



STATE OF MAINE  
Department of Environmental Protection

Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

Patricia W. Aho  
COMMISSIONER

December 3, 2012

Mr. Scott Firmin, P.E.  
Director of Wastewater Services  
Portland Water District  
225 Douglass Street, P.O. Box 3553  
Portland, ME. 04104-3553

RE: Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit #ME0100846  
Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) Application #W001510-6D-G-M  
**Minor Revision**

Dear Mr. Firmin:

Enclosed please find a copy of your **final** Maine MEPDES/WDL **minor revision** which was approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. Please read the permit and its attached conditions carefully. You must follow the conditions in the order to satisfy the requirements of law. Any discharge not receiving adequate treatment is in violation of State Law and is subject to enforcement action.

Any interested person aggrieved by a Department determination made pursuant to applicable regulations, may appeal the decision following the procedures described in the attached DEP FACT SHEET entitled "*Appealing a Commissioner's Licensing Decision.*"

If you have any questions regarding the matter, please feel free to call me at 287-7693.

Sincerely,

Gregg Wood  
Division of Water Quality Management  
Bureau of Land and Water Quality

Enc.

cc: Stuart Rose, DEP/SMRO  
Sandy Mojica, USEPA

AUGUSTA  
17 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017  
(207) 287-3901 FAX: (207) 287-3435  
RAY BLDG., HOSPITAL ST.  
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BANGOR  
106 HOGAN ROAD  
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PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769-2094  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
17 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333

**DEPARTMENT ORDER**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

PORTLAND WATER DISTRICT	)	MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
WESTBROOK, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, MAINE	)	ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS	)	AND
ME0100846	)	WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE
W001510-6D-G-M	)	<b>MINOR REVISION</b>
<b>APPROVAL</b>	)	

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, Title 33 USC, § 1251, et seq. and Maine Law 38 M.R.S.A. § 414-A, et seq., and applicable regulations, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department hereinafter) has considered a request by the PORTLAND WATER DISTRICT (permittee hereinafter), to modify combination Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) permit #ME0100846/Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) #W001510-6D-E-R, (permit hereinafter) issued by the Department on March 6, 2012. With its supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file the Department FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

**MODIFICATIONS REQUESTED**

The permittee has provided the Department with a supplemental application form entitled, *Application For Addition of Transported Wastes In Wastewater Treatment Facilities*, to support a request to increase the quantity of transported waste received and treated at the facility from 10,000 gallons per day (gpd) to 22,700 gpd. The permittee has indicated it misinterpreted the 10,000 gpd limit established in the March 6, 2012, permit to be a monthly average limit not a daily maximum limit. The requested limit of 22,700 gpd represents 0.5% of the design capacity of the waste water treatment facility which is consistent with the limitations established in 06-096 CMR Chapter 555, *Standards for the Addition of Transported Wastes In Wastewater Treatment Facilities*.

**MODIFICATIONS GRANTED/DENIED**

The Department is granting the permittee's request to increase the quantity of transported waste received and treated at the facility from 10,000 gallons per day (gpd) to 22,700 gpd and has made a best professional judgment that the facility has adequate capacity to receive and properly treat the increased quantity of said transported waste.

## CONCLUSIONS

BASED on the findings in this minor revision and subject to the Conditions listed below, the Department makes the following CONCLUSIONS:

1. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification.
2. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any unclassified body of water below the classification which the Department expects to adopt in accordance with state law.
3. The provisions of the State's antidegradation policy, 38 M.R.S.A., § 464(4)(F), will be met, in that:
  - a. Existing in-stream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect and maintain those existing uses will be maintained and protected;
  - b. Where high quality waters of the State constitute an outstanding natural resource, that water quality will be maintained and protected;
  - c. The standards of classification of the receiving water body are met or, where the standards of classification of the receiving water body are not met, the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet standards of classification;
  - d. Where the actual quality of any classified receiving water body exceeds the minimum standards of the next highest classification, that higher quality will be maintained and protected; and
  - e. Where a discharge will result in lowering the existing quality of any water body, the Department has made the finding, following the opportunity for public participation, that this action is necessary to achieve important economic or social benefits to the State.
4. The discharge(s) (including the CSOs) will be subject to effluent limitations that require application of best practicable treatment defined in 38 M.R.S.A., §414-A(1)(D).

