NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) GENERAL PERMIT FOR MEDIUM WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES (WWTFs) IN MASSACHUSETTS

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 et seq.; the "CWA"), owners and operators of eligible WWTFs located in Massachusetts are authorized to discharge to all waters, unless otherwise restricted, in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth herein.

Certain municipalities are also identified as Co-permittees related to operation and maintenance of the sewer system in compliance with the Standard Conditions of Part VII and the terms and conditions of Part II.C, Unauthorized Discharges; Part III.A, Operation and Maintenance of the Sewer System (which include conditions regarding the operation and maintenance of the collection systems owned and operated by the municipality); and Part III.B, Alternate Power Source. Each Co-permittee is listed in Attachment E of this General Permit.

The Permittee and Co-permittee are severally liable for their own activities under Parts II.C, III.A and III.B and required reporting under Part V with respect to the portions of the collection system that they own or operate. They are not liable for violations of Parts II.C, III.A and III.B committed by others relative to the portions of the collection system owned and operated by others. Nor are they responsible for any reporting under Part V that is required of other Permittees under Parts II.C, III.A and III.B.

This General Permit shall become effective on the first day of the calendar month immediately following 30 days after signature.

This General Permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, five (5) years from the last day of the month preceding the effective date.

Signed this day of

KENNETH MORAFF Digitally signed by KENNETH MORAFF Date: 2022.09.28 09:15:00 -04'00'

Ken Moraff, Director
Water Division
Environmental Protection Agency
Region 1
Boston, MA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The following documents are separate attachments to the Medium WWTF General Permit:

Part VII – Standard Conditions
Attachment A – Freshwater Acute Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol, February 2011
Attachment B – Freshwater Chronic Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol, March 2013
Attachment C – Marine Acute Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol, July 2012
Attachment D – Marine Chronic Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol, November 2013
Attachment E – List of Eligible Facilities
Attachment F – Reassessment of Technically Based Industrial Discharge Limits
Attachment G – NPDES Permit Requirement for Industrial Pretreatment Annual Report
Attachment H – PFAS Analyte List
Attachment I – Facility-Specific Permit Terms
Attachment J – Pretreatment Program Development Requirements

I. Applicability and Coverage of the WWTF GP

A. Eligible Discharges

Coverage under the Medium Wastewater Treatment Facility General Permit is available to all privately and publicly owned treatment works treating domestic sewage in Massachusetts, unless excluded in Part I.C below. Wastewater treatment facilities (WWTFs) includes publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) and other treatment works that treat domestic sewage (collectively referred to as "wastewater treatment facilities", "facilities" or "WWTFs"). All eligible discharges in Massachusetts are listed in Attachment E of this General Permit.

B. Geographic Coverage Area

Facilities authorized by the Medium WWTF General Permit (NPDES Permit No. MAG590000) for discharges in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, may discharge to all waters of the Commonwealth and Indian Country lands, except as provided in Part I.C. of this General Permit, unless otherwise restricted by the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards, 314 Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR) 4.00 (or as revised).

C. Limitations on Coverage

The following dischargers are ineligible for coverage under this general permit:

1. Any facility that is not defined as a POTW or a treatment works treating domestic sewage, as defined at 40 CFR § 403.3 and 40 CFR § 122.2, respectively;

2. Any facility with design flow less than 1 MGD or greater than 5 MGD.

3. Any facility that does not provide, at a minimum, secondary treatment to the discharge;

4. Any facility with one or more designated Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) outfalls.

5. Discharges to Special Resource Waters in Massachusetts as defined in the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards at 314 CMR 4.06(3) and (4), including Public Water Supplies (314 CMR 4.06(1)(d)(1), which have been designated by the State as Class A waters, unless a variance is granted by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), under 314 CMR 4.04(3)(b);

6. Discharges inconsistent with the Massachusetts Ocean Sanctuaries Act, in accordance with 301 CMR 27.00;

7. Discharges to Outstanding Resource Waters in Massachusetts as described in the Massachusetts surface water quality standards at 314 CMR 4.04(3);

8. Any new or increased discharge which is inconsistent with the Massachusetts antidegradation policy;

9. Discharges which are inconsistent with the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Program;

10. Discharges which may adversely affect properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Registry of Historic Places under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 16 U.S.C. Sections 470 et seq., as amended;

11. Discharges which may adversely affect threatened or endangered species, or critical habitats of such species, under the Endangered Species Act (ESA); or may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) under the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act; and

12. Any “New Source” as defined in 40 CFR § 122.

II. General Permit Requirements

A. Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements

During the period beginning on the effective date and lasting through the expiration date, the Permittee is authorized to discharge treated effluent from a wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) treating domestic sewage. The discharge shall be limited and monitored as specified below at the end of all treatment processes, including disinfection or dechlorination, or at an alternative representative location approved by EPA and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), that provides a representative sample of the effluent. The receiving water and the influent shall be monitored as specified below.

Table 1. Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements

Effluent Characteristic	**Discharge Limitation[13]**			**Monitoring Requirement[1,2]**	
Parameter	**Average Monthly**	**Average Weekly**	**Maximum Daily**	**Measurement Frequency**	**Sample Type[3]**
Effluent Flow[4]	Rolling Annual Average Limit MGD	---	---	Continuous	Recorder
Effluent Flow[4]	Report MGD	---	Report MGD	Continuous	Recorder
BOD_5	30 mg/L Limit[5] lb/day	45 mg/L Limit[5] lb/day	Report mg/L	1/Week	Composite
$CBOD_5$[6]	25 mg/L Limit[5] lb/day	40 mg/L Limit[5] lb/day	Report mg/L	1/Week	Composite
BOD_5 (or $CBOD_5$[6]) Removal	≥ 85 %	---	---	1/Month	Calculation
TSS	30 mg/L Limit[5] lb/day	45 mg/L Limit[5] lb/day	Report mg/L	1/Week	Composite
TSS Removal	≥ 85 %	---	---	1/Month	Calculation
pH Range[7]	Limit Range S.U.			5/Week	Grab
Escherichia coli[8] Class B waters	126 colonies/ 100 mL	---	409 colonies/100 mL	1/Week	Grab
Enterococci[8] Class SA or SB	35 colonies/ 100 mL	---	130 colonies/100 mL	1/Week	Grab
Fecal Coliform Bacteria[8] Class SA, Shellfishing Waters	14 organisms/ 100 mL	---	28 organisms/100 mL	3/Week	Grab

