DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED AMENDMENT TO THE UPPER DELAWARE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

JUN 2 4 2004 Take notice that on , 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 Upper Delaware Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection (Department). This amendment, submitted on behalf of The Architect's Golf Club, increases the Town of Phillipsburg Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) sewer service area within Lopatcong Township by approximately five acres to include the existing clubhouse area of this 18-hole golf course. The clubhouse currently utilizes holding tanks to capture wastewater. The site is located on Strykers Road at Block 95, Lots 12.05 and 29 in the Township of Lopatcong in Warren County. The clubhouse is located on the western side of the property along Strykers Road and is projected to generate 7,960 gallons of wastewater per day. Calculations for projected wastewater flow were based on flow criteria under N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.3. The Town of Phillipsburg STP has a current permitted capacity of 3.5 Million Gallons per Day (MGD) and there is available capacity at the plant to treat the wastewater that will be generated by the clubhouse facility.

This amendment has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 109 (2000) and N.J.A.C. 7:15-5.18. A non-point source pollutant loading analysis was determined to be necessary. Loading values were calculated for nitrate, phosphorus, and total suspended solids for both pre-development and post-development conditions based on past and present land uses, respectively. There is a wet detention basin on site as well as an infiltration basin. These two Best Management Practices are used to capture stormwater runoff from the property. The analysis

shows no net increase in pollutant loading from the site from pre- to postdevelopment.

The requirements of a depletive/consumptive water use analysis have been met for this project since the potable water supplier has a current water allocation permit that does not need to be modified to accommodate this proposal and the irrigation water is obtained from the two on-site stormwater basins as well as a pond. These waterbodies have a combined storage capacity of 3,379,882 gallons. A water use registration permit was issued for the on-site pond. The permit number is 11196W.

A riparian corridor analysis for this site was satisfied by development plans that will result in minimum buffer widths of 75 feet along Lopatcong Creek after vegetative plantings are completed. In some areas, the buffer width was less than 75 feet due to construction design, but these areas will be replanted. A planting was done to bring the minimum buffer to 75 foot. A management plan for maintaining this buffer width has been submitted to the Department. A high rough area is maintained in areas throughout the course and around all of the waterbodies on-site. This area has a minimal maintenance approach and is mowed once a year. Grass clippings were being disposed of in this buffer area, but that practice has been discontinued.

A wastewater alternatives analysis was performed for this site. A subsurface septic system was investigated, but this option was rejected by the owner of the property based on the amount of flow that would be generated by the facility and the potential costs of constructing and maintaining such a structure and the Department concurs. The Township of Lopatcong also prefers that the golf course tie-in to the existing sewer main. The western boundary of the clubhouse property is adjacent to the existing sewer service area within Lopatcong Township.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on October 6, 2003 at 35 N.J.R. 4787(b) and no comments were received during the comment period.

This amendment represents only one part of the permit process and other issues may need to be addressed prior to final permit issuance. Additional issues which may need to be addressed may include, but are not limited to, the following: antidegradation; effluent limitations; water quality analysis; stormwater management, 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.

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Lawrence J. Baier, Director

Division of Watershed Management

Department of Environmental Protection

Date