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AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION
103 SOUTH MAIN STREET
WATERBURY, VERMONT 05671-0405

FACT SHEET
(January 2003)

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT TO
DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

NPDES NO: VT0100013 ✓
FILE NO: 13-14
PERMIT NO: 3-1297
PROJECT ID NO: NS96-0031

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Village of Bellows Falls
PO Box 370
Bellows Falls, VT 05101

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

80 Mill Street
Bellows Falls, Vermont

RECEIVING WATER: Connecticut River

CLASSIFICATION: Class B with a waste management zone. Class B waters are suitable for bathing and recreation, irrigation and agricultural uses; good fish habitat; good aesthetic value; acceptable for public water supply with filtration and disinfection. A waste management zone is a specific reach of Class B waters designated by a permit to accept the discharge of properly treated wastes that prior to treatment contained organisms pathogenic to human beings.

I. Proposed Action, Type of Facility, and Discharge Location

The above named applicant applied on December 12, 2002 to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation for renewal of the permit to discharge into the designated receiving water. At this time the Department has made a tentative decision to issue a renewal of the previously issued discharge permit. The facility is engaged in the treatment of municipal wastewater. The discharge is from the outfall of the Village of Bellows Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility to the Connecticut River.

II. Description of Discharge

A quantitative description of the discharge in terms of significant effluent parameters is based on state and federal laws and regulations, the discharge permit application, and the recent self-monitoring data.

III. Limitations and Conditions

The effluent limitations of the permit, the monitoring requirements, and any implementation schedule (if required), may be found on the following pages of the permit:

Effluent Limitations: Page 2 of 16
Monitoring Requirements: Page 4 of 16

IV. Permit Basis and Explanation of Effluent Limitation Derivation

The Village of Bellows Falls operates the Bellows Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility which is a RBC treatment system. The facility currently receives and treats wastewater from the Village as well as the Town of Rockingham, the Town of Westminster, and the Town of Walpole, NH. The facility discharges secondary treated, chlorinated wastewater to the Connecticut River. Sludge is composted in Claremont, NH.

Flow - The effluent flow limitation remains at 1.4 MGD, annual average, representing the facility's design flow. The facility maintains a continuous discharge.

Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅) - The effluent limitations for biochemical oxygen demand remain unchanged from the previous permit. The monthly average (30 mg/l) and weekly average (45 mg/l) reflect the minimum level of effluent quality specified for secondary treatment in 40 CFR Part 133.102. The daily maximum limit (50 mg/l) is the Department standard applied to all such discharges pursuant to 13.4 c. of the Vermont Water Pollution Control Permit Regulations. Mass limits (350 lbs/monthly average and 525 lbs/weekly average) are derived by multiplying the concentration limits by the permitted flow. The BOD weekly monitoring requirement is unchanged from the previous permit.

Total Suspended Solids (TSS) - The effluent limitations for total suspended solids remain unchanged from the previous permit. The monthly average (30 mg/l) and weekly average (45 mg/l) reflect the minimum level of effluent quality specified for secondary treatment in 40 CFR Part 133.102. The daily maximum limit (50 mg/l) is the Department standard applied to all such discharges pursuant to 13.4 c. of the Vermont Water Pollution Control Permit Regulations. Mass limits (350 lbs/monthly average and 525 lbs/weekly average) are derived by multiplying the concentration limits by the permitted flow. The TSS weekly monitoring requirement is unchanged from the previous permit.

pH - The pH limitation remains at 6.5 - 8.5 Standard Units as specified in Section 3-01 B.9. in the Vermont Water Quality Standards, effective July 2, 2002. Monitoring remains at daily.

Settleable Solids - The limitation of 1.0 ml/l instantaneous maximum and daily monitoring remain unchanged from the previous permit. This numeric limit was established in support of the narrative standard in Section 3-01 B.5. of the Vermont Water Quality Standards, effective July 2, 2002.

***E. coli* Bacteria** - The *E. coli* limitation is 77/100 ml as specified in Section 3-04 B.3., Vermont Water Quality Standards, effective July 2, 2000. Weekly monitoring from April through October remains the same as in the previous permit. Monitoring is proposed to be monthly during the months November through March.

Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) - The TRC limit of 1.0 mg/l, weekly average, and 2.0 mg/l, instantaneous maximum, is based on meeting the water quality chlorine criteria (acute) of 0.019 mg/l in the Vermont Water Quality Standards, effective July 2, 2000 for the protection of aquatic biota. Daily monitoring is unchanged from the previous permit.

Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) and Priority Pollutant Testing - 40 CFR Part 122.44(d)(1) requires the Department to assess whether the discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any narrative or numeric water quality criteria. Given the nature of the discharge, the dilution factor of the receiving water, and the ranking of this discharge under the Vermont Toxic Discharge Control Strategy, the Department does not believe that this discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion of numeric or narrative water quality criteria therefore toxicity testing is not required.

Waste Management Zone - As defined under 10 V.S.A. §1251(16), a waste management zone is "a specific reach of Class B waters designated by a permit to accept the discharge of properly treated wastes that prior to treatment contained organisms pathogenic to human beings. Throughout the receiving waters, water quality criteria must be achieved but increased health risks exist due to the authorized discharge".

The proposed permit retains the existing waste management zone (WMZ) that extends downstream from the outfall for one mile in the Connecticut River.

Electric Power Failure - Within 30 days of the effective date of the permit, the permittee must submit to the Department, updated documentation addressing how the discharge will be handled in the event of an electric power outage. The effluent must receive a minimum of primary treatment plus chlorination.