Effluent Characteristic	**Discharge Limitation[13]**			**Monitoring Requirement[1,2]**	
Parameter	**Average Monthly**	**Average Weekly**	**Maximum Daily**	**Measurement Frequency**	**Sample Type[3]**
Fecal Coliform Bacteria[8] Class SB, Shellfishing Waters	88 organisms/ 100 mL	---	260 organisms/100 mL	3/Week	Grab
Total Residual Chlorine[9]	Limit mg/L	---	Limit mg/L	5/Week	Grab
Total Recoverable Metals[10]	Limit mg/L	---	Limit mg/L	2/Month	Composite
Total Phosphorus[10] *Class B waters only* (April 1 – October 31) (November 1 – March 31)	 Limit mg/L Limit mg/L	 --- ---	 --- ---	 1/Week 2/Month	 Composite Composite
Ammonia Nitrogen[10] *(specify season)*	Limit mg/L	---	Limit mg/L	2/Month	Composite
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen[11] (April 1 – October 31) (November 1 – March 31)	 Report mg/L Report mg/L	 ---	 Report mg/L Report mg/L	 1/Week 1/Month	 Composite Composite
Nitrate + Nitrite[11] (April 1 – October 31) (November 1 – March 31)	 Report mg/L Report mg/L	 ---	 Report mg/L Report mg/L	 1/Week 1/Month	 Composite Composite
Total Nitrogen[11]	Report mg/L Report lb/day	---	Report mg/L	1/Month	Calculation
Rolling Average Total Nitrogen[11]	Limit lb/day	---	---	1/Month	Calculation
PFAS Analytes[12]	---	---	Report ng/L	1/Quarter	Composite
Other[10,13]	Limit	---	Limit	Varies	Composite
Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing[14,15]					
Dilution Factor (DF) ≥ 1 and < 20	---	---	C-NOEC ≥100%/DF and LC_{50} ≥ 100%	4/Year	Composite
Dilution Factor ≥ 20 and < 100	---	---	LC_{50} ≥ 100%	4/Year	Composite
Dilution Factor ≥ 100	---	---	LC_{50} ≥ 50%	2/Year	Composite
Hardness (as $CaCo_3$)	---	---	Report mg/L	Same as WET Measurement Frequency and Sample Type	
Ammonia Nitrogen	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Aluminum Class B waters only	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Cadmium	---	---	Report mg/L		

Effluent Characteristic	**Discharge Limitation[13]**			**Monitoring Requirement[1,2]**	
Parameter	**Average Monthly**	**Average Weekly**	**Maximum Daily**	**Measurement Frequency**	**Sample Type[3]**
Total Copper	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Lead	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Nickel	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Zinc	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Organic Carbon	---	---	Report mg/L		

Ambient Characteristic[16]	**Reporting Requirements**		**Monitoring Requirements[1,2,3]**		
	Average Monthly	**Average Weekly**	**Maximum Daily**	**Measurement Frequency**	**Sample Type[4]**
Hardness - Class B waters only	---	---	Report mg/L	Same as WET Monitoring Frequency	Grab
Salinity Class SA or SB waters only	---	---	Report ppt		Grab
Ammonia Nitrogen	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Aluminum Class B waters only	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Cadmium	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Copper	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Nickel	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Lead	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Zinc	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Organic Carbon	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Dissolved Organic Carbon[17] Class B waters only	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
pH[18]	---	---	Report S.U.		Grab
Temperature[18]	---	---	Report °C		Grab
Total Phosphorus[19] Class B waters only	---	---	Report mg/L	See Footnote 19	Grab

Influent Characteristic	Reporting Requirements			Monitoring Requirements[1,2,3]	
	Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type[4]
BOD_5 (or $CBOD_5$ [6])	Report mg/L	---	---	2/Month	Composite
TSS	Report mg/L	---	---	2/Month	Composite
PFAS Analytes[12]	---	---	Report ng/L	1/Quarter	Composite

Sludge Characteristic	Reporting Requirements			Monitoring Requirements[1,2,3]	
	Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type[4]
PFAS Analytes[20]	---	---	Report ng/g	1/Quarter	Composite[21]

Footnotes to Part II.A. Table 1:

1. All samples shall be collected in a manner to yield representative data. A routine sampling program shall be developed in which samples are taken at the same location, same time and same days of the week each month. Occasional deviations from the routine sampling program are allowed, but the reason for the deviation shall be documented as an electronic attachment to the applicable discharge monitoring report. The Permittee shall report the results to the Environmental Protection Agency Region 1 (EPA) and MassDEP of any additional testing above that required herein, if testing is in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136.

2. In accordance with 40 CFR § 122.44(i)(1)(iv), the Permittee shall monitor according to sufficiently sensitive test procedures (i.e., methods) approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N or O, for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters (except WET). A method is "sufficiently sensitive" when: 1) The method minimum level (ML) is at or below the level of the effluent limitation established in the permit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or 2) The method has the lowest ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N or O for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter. The term "minimum level" refers to either the sample concentration equivalent to the lowest calibration point in a method or a multiple of the method detection limit (MDL), whichever is higher. Minimum levels may be obtained in several ways: they may be published in a method; they may be based on the lowest acceptable calibration point used by a laboratory; or they may be calculated by multiplying the MDL in a method, or the MDL determined by a laboratory, by a factor.

   When a parameter is not detected above the ML, the Permittee must report the data qualifier signifying less than the ML for that parameter (e.g., < 50 µg/L, if the ML for a parameter is 50 µg/L). For reporting an average based on a mix of values detected and not detected, assign a value of "0" to all non-detects for that reporting period and report the average of all the results.

3. A "grab" sample is an individual sample collected in a period of less than 15 minutes.

   A "composite" sample is a composite of at least twenty-four (24) grab samples taken during one consecutive 24-hour period, either collected at equal intervals and combined proportional to flow or continuously collected proportional to flow.

4. The limit is a rolling annual average, reported in million gallons per day (MGD), which will be calculated as the arithmetic mean of the monthly average flow for the reporting month and the monthly average flows of the previous eleven months. Also report monthly average and maximum daily flow in MGD.

   Uxbridge Sewer Commission shall notify EPA the date it expects to exceed or does exceed its annual rolling average effluent flow limit of 1.25 MGD and the limits referenced in Part 4.1 of the Fact Sheet (from Part I.A.1.b of their 2013 individual permit) will become

effective after that time under this General Permit on the date indicated in written notice from EPA.

The Adams, Belchertown, and Rockland effluent flow limits are based on monthly average, reported in million gallons per day (MGD).

5. The average monthly and average weekly BOD_5 (or $CBOD_5$) and TSS mass limitations are specific to each discharge, and are calculated using the following equation:

   Mass limitation (lb/day) = concentration limit (mg/L) * facility's design flow (MGD) * 8.34

6. The $CBOD_5$ limitations apply in lieu of BOD_5 limitations if already included in a facility's existing permit.

7. The pH shall be within the specified range at all times. The minimum and maximum pH sample measurement values for the month shall be reported in standard units (S.U.). Discharges to Class B waters shall be within 6.5 to 8.3 S.U. at all times. Discharges to Class SA or SB waters shall be within 6.5 to 8.5 S.U. at all times. Continuous monitoring also fulfills the 5/week monitoring frequency.

   The pH shall be within 6.0 to 8.3 S.U. at all times for Concord, Plymouth, Orange, Marshfield, Uxbridge, and Easthampton (Outfalls 001 and 002). If any of these Permittees wish to continue this lower pH range for future permit cycles, they must conduct a pH study and submit the results of said study to MassDEP at massdep.npdes@mass.gov within three years of the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the General Permit. For guidance on the study, the Permittee shall contact MassDEP at massdep.npdes@mass.gov.

8. The monthly average limits for bacteria (including *E. coli*, fecal coliform, and enterococci) are expressed as a geometric mean. *E. coli* requirements apply only to discharges to freshwater (Class B). Enterococci requirements apply only to discharges to marine waters (Class SA or SB). Fecal Coliform requirements apply only to discharges to marine waters used for shellfishing (Class SA or SB).

   All *E. coli* limits and monitoring requirements shall apply from April 1 through October 31 unless a different season is specified in their current individual permit. All fecal coliform and enterococci limits and monitoring requirements shall apply year-round unless a season is specified in their current individual permit for that parameter.

