

DEVAL L. PATRICK Governor

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NORTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE

205B Lowell Street, Wilmington, MA 01887 • (978) 694-3200

IAN A. BOWLES Secretary

LAURIE BURT Commissioner

August 19, 2008

Mr. Glen Clancy, P.E. Director of Community Development Town of Belmont 19 Moore Street Belmont, MA 02478

RE:

Progress Meeting- August 1, 2008

Notice of Noncompliance – NON-NE-07-1N005

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Dear Mr. Clancy:

On August 1, 2008, staff from the MassDEP Northeast Regional Office met with you, and Justin Gould and Robert Descheneau of Fay, Spofford, and Thorndike (FST), consultant to the Town of Belmont (the Town). Ralph Jones, Belmont Selectman, also participated in the meeting. The meeting was held to discuss the progress report the Town prepared in response to the Notice of Noncompliance (NON) referenced above, and to ensure that satisfactory progress is being made toward addressing the violations outlined in the NON. This letter summarizes these discussions and MassDEP's expectations based on that meeting.

Based on review of the documentation submitted supporting the Town of Belmont's efforts at eliminating wastewater sources to the stormdrain system, and information provided to the Department during the August 1, 2008 meeting, MassDEP provides the following comments:

Wellington Brook

The Town provided a preliminary design report (PDR) for rehabilitation work to be performed in the Wellington Brook sub-watershed. This work followed a detailed investigation of the drainage system in this area. The PDR included approximately \$2 million in construction work to address potential cross connections between the sewer and stormdrain system. MassDEP approved the findings of the PDR, and the recommendations for rehabilitation work in a letter dated August 13, 2008.

Winn's Brook/Huron Avenue Areas

The Town provided results from more than fifty bacteria samples collected in the Winn's Brook neighborhood and Huron Avenue stormdrain lines. These bacteria samples indicate elevated bacteria concentrations persist in certain areas of the two sub-watersheds. The Town plans to implement an investigative study in the Winn's Brook neighborhood, similar to the approach used in the Wellington Brook sub-watershed, in which simultaneous CCTV inspections and dye-water tracing of the stormdrain and sanitary sewer systems will be conducted in the segments of the stormdrain which were found to have high bacteria counts.

For the Huron Avenue area, sampling by Belmont and the City of Cambridge has shown that elevated bacteria counts remain from the Huron Avenue stormdrain connection. A large amount of rehabilitation work has already been performed in the Dalton Road area of the Huron Avenue drainage, and the bacteria counts have decreased considerably; however, there still appears to be wastewater contamination of the stormdrain system, and further investigative work is needed in this stormdrain system. MassDEP and the Town will discuss a scope and schedule for this work following the completion of the Winn's Brook work.

Based on the discussions at the meeting, the NON requirements, and the information supplied in the August 1st progress report, the Town shall provide the following information to MassDEP:

- 1. On or before October 15, 2008, the Town shall submit to MassDEP a completed SRF application, to include plans and specifications for the Wellington Brook rehabilitation work in accordance with the approved PDR. The application will include a construction schedule for the work;
- 2. On or before December 1, 2008, the Town shall submit to MassDEP a Preliminary Design Report for the Winn's Brook sub-watershed based on the CCTV inspection and dye-water tracing of the stormdrain and sanitary sewer systems. The PDR shall identify recommended rehabilitation work, along with an implementation schedule for the work.

MassDEP looks forward to working with the Town of Belmont on this important initiative to address wastewater discharges to the stormdrain system. Following submittal of the December 1 report, MassDEP will arrange to meet with the Town to discuss the progress of the work.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Kevin Brander at (978) 694-3236.

Sincerely,

Deputy Regional Director

Bureau of Resource Protection

Cc: Todd Borci, US EPA Region One (via electronic mail only)
Bill Dunn, Division of Watershed Management, DEP/CERO (via electronic mail only)
Justin Gould, Fay, Spofford, & Thorndike, Consulting Engineers