**ACTION**

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the above noted request by the PORTLAND WATER DISTRICT to modify combination MEPDES permit #ME0100846/WDL #W001510-6D-E-R, issued by the Department on March 6, 2012, to increase the quantity of transported waste received and treated at the facility from 10,000 gallons per day (gpd) to 22,700 gpd, SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED CONDITIONS, and all applicable standards and regulations, including:

1. "Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Standard Conditions Applicable To All Permits," revised July 1, 2002, copy attached to combination MEPDES permit #ME0100846/WDL #W001510-6D-E-R, issued by the Department on March 6, 2012.
2. The attached Special Conditions, including any effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.
3. All terms and conditions of MEPDES permit #ME0100846/WDL #W001510-6D-E-R, issued by the Department on March 6, 2012, not modified by this permitting action remain in effect and enforceable.
4. This minor revision and the authorization to discharge become effective upon the date of signature below and expire at midnight on March 6, 2017. If a renewal application is timely submitted and accepted as complete for processing prior to the expiration of this permit, the authorization to discharge and the terms and conditions of this permit and all modifications and minor revisions thereto remain in effect until a final Department decision on the renewal application becomes effective. [*Maine Administrative Procedure Act*, 5 M.R.S.A. § 10002 and *Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters*, 06-096 CMR 2(21)(A) (effective April 1, 2003)]

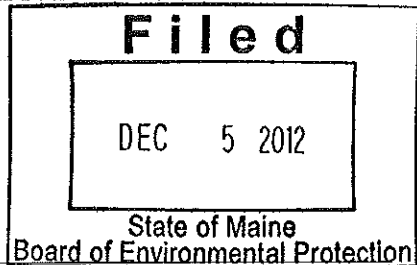
DONE AND DATED AT AUGUSTA, MAINE, THIS 4<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY: Michael Keelus  
for Patricia W. Aho, Commissioner

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

Date of initial receipt of request	<u>November 20, 2012</u>
Date of request acceptance	<u>November 20, 2012</u>



Date filed with Board of Environmental Protection \_\_\_\_\_  
 This Order prepared by GREGG WOOD, BUREAU OF LAND & WATER QUALITY  
 ME0100846 2012 MR

## SPECIAL CONDITIONS

### J. DISPOSAL OF TRANSPORTED WASTES IN WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY

During the effective period of this permit, the permittee is authorized to receive and introduce to the treatment process or solids handling stream a **maximum of 22,700 gallons per day** of transported wastes, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. "Transported wastes" means any liquid non-hazardous waste delivered to a wastewater treatment facility by a truck or other similar conveyance that has different chemical constituents or a greater strength than the influent described on the facility's application for a waste discharge license. Such wastes may include, but are not limited to septage, industrial wastes or other wastes to which chemicals in quantities potentially harmful to the treatment facility or receiving water have been added.
2. The character and handling of all transported wastes received must be consistent with the information and management plans provided in application materials submitted to the Department.
3. At no time shall the addition of transported wastes cause or contribute to effluent quality violations. Transported wastes may not cause an upset of or pass through the treatment process or have any adverse impact on the sludge disposal practices of the wastewater treatment facility. Wastes that contain heavy metals, toxic chemicals, extreme pH, flammable or corrosive materials in concentrations harmful to the treatment operation must be refused. Odors and traffic from the handling of transported wastes may not result in adverse impacts to the surrounding community. If any adverse effects exist, the receipt or introduction of transported wastes into the treatment process or solids handling stream shall be suspended until there is no further risk of adverse effects.
4. The permittee shall maintain records for each load of transported wastes in a daily log which shall include at a minimum the following:
  - (a) The date;
  - (b) The volume of transported wastes received;
  - (c) The source of the transported wastes;
  - (d) The person transporting the transported wastes;
  - (e) The results of inspections or testing conducted;
  - (f) The volumes of transported wastes added to each treatment stream; and
  - (g) The information in (a) through (d) for any transported wastes refused for acceptance.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

**J. DISPOSAL OF TRANSPORTED WASTES IN WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY (cont'd)**

These records shall be maintained at the treatment facility for a minimum of five years.