   Bacteria monitoring shall be conducted concurrently with TRC monitoring, if TRC monitoring is required.

   For samples tested using the Most Probable Number (MPN) method, the units may be expressed as MPN. The units may be expressed as colony forming units (cfu) when using the Membrane Filtration method.

9. For total residual chlorine (TRC) limitations and other related requirements, see Part II.B.9 of this permit.

10. Any new or more stringent limitations that are established in this permit for ammonia nitrogen (seasonal in warm and/or cold weather), total phosphorus (seasonal during the growing season only; freshwater only), and/or total metals (year-round) are summarized in Attachment E for each Permittee.

    See Part III.F below for compliance schedules applicable to some of these limits.

11. Total Kjeldahl nitrogen and nitrate + nitrite samples shall be collected concurrently. The results of these analyses shall be used to calculate both the concentration and mass loadings of total nitrogen, as follows.

    Total Nitrogen (mg/L) = Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (mg/L) + Nitrate + Nitrite (mg/L)

    Total Nitrogen (lbs/day) = [(average monthly Total Nitrogen (mg/L) * total monthly effluent flow (Millions of Gallons (MG)) / # of days in the month] * 8.34

    For facilities discharging to the Long Island Sound watershed, Blackstone River watershed, Taunton River watershed, as well as the Plymouth WWTP and Fairhaven WPCF, see additional limitations and/or requirements in Part III.G of this permit. Facilities discharging to these receiving waters are identified in Attachment E of this permit.

    If applicable, the rolling annual total nitrogen limit is an annual average mass-based limit (lb/day), which shall be reported as a rolling 12-month average. The value will be calculated as the arithmetic mean of the monthly average total nitrogen for the reporting month and the monthly average total nitrogen for the previous 11 months. Report both the rolling annual average and the monthly average each month.

    See Part III.F below for compliance schedules applicable to some of these limits.

12. Report in nanograms per liter (ng/L). This reporting requirement for the listed PFAS parameters takes effect the first full calendar quarter after the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the General Permit. Until there is an analytical method approved in 40 CFR Part 136 for PFAS in wastewater, monitoring shall be conducted using Draft Method 1633.

    Additionally, report in NetDMR the results of all other PFAS analytes required to be tested as part of the method as shown in Attachment H. Any parameters that are removed from the method based on multi-lab validation of the method will not be required for reporting and the Permittee may report “NODI: 9” for any such parameters.

13. Any existing limits in a facility’s current NPDES permit that are more stringent than the limitations presented in this table will be included in that facility’s authorization to discharge under the General Permit.

14. The Permittee shall conduct acute toxicity tests (LC50) and, for discharges with a dilution factor below 20, chronic toxicity tests (C-NOEC) in accordance with test procedures and protocols specified in **Attachments A and B** (for freshwater discharges) or **Attachments C**

and D (for marine discharges) of this permit. LC50 and C-NOEC are defined in Part VII.E. of this permit. The Permittee shall test the daphnid (*Ceriodaphnia dubia*) and the fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*) if discharging to freshwater (Class B) or the mysid shrimp (*Mysidopsia bahia*) and the inland silverside (*Menidia beryllina*) if discharging to marine waters (Class SA or SB). However, for Permittees that are currently authorized for a reduction in WET requirements (*e.g.*, frequency or test species) those reductions will be carried forward in the authorization to discharge under this General Permit. Additionally, previously approved species reductions and/or substitutions are also carried forward. For facilities required to test four times per year, toxicity test samples shall be collected during the same weeks each time of calendar quarters ending March 31st, June 30th, September 30th, and December 31st. For the facilities required to test twice per year toxicity test samples shall be collected during the same weeks each time of calendar quarters ending June 30th and September 30th. The complete report for each toxicity test shall be submitted as an attachment to the DMR submittal which includes the results for that toxicity test.

15. For Part I.A.1., Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing, the Permittee shall conduct the analyses specified in **Attachments A and B** (for freshwater discharges) or **Attachments C and D** (for marine discharges), Part VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS for the effluent sample. If toxicity test(s) using the receiving water as diluent show the receiving water to be toxic or unreliable, the Permittee shall follow procedures outlined in **Attachments A and B** (for freshwater discharges) or **Attachments C and D** (for marine discharges), Section IV., DILUTION WATER. Minimum levels and test methods are specified in **Attachment A and B** (for freshwater discharges) or **Attachments C and D** (for marine discharges), Part VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

16. For Part I.A.1., Ambient Characteristic, the Permittee shall conduct the analyses specified in **Attachments A and B** (for freshwater discharges) or **Attachments C and D** (for marine discharges), Part VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS for the receiving water sample collected as part of the WET testing requirements. Such samples shall be taken from the receiving water at a point immediately upstream (for freshwater discharges) or outside (for marine discharges) of the permitted discharge's zone of influence at a reasonably accessible location, as specified in **Attachments A and B** (for freshwater discharges) or **Attachments C and D** (for marine discharges). Minimum levels and test methods are specified in **Attachment A and B** (for freshwater discharges) or **Attachments C and D** (for marine discharges), Part VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

17. Monitoring and reporting for dissolved organic carbon (DOC) are not requirements of the Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) tests but are additional requirements. The Permittee may analyze the WET samples for DOC or may collect separate samples for DOC concurrently with WET sampling.

18. A pH and temperature measurement shall be taken of each receiving water sample at the time of collection and the results reported on the appropriate DMR. These pH and temperature measurements are independent from any pH and temperature measurements required by the WET testing protocols.

19. All Permittees listed in Attachment E with "Yes" in the "Ambient TP Monitoring" column shall develop and implement a sampling and analysis plan for biannually collecting monthly samples at a location upstream of the facility. Samples shall be collected once per month, from May through September, every even calendar year. The Permittee may enter "NODI" code 9 (*i.e.*, conditional monitoring) in the relevant discharge monitoring report during years when monitoring is not required. Sampling shall be conducted on any calendar day that is preceded by at least 72 hours without rainfall, following the last rainfall of 0.1 inches of rainfall or greater. A sampling plan shall be submitted to EPA and the State at least three months prior to the first planned sampling date as part of a Quality Assurance Project Plan for review and State approval.

20. Report in nanograms per gram (ng/g). This reporting requirement for the listed PFAS parameters takes effect the first full calendar quarter after the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the General Permit. Until there is an analytical method approved in 40 CFR Part 136 for PFAS in sludge, monitoring shall be conducted using Draft Method 1633.

    Additionally, report in NetDMR the results of all other PFAS analytes required to be tested as part of the method, as shown in Attachment H. Any parameters that are removed from the method based on multi-lab validation of the method will not be required for reporting and the Permittee may report "NODI: 9" for any such parameters.

21. Sludge sampling shall be as representative as possible based on guidance found at https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-11/documents/potw-sludge-sampling-guidance-document.pdf.

B. Other Requirements

1. The discharge shall not cause a violation of the water quality standards of the receiving water.

2. The discharge shall be free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that, in the receiving water, settle to form objectionable deposits; float as debris, scum or other matter to form nuisances; produce objectionable odor, color, taste or turbidity; or produce undesirable or nuisance species of aquatic life.

3. The discharge shall be free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that adversely affect the physical or chemical nature of the bottom, interfere with the propagation of fish or shellfish, or adversely affect populations of non-mobile or sessile benthic organisms.

