STATE OF MAINE
Department of Environmental Protection

Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

Patricia W. Aho
COMMISSIONER

Mr. Chris Littlefield
Acting Town Manager
P.O. Box 392
162 Pittsfield Road
Hartland, Maine, 04943
hartlandpotw@tds.net

January 28, 2014

RE: Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit #ME0101443
Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) #W000678-5M-P-M
Final Minor Revision

Dear Mr. Littlefield:

Enclosed, please find a copy of your final MEPDES permit and Maine WDL, minor revision which was approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. Please read the permit/license 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,

[Signature]

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

Enc.

cc: James Crowley, DEP/CMRO
Charles Applebee, Water Quality & Compliance Services Inc.
Sandy Mojica, USEPA

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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
17 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017

DEPARTMENT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

TOWN OF HARTLAND ) MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
HARTLAND, SOMERSET COUNTY, MAINE ) ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS ) AND
ME0101443 ) WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE
W000678-5M-P-M ) MINOR REVISION
APPROVAL

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, Title 33 USC §1251, Conditions of licenses, 38 M.R.S.A. § 414-A, and applicable regulations, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department hereinafter) is initiating a minor revision of combination Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) permit minor revision #ME0101443/Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) #W000678-5M-O-M (permit hereinafter), last issued to the TOWN OF HARTLAND (Hartland/permittee hereinafter) on October 4, 2013, with its supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

APPLICATION SUMMARY

The Department is initiating the minor revision of said permit to grant a 120-day extension of two compliance schedule dates established in Special Condition M, Industrial Pretreatment Program, due to significant changes in personnel in the Town of Hartland subsequent to issuance of the permit. Two reports in Special Condition M were scheduled to be submitted to the Department on or before January 15, 2014. The Department and the interim contract operator for the waste water treatment facility have agreed upon a date of on or before May 15, 2014, to submit the reports. Therefore, Special Condition M of the October 4, 2013, minor revision is being revised accordingly.

CONCLUSIONS

BASED on the findings above 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, Classification of Maine waters, 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;
CONCLUSIONS (cont'd)

(b) Where high quality waters of the State constitute an outstanding national resource, that water quality will be maintained and protected;

(c) Where 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 the 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 water quality will be maintained and protected; and

(e) Where a discharge will result in lowering the existing water quality of any water body, the Department has made the finding, following opportunity for public participation, that this action is necessary to achieve important economic or social benefits to the State.

4. The discharge will be subject to effluent limitations that require application of best practicable treatment as defined in 38 M.R.S.A. § 414-A(1)(D).

ACTION

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the modification of MEPDES permit #ME0101443/WDL #W000678-5M-O-M, issued by the Department on October 4, 2013, to revise two compliance schedule dates in Special Condition M, Industrial Pretreatment Program, of said permit. The discharges shall be 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 MEPDES permit #ME0101443/WDL #W000678-5M-L-R, issued by the Department on April 5, 2013.

2. The attached Special Conditions, including any effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.

3. All terms and conditions of MEPDES permit, #ME0101443/WDL #W000678-5M-L-R, issued by the Department on April 5, 2013, not modified by this permitting action remain in effect and enforceable.

4. This permit modification becomes effective upon signature and expires on April 5, 2018, concurrent with #ME0101443/WDL #W000678-5M-L-R, issued by the Department on April 5, 2013. If a renewal application is timely submitted and accepted as complete for processing prior to the expiration of this permit, the terms and conditions of this permit and all subsequent 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)].
PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

DONE AND DATED AT AUGUSTA, MAINE, THIS 29th DAY OF January, 2014.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY:  

For PATRICIA W. AHO, Commissioner

Date of initial receipt: January 16, 2014

Date of acceptance: January 16, 2014

Date filed with Board of Environmental Protection:

This Order prepared by Gregg Wood, BUREAU OF LAND & WATER QUALITY

ME0101443 MR 2014  1/27/14
SPECIAL CONDITIONS

M. INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM

1. Pollutants introduced into POTWs by a non-domestic source (user) must not pass-through the publicly owned treatment works (POTW) or interfere with the operation or performance of the works.

   a. The permittee shall develop and enforce specific effluent limits (local limits) for Industrial User(s), and all other users, as appropriate, which together with appropriate changes in the POTW facilities or operation, are necessary to ensure continued compliance with the MEPDES permit or sludge use or disposal practices. Specific local limits shall not be developed and enforced without individual notice to persons or groups who have requested such notice and an opportunity to respond.