5. The addition of transported wastes into the treatment process or solids handling stream shall not cause the treatment facilities design capacity to be exceeded. If, for any reason, the treatment process or solids handling facilities become overloaded, introduction of transported wastes into the treatment process or solids handling stream shall be reduced or terminated in order to eliminate the overload condition.
6. Holding tank wastewater from domestic sources to which no chemicals in quantities potentially harmful to the treatment process have been added shall not be recorded as transported wastes but should be reported in the treatment facility's influent flow.
7. During wet weather events, transported wastes may be added to the treatment process or solids handling facilities only in accordance with a current High Flow Management Plan approved by the Department pursuant to Special Condition K that provides for full treatment of transported wastes without adverse impacts.
8. In consultation with the Department, chemical analysis is required prior to receiving transported wastes from new sources that are not of the same nature as wastes previously received. The analysis must be specific to the type of source and designed to identify concentrations of pollutants that may pass through, upset or otherwise interfere with the facility's operation.
9. Access to transported waste receiving facilities may be permitted only during the times specified in the application materials and under the control and supervision of the person responsible for the wastewater treatment facility or his/her designated representative.
10. The authorization in this Special Condition is subject to annual review and, with notice to the permittee and other interested parties of record, may be suspended or reduced by the Department as necessary to ensure full compliance with 06-096 CMR 555 and the terms and conditions of this permit.



# DEP INFORMATION SHEET

## Appealing a Department Licensing Decision

Dated: March 2012

Contact: (207) 287-2811

### SUMMARY

There are two methods available to an aggrieved person seeking to appeal a licensing decision made by the Department of Environmental Protection's ("DEP") Commissioner: (1) in an administrative process before the Board of Environmental Protection ("Board"); or (2) in a judicial process before Maine's Superior Court. An aggrieved person seeking review of a licensing decision over which the Board had original jurisdiction may seek judicial review in Maine's Superior Court.

A judicial appeal of final action by the Commissioner or the Board regarding an application for an expedited wind energy development (35-A M.R.S.A. § 3451(4)) or a general permit for an offshore wind energy demonstration project (38 M.R.S.A. § 480-HH(1)) or a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project (38 M.R.S.A. § 636-A) must be taken to the Supreme Judicial Court sitting as the Law Court.

This INFORMATION SHEET, in conjunction with a review of the statutory and regulatory provisions referred to herein, can help a person to understand his or her rights and obligations in filing an administrative or judicial appeal.

### I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TO THE BOARD

#### LEGAL REFERENCES

The laws concerning the DEP's *Organization and Powers*, 38 M.R.S.A. §§ 341-D(4) & 346, the *Maine Administrative Procedure Act*, 5 M.R.S.A. § 11001, and the DEP's *Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters* ("Chapter 2"), 06-096 CMR 2 (April 1, 2003).

#### HOW LONG YOU HAVE TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

The Board must receive a written appeal within 30 days of the date on which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board. Appeals filed after 30 calendar days of the date on which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board will be rejected.

#### HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

Signed original appeal documents must be sent to: Chair, Board of Environmental Protection, c/o Department of Environmental Protection, 17 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0017; faxes are acceptable for purposes of meeting the deadline when followed by the Board's receipt of mailed original documents within five (5) working days. Receipt on a particular day must be by 5:00 PM at DEP's offices in Augusta; materials received after 5:00 PM are not considered received until the following day. The person appealing a licensing decision must also send the DEP's Commissioner a copy of the appeal documents and if the person appealing is not the applicant in the license proceeding at issue the applicant must also be sent a copy of the appeal documents. All of the information listed in the next section must be submitted at the time the appeal is filed. Only the extraordinary circumstances described at the end of that section will justify evidence not in the DEP's record at the time of decision being added to the record for consideration by the Board as part of an appeal.