4. The discharge shall not result in pollutants in concentrations or combinations in the receiving water that are toxic to humans, aquatic life or wildlife.

5. The discharge shall be free from floating, suspended and settleable solids in concentrations or combinations that would impair any use assigned to the receiving water.

6. If receiving water is Class SA, the discharge shall be free from oil and grease and petrochemicals. If the receiving water is Class B or SB, the discharge shall be free from oil, grease and petrochemicals that produce a visible film on the surface of the water, impart an oily taste to the water or an oily or other undesirable taste to the edible portions of aquatic life, coat the banks or bottom of the water course, or are deleterious or become toxic to aquatic life.

7. The Permittee must provide adequate notice to EPA-Region 1 and MassDEP of the following:

    a. Any new introduction of pollutants into the facility from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Part 301 or Part 306 of the Clean Water Act if it were directly discharging those pollutants or in a primary industry category (see 40 CFR Part 122 Appendix A as amended) discharging process water; and

    b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that facility by a source introducing pollutants into the facility at the time of issuance of the permit.

    c. For purposes of this paragraph, adequate notice shall include information on:

        (1) The quantity and quality of effluent introduced into the facility; and

        (2) Any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the facility.

8. Pollutants introduced into the facility by a non-domestic source (user) shall not pass through the POTW or facility or interfere with the operation or performance of the works.

9. Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) limitations and related requirements are specified below:

a. All existing TRC limits will be carried forward in the authorization to discharge unless a more stringent limit is required. See Attachment E for a summary of any more stringent TRC limits that apply to an eligible facility. For any permit limits below 20 µg/L, the compliance level for TRC is 20 µg/L.

b. The Permittee shall minimize the use of chlorine while maintaining adequate bacterial control. TRC monitoring and limitations only apply to discharges which have been previously chlorinated or which contain residual chlorine. If bacteria limits do not apply during a particular monitoring period and, therefore, chlorine is not utilized, TRC monitoring is not necessary and the Permittee may enter "NODI" code 9 (*i.e.*, conditional monitoring) in the relevant discharge monitoring report.

c. Additionally, Permittees authorized to conduct disinfection using an alternative to chlorine as the disinfectant are only subject to the TRC limitations and monitoring requirements whenever chlorine is added to the treatment process for disinfection or for other purpose. For the months in which chlorine is not added to the treatment process and the Permittee may enter "NODI" code 9 (*i.e.*, conditional monitoring) in the relevant discharge monitoring report.

d. Chlorination and dechlorination systems shall include an alarm system for indicating system interruptions or malfunctions. Any interruption or malfunction of the chlorine dosing system that may have resulted in levels of chlorine that were inadequate for achieving effective disinfection, or interruptions or malfunctions of the dechlorination system that may have resulted in excessive levels of chlorine in the final effluent shall be reported with the monthly DMRs. The report shall include the date and time of the interruption or malfunction, the nature of the problem, and the estimated amount of time that the reduced levels of chlorine or dechlorination chemicals occurred.

e. Facilities shall disinfect year-round unless authorized to disinfect seasonally. Permittees seeking General Permit coverage for discharges into Class B waters may request authorization to conduct disinfection of the discharge on a seasonal basis. If approved, upon receipt of written authorization from EPA and MassDEP to conduct seasonal disinfection, TRC limitations, monitoring, and reporting requirements apply only during the specified disinfection period and whenever chlorine is added to the treatment process outside of the specified disinfection period.

C. Unauthorized Discharges

1. This permit authorizes discharges only from the outfall(s) listed in the authorization to discharge from EPA in accordance with the terms and conditions of this permit. Discharges of wastewater from any other point sources, including sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), are not authorized by this permit. The Permittee must provide verbal notification to EPA within 24 hours of becoming aware of any unauthorized discharge and a report within 5 days, in accordance with Part VII.D.1.e (24-hour reporting). Providing that it contains the information required in Part VII.D.1.e, submission of the MassDEP SSO Reporting Form (described in Part II.C.3 below) may satisfy the requirement for a written report. See Part V below for reporting requirements.

2. The Permittee must provide notification to the public within 24 hours of becoming aware of any unauthorized discharge, except SSOs that do not impact a surface water or the public, on a publicly available website, and it shall remain on the website for a minimum of 12 months. Such notification shall include the location and description of the discharge; estimated volume; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and, if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue.

3. Notification of SSOs to MassDEP shall be made on its SSO Reporting Form (which includes MassDEP Regional Office telephone numbers). The reporting form and instruction for its completion may be found on-line at https://www.mass.gov/how-to/sanitary-sewer-overflowbypassbackup-notification.

D. Notification Requirements

The Permittee shall notify all downstream community water systems (if any) of any emergency condition, plant upset, bypass, or other system failure which has the potential to impact the quality of the water to be withdrawn by that community for drinking water purposes. This notification should be made as soon as possible but within four (4) hours, and in the anticipation of such an event, if feasible, without taking away from any response time necessary to alleviate the situation. The Permittee shall follow up with written notification within five (5) days. This notification shall include the reason for the emergency, any sampling information, any visual data recorded, a description of how the situation was handled, and when it would be considered to no longer be an emergency.

E. Additional Requirements for Facilities Discharging to Marine Waters

The requirements below apply to facilities that discharge to marine waters.

1. For facilities with effluent diffusers[1], the Permittee shall operate the effluent diffuser according to the best management practices below:

    a. The effluent diffuser shall be maintained to ensure proper operation. Proper operation means that the outfall pipe be intact, operating as designed, and have unobstructed flow. Maintenance may include dredging in the vicinity of the diffuser, removal of solids/debris in the diffuser header pipe, and repair/replacement.

    b. To determine if maintenance will be required, the Permittee shall inspect and videotape the operation of the diffuser either remotely or using a qualified diver or marine contractor. The inspections and videotaping shall be performed every five years with the first inspection occurring within twelve (12) months of the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the General Permit. EPA and MassDEP shall be contacted at least seven

[1] These facilities include Ipswich, Hull, Newburyport, Amesbury, and Marshfield.

days prior to a dive inspection.

c. Any necessary maintenance dredging must be performed only during the marine construction season authorized by the Massachusetts Department of Marine Fisheries and only after receiving all necessary permits from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and other appropriate agencies.

d. Copies of reports summarizing the results of each diffuser inspection shall be submitted to EPA and MassDEP within 60 days of each inspection. Each inspection report shall include a detailed analysis of any deficiencies in the operation of the diffuser, and if necessary, a proposed schedule for maintenance. All supporting data shall be submitted along with the report.

2. The Permittee shall verbally notify the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries within 4 hours of any emergency condition, plant upset, bypass, SSO discharges or other system failure which has the potential to violate bacteria permit limits. Within 24 hours a notification of a permit excursion or plant failure shall be sent to the following address:

Division of Marine Fisheries
Shellfish Management Program
30 Emerson Avenue
Gloucester, MA 01930
(978) 282-0308

3. Pursuant to 40 CFR § 125.123(d)(4), this permit shall be modified or revoked at any time if, on the basis of any new data, the director determines that continued discharges may cause unreasonable degradation of the marine environment.