On or before May 15, 2014, [ICIS code 53199] the permittee shall prepare and submit a written technical evaluation to the Department analyzing the need to revise local limits. As part of this evaluation, the permittee shall assess how the POTW performs with respect to influent and effluent of pollutants, water quality concerns, sludge quality, sludge processing concerns/inhibition, biomonitoring results, activated sludge inhibition, worker health and safety and collection system concerns. In preparing this evaluation, the permittee shall complete the “Re-Assessment of Technically Based Local Limits” form included as Attachment E of this permit with the technical evaluation to assist in determining whether existing local limits need to be revised. Justifications and conclusions should be based on actual plant data if available and should be included in the report. Should the evaluation reveal the need to revise local limits, the permittee shall complete the revisions within 120 days of notification by the Department and submit the revisions to the Department for approval. The permittee shall carry out the local limits revisions in accordance with USEPA’s document entitled, Local Limits Development Guidance (July 2004).

2. The permittee shall implement the Industrial Pretreatment Program in accordance with the legal authorities, policies, procedures, and financial provisions described in the permittee's approved Pretreatment Program, and the General Pretreatment Regulations, found at 40 CFR 403 and Pretreatment Program, 06-096 CMR 528 (last amended March 17, 2008). At a minimum, the permittee must perform the following duties to properly implement the Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP):

   a. Carry out inspection, surveillance, and monitoring procedures which will determine, independent of information supplied by the industrial user, whether the industrial user is in compliance with the Pretreatment Standards. At a minimum, all significant industrial users shall be sampled and inspected at the frequency established in the approved IPP but in no case less than once per year and maintain adequate records.

   b. Issue or renew all necessary industrial user control mechanisms within 90 days of their expiration date or within 180 days after the industry has been determined to be a significant industrial user.
SPECIAL CONDITIONS

M. INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM (cont’d)

e. Obtain appropriate remedies for noncompliance by an industrial user with any pretreatment standard and/or requirement.

d. Maintain an adequate revenue structure for continued implementation of the Pretreatment Program.

e. The permittee shall provide the Department with an annual report describing the permittee's pretreatment program activities for the twelve-month period ending 60 days prior to the due date in accordance with federal regulation found at 40 CFR 403.12(i) and 06-096 CMR 528(12)(i). The annual report shall be consistent with the format described in the “MEPDES Permit Requirements For Industrial Pretreatment Annual Report” form included as Attachment F of this permit and shall be submitted no later than March 1 of each calendar year.

f. The permittee shall obtain approval from the Department prior to making any significant changes to the industrial pretreatment program in accordance with federal regulation found at 40 CFR 403.18(c) and 06-096 CMR 528(18).

g. The permittee shall assure that applicable National Categorical Pretreatment Standards are met by all categorical industrial users of the POTW. These standards are published in the federal regulations found at 40 CFR 405.

h. The permittee shall modify its pretreatment program to conform to all changes in the federal regulations and State rules that pertain to the implementation and enforcement of the industrial pretreatment program. On or before May 15, 2014 [ICIS code 53199] the permittee shall provide the Department in writing, proposed changes to the permittee's pretreatment program deemed necessary to assure conformity with current federal regulations and State rules. At a minimum, the permittee shall address in its written submission the following areas: (1) Enforcement response plan; (2) revised sewer use ordinances; and (3) slug control evaluations. The permittee will implement these proposed changes pending the Department’s approval under federal regulation 40 CFR 403.18 and 06-096 CMR 528(18). This submission is separate and distinct from any local limits analysis submission described in section 1(a) above.
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-I(H)(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

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:

OCF/90-1/r95/r98/r99/r00/r04/r12
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.

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.