## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

AMENDMENT TO THE UPPER RARITAN WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Public Notice

Take notice that on the Company 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 of Environmental Protection (Department). As originally proposed and publicly noticed, the amendment addressed three proposed developments within Hillsborough Township. Based on comments received during the public comment period, one of the proposed developments, the Planned Adult Community/Health Care Facility (PAC/HCF) and the properties adjacent to the PAC/HCF have been deleted from the amendment proposal and are not part of this adoption.

This amendment modifies the Hillsborough Township Wastewater Management Plan (WMP) to address two proposed developments within the Township. The Somerset Raritan Valley Sewerage Authority (SRVSA) sewer service area will expand to include the Paddocks at Blackwell's Mill [Lot 48.03, Block 205] development. The projected wastewater flow from Paddocks is 0.0177 million gallons per day (mgd). The total projected future year 2014 wastewater flow from Hillsborough Township to SRVSA is 7.40 mgd.

Also proposed is a discharge to ground water facility to serve the Royce Brook Golf Club [Lot 38, Block 183]. The projected wastewater flow from this development is 6,505 gallons per day.

This amendment proposal was noticed in the New Jersey Register on July 17, 1995. Comments on this amendment were received during the public comment period and are summarized below with the Department's responses.

COMMENT: Two parties commented regarding the proposed expansion of the sewer service area to sewer the proposed PAC/HCF. Of concern was the proposal's consistency with the State Development and Redevelopment Plan and secondary impact effects.

RESPONSE: The PAC/HCF portion of the proposal has been deleted from the amendment proposal. Only the Paddocks at Blackwell's Mill and Royce Brook Golf Club portions of the original proposal are being adopted. The applicant may pursue the PAC/HCF portion of the amendment as part of the Somerset County/Upper Raritan Watershed WMP amendment which is currently under development. The concerns identified by the commenters will need to be adequately addressed as part of that amendment proposal.

COMMENT: A comment was received opposing any proposal that does not include the existing homes now served by the Valley Road Sewerage Company (VRSC) wastewater treatment plants. The consolidation of these plants into the Hillsborough Municipal Utilities Authority (HMUA) system must be a priority while system capacity still exists.

RESPONSE: The Hillsborough Township WMP presently proposes the elimination of VRSC River Road and Fieldhedge wastewater treatment plants with conveyance of all flows to SRVSA. The present amendment proposal does not change this proposal. The SRVSA wastewater flows identified in the present proposal include flows from the VRSC plants. Connection of these facilities into the HMUA system with ultimate treatment and discharge at the SRVSA facility is supported by the Department.

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.

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Administrator

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