V. Procedures for Formulation of Final Determinations

The public comment period for receiving comments on this draft permit is from January 6 to February 5, 2003 during which time interested persons may submit their written views on the draft permit. All written comments received by 4:30 pm on February 5, 2003 will be retained

by the Department and considered in the formulation of the final determination to issue, deny or modify the draft permit. The period of comment may be extended at the discretion of the Department.

Written comments should be sent to:

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Environmental Conservation
Wastewater Management Division - Sewing Building
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05671-0405

Comments may also be faxed to: 802-241-2596.

Any interested person or groups of persons may request or petition for a public hearing with respect to this draft permit. Any such request or petition for a public hearing shall be filed within the public comment period described above and shall indicate the interest of the party filing such request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

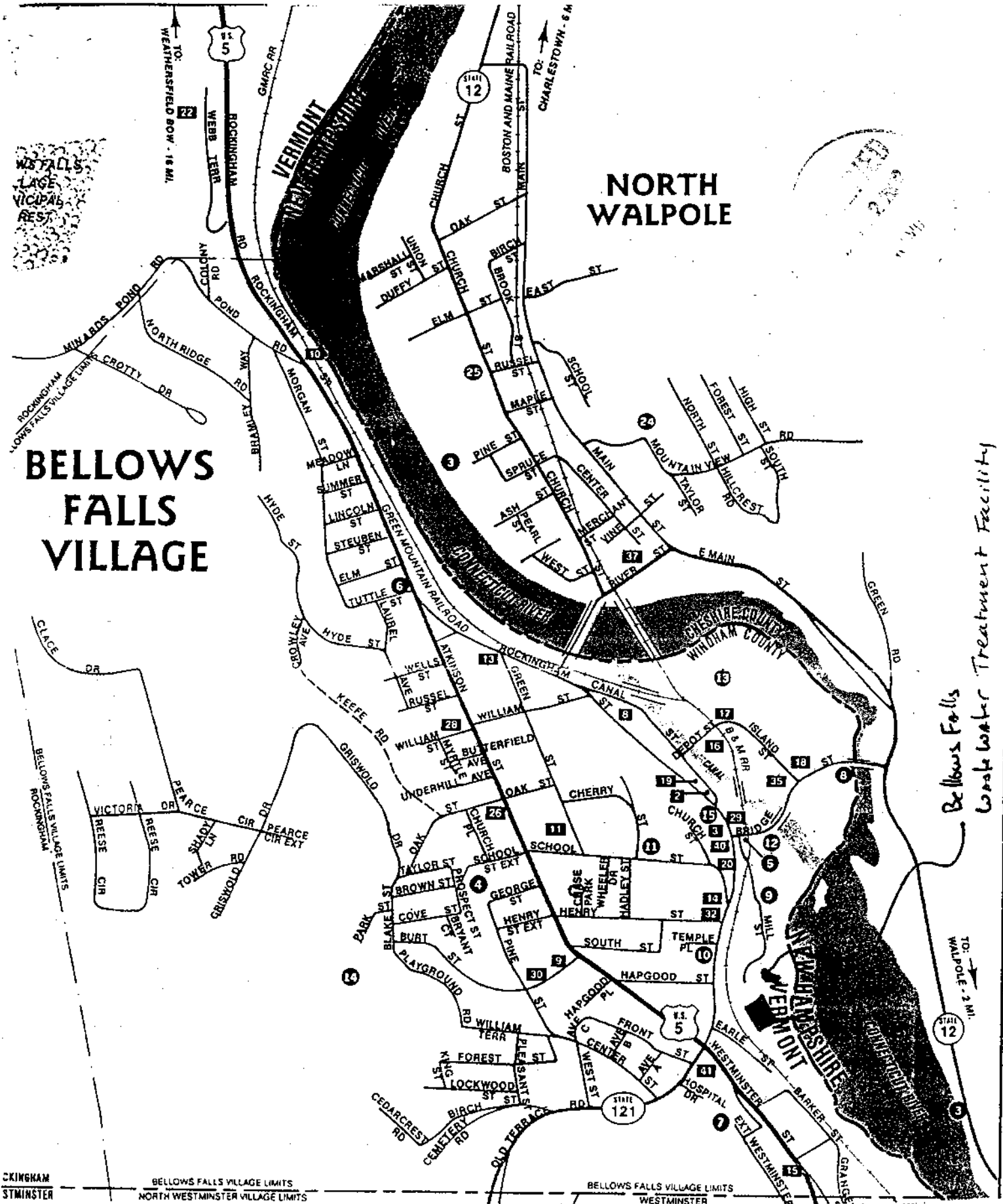
The Department will hold a hearing if there is significant public interest in holding such a hearing. Any public hearing brought in response to such a request or petition will be held in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or other appropriate area, at the discretion of the Department and may, as appropriate, consider related groups of draft permits. Any person may submit oral or written statements and data concerning the draft permit at the public hearing. The Department may establish reasonable limits on the time allowed for oral statements and may require the submission of statements in writing. All statements, comments, and data presented at the public hearing will be retained by the Department and considered in the formulation of the final determination to issue, deny, or modify the draft permit.

The complete application, draft permit, and other information are on file and may be inspected at the VTDEC, Wastewater Management Division, Waterbury Office. Copies will be made at a cost based on the current Secretary of State Official Fee Schedule for Copying Public Records from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

No comments were received during the public notice period. (2/6/03)

NORTH WALPOLE

BELLOWS FALLS VILLAGE



*Bellows Falls
Waste Water Treatment Facility*

CKINGHAM STMINSTER BELLOWS FALLS VILLAGE LIMITS NORTH WESTMINSTER VILLAGE LIMITS WESTMINSTER