsted Township Middle School with a functional capacity of 500 students and 60 professional staff. The project will be designed to meet all current water quality discharge regulations through pretreatment and discharge to ground water in accordance with the New Jersey Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) rules and regulations. The Board of Education will abandon their existing package treatment plant NJPDES/Discharge to Surface Water #NJ0021407) at the existing Plumsted Township Elementary School on Block 14, Lot 7 and connect via force main to the treatment plant at the Plumsted Township Middle School for treatment and discharge via ground water. Currently the combined Plumsted Township Elementary/ Middle School generates a flow of approximately 3,000 gpd on an average school day (functional capacity of 825 students and 75 professional staff). The Plumsted Township Middle School treatment plan will accommodate 10,000 gpd.

The amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on June 7, 1993 at 25 N.J.R. 2595(c). Comment on this amendment was received during the public comment period and is summarized below

with the DEPE's response.

COMMENT: The Tri-County Water Quality Management Board has no objection to this specific project. However, they have concerns about inadequate operation and maintenance of small on-site sewage treatment facilities which can lead to an increased incidence of failed systems and

pose a risk to water supplies.

RESPONSE: The Ocean County Planning Board and Department recognize the concerns regarding small treatment plants [long term operation]. However, this portion of Ocean County was to be served by the Northern Burlington Regional Sewerage Authority which is now dissolved. Therefore, the Plumsted Township Middle School has no alternative wastewater treatment option. This amendment permits the abandonment of an older treatment plant located at the original Plumsted Township Elementary/Middle School (Block 14, Lot 7) which discharges directly to Crosswicks Creek.