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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

AMENDMENT TO THE SUSSEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

Take notice that on **DEC 11 1996**, 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 Sussex County Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). The amendment provides a Wastewater Management Plan (WMP) for Andover Borough, Sussex County. The WMP identifies a new sewage treatment plant (STP) to serve the Sussex Properties, Inc. project, a 235 acre area proposed to contain 590 residential units (single family homes, townhouses, and garden apartments) and 293,000 square feet of commercial and industrial development. The Sussex Properties, Inc. STP will also serve 126 existing residential units and 355,500 square feet of commercial development located within the Borough center and along Route 206. The total projected wastewater flow to the STP is 251,300 gallons per day (gpd). The STP will discharge to Andover Junction Brook, which is classified in the New Jersey Surface Water Quality Standards as FW2-TM (fresh water 2-trout maintenance), and will be owned and operated by the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority. The WMP also identifies the service areas within the Borough for facilities with design capacities of less than 2,000 gpd and the service areas for facilities with design capacities of less than 20,000 gpd (with gpd/acre flow restrictions based on watershed and geologic formation).

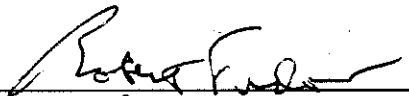
This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on June 17, 1996. A comment on this amendment was received during the public comment period and is summarized below with the Department's response.

COMMENT: The Green Township Environmental/Heritage Commission commented that there is an inconsistency with regard to the mapping of the Sussex Properties STP sewer service area on Plate V-2 and the mapping of soil suitability for individual subsurface sewage disposal on Plate III-2. The half of Andover Borough with the most severe septic limitations is planned for septic systems while the half with the most slight and moderate septic limitations is planned for sewer service.

RESPONSE: Based upon the soil units as depicted in the Sussex County Soil Survey, the majority of the soils depicted within the areas designated for ground water

discharge do not exhibit prohibitive design limitations for septic systems. This is based on the soil suitability class for each soil series in accordance with the Standards for Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems, N.J.A.C. 7:9A-Appendix D. Many of the soils within the areas designated for ground water discharge have a soil suitability class of IIIHr and/or IIIWp which refer respectively to soils having a hydraulically restrictive horizon or perched zone of saturation shallow in the soil profile as defined in N.J.A.C. 7:9A-5. While these soils have limitations, there are standard design alternatives to address each condition. As such, the designation of these areas for ground water discharge appears to be adequate.

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  
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Date

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