4. In the fifth year of this permit term, the following eligible dischargers to marine waters must conduct a new model or dye study to determine a defensible dilution factor for their discharge: Plymouth, Hull, Newburyport, Fairhaven, Dartmouth and Marshfield. Each Permittee should coordinate with EPA and MassDEP in advance of conducting the model or dye study to confirm an appropriate methodology for this model or dye study. The results of this model or dye study must be submitted to EPA and MassDEP by the expiration date of the General Permit.

III. Additional Limitations, Conditions, and Requirements

A. Operation and Maintenance of the Sewer System

Operation and maintenance (O&M) of the sewer system shall be in compliance with the Standard Conditions of Part VII and the following terms and conditions. The Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, shall complete the following activities for the collection system which it owns:

1. Maintenance Staff

The Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, shall provide an adequate staff to carry out the operation, maintenance, repair, and testing functions required to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit. Provisions to meet this requirement shall be described in the Collection System O&M Plan required pursuant to Section III.A.5. below.

2. Preventive Maintenance Program

The Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, shall maintain an ongoing preventive maintenance program to prevent overflows and bypasses caused by malfunctions or failures of the sewer system infrastructure. The program shall include an inspection program designed to identify all potential and actual unauthorized discharges. Plans and programs to meet this requirement shall be described in the Collection System O&M Plan required pursuant to Section III.A.5. below.

3. Infiltration/Inflow

The Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, shall control infiltration and inflow (I/I) into the sewer system as necessary to prevent high flow related unauthorized discharges from their collection systems and high flow related violations of the wastewater treatment plant's effluent limitations. Plans and programs to control I/I shall be described in the Collection System O&M Plan required pursuant to Section III.A.5. below.

4. Collection System Mapping

If a Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, have not already prepared and submitted a collection system map, they shall prepare a map of the sewer collection system they own by the deadline listed in Attachment E of this permit. If a Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, have already prepared and submitted a collection system map (as indicated with "Done" in Attachment E), they shall continue to maintain a map of the sewer collection system they own. The map shall be on a street map of the community, with sufficient detail and at a scale to allow easy interpretation. The collection system information shown on the map shall be based on current conditions and shall be kept up-to-date and available for review by federal, state, or local agencies. Such map(s) shall include, but not be limited to the following:

a. All sanitary sewer lines and related manholes;

b. All combined sewer lines, related manholes, and catch basins;

c. All combined sewer regulators and any known or suspected connections between the sanitary sewer and storm drain systems (e.g. combination manholes);

d. All outfalls, including the treatment plant outfall(s), CSOs, and any known or suspected SSOs, including stormwater outfalls that are connected to combination manholes;

e. All pump stations and force mains;

f. The wastewater treatment facility(ies);

g. All surface waters (labeled);

h. Other major appurtenances such as inverted siphons and air release valves;

i. A numbering system which uniquely identifies manholes, catch basins, overflow points, regulators and outfalls;

j. The scale and a north arrow; and

k. The pipe diameter, date of installation, type of material, distance between manholes, and the direction of flow.

5. Collection System O&M Plan

If a Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, have not already prepared and submitted a Collection System O&M Plan, they shall develop and implement a Collection System O&M Plan in accordance with Parts (a) and (b) below.

a. By the due date listed in Attachment E of this permit, the Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, shall submit to EPA and the State

(1) A description of the collection system management goals, staffing, information management, and legal authorities;
(2) A description of the collection system and the overall condition of the collection system including a list of all pump stations and a description of recent studies and construction activities; and
(3) A schedule for the development and implementation of the full Collection System O&M Plan including the elements in paragraphs b.1. through b.8. below.

b. The full Collection System O&M Plan shall be completed, implemented and submitted to EPA and the State by the due date listed in Attachment E of this permit. The Plan shall include:

(1) The required submittal from paragraph 5.a. above, updated to reflect current information;
(2) A preventive maintenance and monitoring program for the collection system;
(3) Description of sufficient staffing necessary to properly operate and maintain the sanitary sewer collection system and how the operation and maintenance program is staffed;
(4) Description of funding, the source(s) of funding and provisions for funding sufficient for implementing the plan;
(5) Identification of known and suspected overflows and back-ups, including manholes. A description of the cause of the identified overflows and back-ups, corrective actions taken, and a plan for addressing the overflows and back-ups consistent with the requirements of this permit;

(6) A description of the Permittee's programs for preventing I/I related effluent violations and all unauthorized discharges of wastewater, including overflows and by-passes and the ongoing program to identify and remove sources of I/I. The program shall include an inflow identification and control program that focuses on the disconnection and redirection of illegal sump pumps and roof down spouts;
(7) An educational public outreach program for all aspects of I/I control, particularly private inflow; and
(8) An Overflow Emergency Response Plan to protect public health from overflows and unanticipated bypasses or upsets that exceed any effluent limitation in the permit.

If a Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, have already prepared and submitted a Collection System O&M Plan (as indicated with "Done" in Attachment E), they shall update and implement the Collection System O&M Plan they have previously submitted to EPA and the State in accordance with Part (c) below. The plan shall be available for review by federal, state, and local agencies upon request.

c. The Plan shall include:

(1) A description of the collection system management goals, staffing, information management, and legal authorities;
(2) A description of the collection system and the overall condition of the collection system including a list of all pump stations and a description of recent studies and construction activities;
(3) A preventive maintenance and monitoring program for the collection system;
(4) Description of sufficient staffing necessary to properly operate and maintain the sanitary sewer collection system and how the operation and maintenance program is staffed;
(5) Description of funding, the source(s) of funding and provisions for funding sufficient for implementing the plan;
(6) Identification of known and suspected overflows and back-ups, including manholes. A description of the cause of the identified overflows and back-ups, corrective actions taken, and a plan for addressing the overflows and back-ups consistent with the requirements of this permit;
(7) A description of the Permittee's programs for preventing I/I related effluent violations and all unauthorized discharges of wastewater, including overflows and by-passes and the ongoing program to identify and remove sources of I/I. The program shall include an inflow identification and control program that focuses on the disconnection and redirection of illegal sump pumps and roof down spouts;
(8) An educational public outreach program for all aspects of I/I control, particularly private inflow; and
(9) An Overflow Emergency Response Plan to protect public health from overflows and unanticipated bypasses or upsets that exceed any effluent limitation in the permit.

6. Annual Reporting Requirement

The Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, shall submit a summary report of activities related to the implementation of its Collection System O&M Plan during the previous calendar year.

The report shall be submitted to EPA and the State annually by March 31st. The first annual report is due the first March 31st following submittal of the collection system O&M Plan required by Section III.A.5.b. above. The summary report shall, at a minimum, include:

a. A description of the staffing levels maintained during the year;

b. A map and a description of inspection and maintenance activities conducted and corrective actions taken during the previous year;

c. Expenditures for any collection system maintenance activities and corrective actions taken during the previous year;

d. A map with areas identified for investigation/action in the coming year;

e. A summary of unauthorized discharges during the past year and their causes and a report of any corrective actions taken as a result of the unauthorized discharges reported pursuant to the Unauthorized Discharges section of this permit; and

f. If the average annual flow in the previous calendar year exceeded 80 percent of the facility's design flow, or there have been capacity-related overflows, the report shall include items in (1) and (2) below.

(1) Plans for further potential flow increases describing how the Permittee will maintain compliance with the flow limit and all other effluent limitations and conditions; and
(2) A calculation of the maximum daily, weekly, and monthly infiltration and the maximum daily, weekly, and monthly inflow for the reporting year.

