

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENERGY
OFFICE OF LAND AND WATER PLANNING

AMENDMENT TO THE UPPER RARITAN WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

Take notice that on **MAR 24 1994**, 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 Raritan Water Quality Management Plan was adopted by the Department. This amendment will reduce the sewer service area and size of the proposed Route 78 Office Service Area Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) to serve only Block 48, Lots 47 and 48, and Block 46.01, Lots 6.01, 7, 8, 9, 15, 16 and 17, all under the ownership of Bellemead Development Corporation, along the southerly side of Route 78. This STP will be privately owned, not municipally owned, as previously planned. The A.M. Best STP, originally slated to be abandoned, will continue to serve properties identified as Block 46, Lots 6 and 7.01 owned by A.M. Best. No expansion of the A.M. Best STP to serve beyond the A.M. Best properties is planned. The remainder of the Route 78 Office Sewer Service Area originally identified in the Tewksbury Township WMP as sewer service area of the Route 78 Office STP, will be identified as "On-site Ground Water Disposal Areas for Facilities With Design Flows of Less Than 20,000 Gallons Per Day."

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 plant); 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.


This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on November 15, 1993. Comments on this amendment were received during the public comment period and are summarized below with the DEPE's responses.


COMMENT: A.M. Best Company expressed concern that submitted mapping and items recently addressed in modification of their New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit are not correctly reflected.

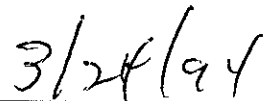
RESPONSE: The discrepancy in the mapping has been corrected to include Block 46, Lots 6 and 7.01 in the A.M. Best service area. The A.M. Best Facility Table #3 has been revised to delete all reference to ground water discharge.

COMMENT: One commenter has expressed a concern that the amendment is inconsistent with 7:15-5.18(b)2, 4, and 8, which consider adequate wastewater service for land use deemed appropriate for anticipated development occurring in a 20-year period.

RESPONSE: The tract in question (Block 45 - Lot 42) is presently zoned as Agriculture and designated for individual subsurface sewage disposal system type wastewater facilities. The Department feels this type of wastewater facility is appropriate for this land use zoning.


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Date

MEG/RT78