#### WHAT YOUR APPEAL PAPERWORK MUST CONTAIN

Appeal materials must contain the following information at the time submitted:

1. *Aggrieved Status.* The appeal must explain how the person filing the appeal has standing to maintain an appeal. This requires an explanation of how the person filing the appeal may suffer a particularized injury as a result of the Commissioner's decision.
2. *The findings, conclusions or conditions objected to or believed to be in error.* Specific references and facts regarding the appellant's issues with the decision must be provided in the notice of appeal.
3. *The basis of the objections or challenge.* If possible, specific regulations, statutes or other facts should be referenced. This may include citing omissions of relevant requirements, and errors believed to have been made in interpretations, conclusions, and relevant requirements.
4. *The remedy sought.* This can range from reversal of the Commissioner's decision on the license or permit to changes in specific permit conditions.
5. *All the matters to be contested.* The Board will limit its consideration to those arguments specifically raised in the written notice of appeal.
6. *Request for hearing.* The Board will hear presentations on appeals at its regularly scheduled meetings, unless a public hearing on the appeal is requested and granted. A request for public hearing on an appeal must be filed as part of the notice of appeal.
7. *New or additional evidence to be offered.* The Board may allow new or additional evidence, referred to as supplemental evidence, to be considered by the Board in an appeal only when the evidence is relevant and material and that the person seeking to add information to the record can show due diligence in bringing the evidence to the DEP's attention at the earliest possible time in the licensing process or that the evidence itself is newly discovered and could not have been presented earlier in the process. Specific requirements for additional evidence are found in Chapter 2.

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN APPEALING A DECISION TO THE BOARD**

1. *Be familiar with all relevant material in the DEP record.* A license application file is public information, subject to any applicable statutory exceptions, made easily accessible by DEP. Upon request, the DEP will make the material available during normal working hours, provide space to review the file, and provide opportunity for photocopying materials. There is a charge for copies or copying services.
2. *Be familiar with the regulations and laws under which the application was processed, and the procedural rules governing your appeal.* DEP staff will provide this information on request and answer questions regarding applicable requirements.
3. *The filing of an appeal does not operate as a stay to any decision.* If a license has been granted and it has been appealed the license normally remains in effect pending the processing of the appeal. A license holder may proceed with a project pending the outcome of an appeal but the license holder runs the risk of the decision being reversed or modified as a result of the appeal.

#### **WHAT TO EXPECT ONCE YOU FILE A TIMELY APPEAL WITH THE BOARD**

The Board will formally acknowledge receipt of an appeal, including the name of the DEP project manager assigned to the specific appeal. The notice of appeal, any materials accepted by the Board Chair as supplementary evidence, and any materials submitted in response to the appeal will be sent to Board members with a recommendation from DEP staff. Persons filing appeals and interested persons are notified in advance of the date set for Board consideration of an appeal or request for public hearing. With or without holding a public hearing, the Board may affirm, amend, or reverse a Commissioner decision or remand the matter to the Commissioner for further proceedings. The Board will notify the appellant, a license holder, and interested persons of its decision.



## **II. JUDICIAL APPEALS**

Maine law generally allows aggrieved persons to appeal final Commissioner or Board licensing decisions to Maine's Superior Court, see 38 M.R.S.A. § 346(1); 06-096 CMR 2; 5 M.R.S.A. § 11001; & M.R. Civ. P 80C. A party's appeal must be filed with the Superior Court within 30 days of receipt of notice of the Board's or the Commissioner's decision. For any other person, an appeal must be filed within 40 days of the date the decision was rendered. Failure to file a timely appeal will result in the Board's or the Commissioner's decision becoming final.

An appeal to court of a license decision regarding an expedited wind energy development, a general permit for an offshore wind energy demonstration project, or a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project may only be taken directly to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. See 38 M.R.S.A. § 346(4).

Maine's Administrative Procedure Act, DEP statutes governing a particular matter, and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure must be consulted for the substantive and procedural details applicable to judicial appeals.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

If you have questions or need additional information on the appeal process, for administrative appeals contact the Board's Executive Analyst at (207) 287-2452 or for judicial appeals contact the court clerk's office in which your appeal will be filed.

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**Note: The DEP provides this INFORMATION SHEET for general guidance only; it is not intended for use as a legal reference. Maine law governs an appellant's rights.**

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