B. Alternate Power Source

In order to maintain compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit, the Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, shall provide an alternative power source(s) sufficient to operate the portion of the publicly owned treatment works it owns and operates, as defined in Part VII.E.1 of this permit.

C. Industrial Users

The following requirements only apply to dischargers that are not required to conduct a pretreatment program, as identified in Attachment E of this General Permit.

1. The Permittee shall submit to EPA and the State the name of any Industrial User (IU) subject to Categorical Pretreatment Standards under 40 CFR § 403.6 and 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N (Parts 405-415, 417-430, 432, 447, 449-451, 454, 455, 457-461, 463-469, and 471 as amended) who commences discharge to the facility after the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the General Permit.

   This reporting requirement also applies to any other IU who is classified as a Significant Industrial User which discharges an average of 25,000 gallons per day or more of process

wastewater into the facility (excluding sanitary, noncontact cooling and boiler blowdown wastewater); contributes a process wastewater which makes up five (5) percent or more of the average dry weather hydraulic or organic capacity of the facility; or is designated as such by the Control Authority as defined in 40 CFR § 403.3(f) on the basis that the industrial user has a reasonable potential to adversely affect the wastewater treatment facility's operation, or for violating any pretreatment standard or requirement (in accordance with 40 CFR § 403.8(f)(6)).

2. In the event that the Permittee receives originals of reports (baseline monitoring reports, 90-day compliance reports, periodic reports on continued compliance, etc.) from industrial users subject to Categorical Pretreatment Standards under 40 CFR § 403.6 and 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N (Parts 405-415, 417-430, 432-447, 449-451, 454, 455, 457-461, 463-469, and 471 as amended), or from a Significant Industrial User, the Permittee shall forward the originals of these reports within ninety (90) days of their receipt to EPA, and copy MassDEP in accordance with Part V.2 below.

3. Beginning the first full calendar year after the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the General Permit, the Permittee shall commence annual sampling of the following types of industrial discharges into the POTW:

   - Commercial Car Washes
   - Platers/Metal Finishers
   - Paper and Packaging Manufacturers
   - Tanneries and Leather/Fabric/Carpet Treaters
   - Manufacturers of Parts with Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) or teflon type coatings (i.e. bearings)
   - Landfill Leachate
   - Centralized Waste Treaters
   - Known or Suspected PFAS Contaminated Sites
   - Fire Fighting Training Facilities
   - Airports
   - Any Other Known or Expected Sources of PFAS

   Until there is an analytical method approved in 40 CFR Part 136 for PFAS, monitoring shall be conducted using Draft Method 1633. Sampling shall be for the PFAS analytes required to be tested in Method 1633, as shown in Attachment H.

   The industrial discharges sampled and the sampling results (including the full lab report) shall be summarized and submitted to EPA and copy the State as an electronic attachment to the March discharge monitoring report due April 15th of the calendar year following the testing.

D. Industrial Pretreatment Programs

The following requirements only apply to dischargers that are required to conduct a pretreatment program, as identified in Attachment E of this General Permit.

1. 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 Treatment Plant's Facilities or operation, are necessary to ensure continued compliance with the POTW's NPDES 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. Within 90 days of the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the General Permit, the Permittee shall prepare and submit a written technical evaluation to EPA 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 and submit the attached form (see **Attachment F –** *Reassessment of Technically Based Industrial Discharge Limits*) 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 EPA and submit the revisions to EPA for approval. The Permittee shall carry out the local limits revisions in accordance with EPA's Local Limit 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, 40 CFR Part 403. 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.

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

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

3. The Permittee shall provide EPA and MassDEP with an annual report describing the Permittee's pretreatment program activities for the twelve (12) month period ending 60 days prior to the due date in accordance with 40 CFR § 403.12(i). The annual report shall be consistent with the format described in **Attachment G** (*NPDES Permit Requirement for*

Industrial Pretreatment Annual Report) of this permit and shall be submitted by **March 1** of each year.[2]

4. The Permittee must obtain approval from EPA prior to making any significant changes to the industrial pretreatment program in accordance with 40 CFR § 403.18(c).

5. The Permittee must 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 at 40 CFR § 405 et seq.

6. The Permittee must modify its pretreatment program, if necessary, to conform to all changes in the Federal Regulations that pertain to the implementation and enforcement of the industrial pretreatment program. Within 180 days of the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the General Permit the Permittee must provide EPA in writing, proposed changes, if applicable, to the Permittee's pretreatment program deemed necessary to assure conformity with current Federal Regulations. At a minimum, the Permittee must 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 EPA Region 1's approval under 40 CFR § 403.18. This submission is separate and distinct from any local limits analysis submission described in Part III.D.1.

7. Beginning the first full calendar year after the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the General Permit, the Permittee shall commence annual sampling of the following types of industrial discharges into the POTW:

    - Commercial Car Washes
    - Platers/Metal Finishers
    - Paper and Packaging Manufacturers
    - Tanneries and Leather/Fabric/Carpet Treaters
    - Manufacturers of Parts with Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) or teflon type coatings (i.e. bearings)
    - Landfill Leachate
    - Centralized Waste Treaters
    - Known or Suspected PFAS Contaminated Sites
    - Fire Fighting Training Facilities
    - Airports
    - Any Other Known or Expected Sources of PFAS

[2] The due date for MWRA Clinton is October 31st of each year.

Until there is an analytical method approved in 40 CFR Part 136 for PFAS, monitoring shall be conducted using Draft Method 1633. Sampling shall be for the PFAS analytes required to be tested in Method 1633, as shown in Attachment H.

The industrial discharges sampled and the sampling results (including the full lab report) shall be summarized and included in the annual report (see Part III.D.3).

E. Sludge Conditions

1. The Permittee shall comply with all existing federal and state laws and regulations that apply to sewage sludge use and disposal practices, including EPA regulations promulgated at 40 CFR Part 503, which prescribe "Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge" pursuant to § 405(d) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1345(d).

2. If both state and federal requirements apply to the Permittee's sludge use and/or disposal practices, the Permittee shall comply with the more stringent of the applicable requirements.

3. The requirements and technical standards of 40 CFR Part 503 apply to the following sludge use or disposal practices:

   a. Land application - the use of sewage sludge to condition or fertilize the soil
   b. Surface disposal - the placement of sewage sludge in a sludge only landfill
   c. Sewage sludge incineration in a sludge only incinerator

4. The requirements of 40 CFR Part 503 do not apply to facilities which dispose of sludge in a municipal solid waste landfill. 40 CFR § 503.4. These requirements also do not apply to facilities which do not use or dispose of sewage sludge during the life of the permit but rather treat the sludge (e.g., lagoons, reed beds), or are otherwise excluded under 40 CFR § 503.6.

5. The 40 CFR Part 503 requirements include the following elements:

   - General requirements
   - Pollutant limitations
   - Operational Standards (pathogen reduction requirements and vector attraction reduction requirements)
   - Management practices
   - Record keeping
   - Monitoring
   - Reporting

   Which of the 40 CFR Part 503 requirements apply to the Permittee will depend upon the use or disposal practice followed and upon the quality of material produced by a facility. The EPA Region 1 Guidance document, "EPA Region 1 - NPDES Permit Sludge Compliance Guidance"

(November 4, 1999), may be used by the Permittee to assist it in determining the applicable requirements.[3]

6. The sludge shall be monitored for pollutant concentrations (all Part 503 methods) and pathogen reduction and vector attraction reduction (land application and surface disposal) at the following frequency. This frequency is based upon the volume of sewage sludge generated at the facility in dry metric tons per year, as follows:

less than 290	1/ year
290 to less than 1,500	1 /quarter
1,500 to less than 15,000	6 /year
15,000 +	1 /month

Sampling of the sewage sludge shall use the procedures detailed in 40 CFR § 503.8.

