

January 2001

Harry T Stewart, P.E., Director
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
Water Division
6 Hazen Drive, Box 95
Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095

SUBJECT: Notification of Approval of Lamprey River TMDL

Dear Mr. Stewart:

Thank you for your submittal of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Lamprey River, NH. The final TMDL includes the following documents:

- (1) Letter to Fred Gay (EPA) from Gregg Comstock (NHDES) dated July 2, 1998, which constitutes a resubmission of the TMDL. This letter provides revised wasteload allocations (WLAs) for the Epping POTW, based on a rerun of the dissolved oxygen model during dry-weather (critical) conditions. This rerun was performed as requested by EPA to include the most recent NH water-quality standards for DO, a POTW design flow of 0.5 million gallons per day (MGD), and limits for year-round discharge.
- (2) Letter to Mark Voorhees (EPA) from James Herrick (NHDES) dated March 7, 1996, which includes EPA comments on the 1995 TMDL report and NHDES responses to these comments.
- (3) Lamprey River TMDL Study Report dated October 1995.
- (4) Lamprey River Wasteload Allocation Study by Dufresne-Henry, Inc., dated April 1995.

The Lamprey River in the vicinity of the Epping Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) was included on New Hampshire's 1998 303(d) list because of water-quality impairment due to insufficient dissolved oxygen (DO). This section of the river at and downstream of the POTW has a Wild and Scenic River designation.

This TMDL was developed for carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅), ammonia nitrogen (NH₃-N) for both summer and winter seasons, and phosphorus. Approval of this TMDL fulfills New Hampshire's obligation for TMDL development for the Lamprey River (File # 48 on Tier 2 of New Hampshire's 1998 303(d) list).

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that the Lamprey River TMDL meets the requirements 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), and of EPA's implementing regulations (40 CFR Part 130). The submittal from New Hampshire includes all of the required elements of a TMDL, including: loading capacity, wasteload allocations, load allocations, seasonal variation, margin of safety, and public-participation process. The submittal also includes other pertinent information necessary for EPA to conduct its review, including: submittal letter, description of pollutant sources, applicable state water-quality standards, analytical method used and documentation of analysis, and future monitoring plans.

The public notice for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Epping POTW also served as the public notice for the TMDL. NHDES (and EPA New England) solicited public comments from October 18, 1999 through December 1, 1999 for this permit and draft TMDL, with a public hearing on the evening of December 1, 1999. As a result of this hearing, the public-comment period was extended through December 8, 1999. No comments were received during this period on the TMDL document, but some were received on the NPDES permit. In addition to this opportunity for public comments, NHDES provided adequate opportunity for public involvement during the development of the Lamprey River TMDL. For example, the Lamprey River Watershed Association provided extensive input prior to the TMDL going to public notice.

My staff and I look forward to continued support from the State of New Hampshire in the implementation of this TMDL through the NPDES permit for Epping's POTW.

Sincerely,

Linda M. Murphy, Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection

cc: Paul Currier, NH DES
Gregg Comstock, NH DES
Ronald Manfredonia, EPA
Roger Janson, EPA
Carl Deloi, EPA
Alison Simcox, EPA
Fred Gay, EPA