7. Under 40 CFR § 503.9(r), the Permittee is a "person who prepares sewage sludge" because it "is … the person who generates sewage sludge during the treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment works …." If the Permittee contracts with *another* "person who prepares sewage sludge" under 40 CFR § 503.9(r) – i.e., with "a person who derives a material from sewage sludge" – for use or disposal of the sludge, then compliance with Part 503 requirements is the responsibility of the contractor engaged for that purpose. If the Permittee does not engage a "person who prepares sewage sludge," as defined in 40 CFR § 503.9(r), for use or disposal, then the Permittee remains responsible to ensure that the applicable requirements in Part 503 are met. 40 CFR § 503.7. If the ultimate use or disposal method is land application, the Permittee is responsible for providing the person receiving the sludge with notice and necessary information to comply with the requirements of 40 CFR § 503 Subpart B.

8. The Permittee shall submit an annual report containing the information specified in the 40 CFR Part 503 requirements (§ 503.18 (land application), § 503.28 (surface disposal), or § 503.48 (incineration)) by February 19 (see also "EPA Region 1 - NPDES Permit Sludge Compliance Guidance"). Reports shall be submitted electronically using EPA's Electronic Reporting tool ("NeT") (see "Reporting Requirements" section below).

F. Schedules of Compliance

EPA will indicate any applicable compliance schedule(s) on the Permittee's authorization to discharge based on the following:

1. The Permittee will have a schedule of compliance of 24 months for any newly established or more stringent water quality-based effluent limits which EPA has determined the Permittee is

[3] This guidance document is available upon request from EPA Region 1 and may also be found at: http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/permits/generic/sludgeguidance.pdf

not expected to be in compliance with upon the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the General Permit (other than aluminum limits which are covered in subpart 3 below). The applicable Permittees and limits are listed below (see also Attachment E for numeric values of these limits). During the compliance schedule, the Permittee shall either report monitoring results (for newly established limits) or comply with an interim limit equivalent to the existing limit in their previous permit (for limits becoming more stringent).

a. Adams WWTP, Total Phosphorus
b. Spencer WWTP, Total Nitrogen
c. Ware WWTP, Total Nitrogen
d. Greenfield WPCP, Total Phosphorus
e. Greenfield WPCP, Total Nitrogen
f. South Hadley WWTP, Total Nitrogen
g. Ipswich WWTF, Zinc
h. Bridgewater WWTF, Ammonia
i. Fairhaven, Copper
j. Fairhaven, Ammonia
k. Medfield WWTF, Ammonia (monthly ave, year-round)

2. Within twelve (12) months of the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the General Permit, the Permittee shall submit to EPA and MassDEP a status report relative to the process improvements necessary to achieve the permit limit.

G. Additional Requirements for Facilities Discharging to the Long Island Sound Watershed, the Blackstone River Watershed, the Taunton River Watershed, as well as the Plymouth WWTP and Fairhaven WPCF

This requirement applies to Permittees discharging within the Long Island Sound watershed, Blackstone River watershed, Taunton River watershed, as well as the Plymouth WWTP and Fairhaven WPCF, as identified in Attachment E of this permit.

1. Within one year of the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the permit, the Permittee shall complete an evaluation of alternative methods of operating the existing wastewater treatment facility to optimize the removal of nitrogen in order to minimize the annual average mass discharge of total nitrogen, and submit a report to EPA and the State documenting this evaluation and presenting a description of recommended operational changes. The Permittee shall implement the recommended operational changes in order to minimize the discharge loading of nitrogen. The methods to be evaluated include, but are not limited to, operational changes designed to enhance nitrification (seasonal and year-round), incorporation of anoxic zones, septage receiving policies and procedures, and side stream management.

   If the Permittee has already conducted this evaluation under their existing permit, this requirement does not apply, and the Permittee shall continue to optimize the treatment facility operations relative to total nitrogen (TN) removal through measures and/or operational changes designed to enhance the removal of nitrogen in order to minimize the annual average mass discharge of total nitrogen. For such Permittees that only had cold weather seasonal

optimization requirements in their existing permit, the Permittee shall continue to operate the treatment facility to reduce the discharge of total nitrogen during the months of November to April to the maximum extent possible. All available treatment equipment in place at the facility shall be operated unless equal or better performance can be achieved in a reduced operational mode. The addition of a carbon source that may be necessary in order to meet the total nitrogen limit during the months of May to October is not required during the months of November to April.

2. The Permittee shall submit an annual report to EPA and the State, by February 1st of each year, that summarizes activities related to optimizing nitrogen removal efficiencies, documents the annual nitrogen discharge load from the facility, and tracks trends relative to the previous calendar year and the previous five (5) calendar years. If, in any year, the treatment facility discharges of TN on an average annual basis have increased, the annual report shall include a detailed explanation of the reasons why TN discharges have increased, including any changes in influent flows/loads and any operational changes. The report shall include all supporting data.

3. The following Permittees are discharging within the Long Island Sound watershed and their current permits do not contain total nitrogen limits. This General Permit establishes the following rolling annual average total nitrogen limits, which are also included in Attachment E.

Permittee	**Rolling Annual Average Total Nitrogen Limit**
Warren WWTF	125 lb/day
Ware WWTP	83 lb/day
Greenfield WPCP	283 lb/day
Belchertown WWTP	83 lb/day
South Hadley WWTP	350 lb/day
Easthampton WWTF	317 lb/day[4]
Spencer WWTP	90 lb/day[5]
Sturbridge WPCF	108 lb/day
Southbridge WWTP	314 lb/day

[4] The total nitrogen mass limit for Easthampton is the total allowable mass discharge from both Outfall 001 and 002 combined.

[5] The total nitrogen mass limit for Spencer shall be based on influent flow rather than effluent flow.

H. Submittal of Facility-Specific Information

Each permittee shall perform three full pollutant scans consistent with the requirements of NPDES Form 2A, Tables B and C, using a representative composite sample once per quarter in the final 3 full calendar quarters of the 5-year permit term. The results for all three scans shall be summarized and submitted as a single electronic attachment to the DMR for the final full calendar quarter before the expiration date of the General Permit (in accordance with Part V.2 below). This submittal shall also include the following information that EPA has deemed necessary for development of the next reissuance of this General Permit:

- Provide the current average daily volume of inflow and infiltration (I/I)
- Provide an updated Flow Diagram or Schematic for the WWTF
- Provide a summary and schedule for any ongoing or planned facility upgrades
- Provide a list of Significant Industrial Users and Categorical Industrial Users contributing flow to the system (including average volume contributed from each)
- Provide a summary of sewage sludge treatment and disposal practices (including disposal method, disposal amount in dry metric tons, name and address of any third-party contractor, etc.).

I. State 401 Certification Conditions

This Permit has received state water quality certification issued by the State under § 401(a) of the CWA and 40 CFR § 124.53. EPA incorporates the following state water quality certification requirements into the Final Permit:

1. Notwithstanding any other provision of the 2022 Federal NPDES Permit to the contrary, monitoring results of the influent, effluent, and sludge for PFAS compounds shall be reported to MassDEP electronically, at **massdep.npdes@mass.gov**, or as otherwise specified, within 30 days after they are received.

2. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21, §§ 26-53, and 314 CMR 3.00 and 4.00, including 314 CMR 3.11(2)(a)6., and in order to ensure the maintenance of surface waters free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that are toxic to humans, aquatic life, or wildlife, in accordance with 314 CMR 4.05(5)(e), MassDEP has determined that it is necessary that the permittee commence annual monitoring of all Significant Industrial Users[6,7] discharging into the POTW consistent with the 2022 NPDES General Permit in accordance with the

---

[6] Significant Industrial User (SIU) is defined at 40 CFR part 403: All industrial users subject to Categorical Pretreatment Standards under 40 CFR 403.6 and 40 CFR chapter I, subpart N; **and** any other industrial user that: discharges an average of 25,000 GPD or more of process wastewater to the POTW, contributes a process wastestream that makes up 5% or more of the average dry weather hydraulic or organic capacity of the POTW, or designated as such by the POTW on the basis that the industrial users has a reasonable potential for adversely affecting the POTW's operation or for violating any Pretreatment Standards or requirement.

[7] This requirement applies to all Significant Industrial Users and not just those within the sectors identified by EPA in the NPDES permit.

table below. Notwithstanding any other provision of the 2022 NPDES General Permit to the contrary, monitoring results shall be reported to MassDEP electronically at massdep.npdes@mass.gov within 30 days after they are received.

Parameter	Units	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	ng/L	Annual	24-hour Composite
Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	ng/L	Annual	24-hour Composite
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	ng/L	Annual	24-hour Composite
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	ng/L	Annual	24-hour Composite
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	ng/L	Annual	24-hour Composite
Perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA)	ng/L	Annual	24-hour Composite

IV. Obtaining Authorization to Discharge

A. Obtaining Coverage

To obtain coverage under the General Permit, facilities identified in Attachment E of this General Permit may, at their election, submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to EPA **within 30 days of the effective date of the General Permit** in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.28(b)(2)(i) & (ii). The contents of the NOI shall include at a minimum, the legal name and address of the owner or operator, the facility name and address, type of facility or discharges, the receiving stream(s) and be signed by the operator in accordance with the signatory requirements of 40 CFR § 122.22, including the certification statement found at § 122.22(d), as follows:

> *I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.*

All NOIs must be submitted to EPA either electronically to R1NPDESReporting@epa.gov with copy to Duspiva.Michele@epa.gov (Note: electronic submittals must include electronic signature) or physically to the following address:

United States Environmental Protection Agency
ATTN: Municipal Permits Section
5 Post Office Square – Suite 100
Mail Code – 06-1
Boston, Massachusetts 02109-3912

Alternately, the Director may notify a discharger that it is covered by this General Permit, even if the discharger has not submitted a notice of intent to be covered in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.28(b)(2)(vi). EPA has determined that the eligible dischargers listed in Attachment E of this General Permit may be authorized to discharge under the General Permit by this type of notification. Such authorization to discharge will be effective upon the date indicated in written notice from EPA.

Facilities will maintain coverage under their existing individual permits until receiving written notification from EPA of authorization to discharge under the Medium WWTF GP. Such authorization will be effective upon the date indicated in written notice from EPA. As a precondition to obtaining authorization to discharge under the Medium WWTF GP, authorization to discharge pursuant to their individual permits will be removed using appropriate procedures under 40 CFR Part 124. Therefore, authorization to discharge under the Medium WWTF GP will be subject to completion of appropriate Part 124 proceedings and will be effective upon the date indicated in written notice from EPA.

B. When the Director May Require Application for an Individual NPDES Permit

The Director may require any operator authorized by or requesting coverage under this general permit to apply for and obtain an individual NPDES permit. Any interested person may petition the Director to take such action. Instances where an individual permit may be required include the following:

1. A determination under 40 CFR § 122.28(b)(3), including:

    a. A change has occurred in the availability of the demonstrated technology of practices for the control or abatement of pollutants applicable to the point source(s);

    b. Effluent limitation guidelines are promulgated for the point source(s) covered by this permit;

    c. A Water Quality Management Plan or Total Maximum Daily Load containing requirements applicable to such point source(s) is approved and inconsistent with this permit;

    d. Circumstances have changed since the time of the request to be covered so that the discharger is no longer appropriately controlled under the general permit, or either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge is necessary; and

    e. The discharge(s) is a significant contributor of pollutants.

2. The discharger is not in compliance with the conditions of this General Permit.

3. The discharge(s) is in violation of State water quality standards for the receiving water.

4. Actual or imminent harm to aquatic organisms, including ESA or human health, is identified.

C. When an Individual Permit May Be Requested

In accordance with 40 CFR § 122.28(b)(3)(iii), any owner or operator authorized by this General Permit may request to be excluded from the coverage of this General Permit. The owner or operator shall submit an application for a permit under § 122.21, with reasons supporting the request, to the Director no later than 90 days after the publication by EPA of the Notice of Availability of the final General Permit. The request shall be processed under 40 CFR Part 124. The request shall be granted by issuing of an individual permit if the reasons cited by the owner or operator are adequate to support the request.

When an individual NPDES permit is issued to an operator otherwise subject to this General Permit, the applicability of this General Permit to that owner or operator is automatically terminated on the effective date of the individual permit.

D. EPA Determination of Coverage

Any operator may request to be covered under this General Permit but the final authority rests with EPA. Coverage under this General Permit will not be effective until receipt of notification of inclusion from EPA. The effective date of coverage will be the date indicated in the authorization to discharge provided by EPA in writing. Any additional State conditions will be provided in writing.

Any operator authorized to discharge under this General Permit will receive written notification from EPA. Failure to receive from EPA written notification of permit coverage means that the operator is not authorized to discharge under this General Permit.

V. Monitoring, Record-Keeping, and Reporting Requirements

Unless otherwise specified in this permit, the Permittee shall submit reports, requests, and information and provide notices in the manner described in this section.

1. Submittal of DMRs Using NetDMR

   The Permittee shall continue to submit its monthly monitoring data in discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) to EPA and MassDEP no later than the 15th day of the month electronically using NetDMR. When the Permittee submits DMRs using NetDMR, it is not required to submit hard copies of DMRs to EPA or MassDEP. NetDMR is accessible through EPA's Central Data Exchange at https://cdx.epa.gov/.

2. Submittal of Reports as NetDMR Attachments

   Unless otherwise specified in this permit, the Permittee and Co-permittee(s), if any, shall electronically submit all reports to EPA and MassDEP as NetDMR attachments rather than as hard copies. See Part V.5 for more information on State reporting. Because the due dates for reports described in this permit may not coincide with the due date for submitting DMRs (which is no later than the 15th day of the month), a report submitted electronically as a NetDMR attachment shall be considered timely if it is electronically submitted to EPA using NetDMR with the next DMR due following the report due date specified in this permit.

3. Submittal of Industrial User and Pretreatment Related Reports

   a. Prior to 21 December 2025, all reports and information required of the Permittee in the Industrial Users and Pretreatment Program section of this permit shall be submitted to the Pretreatment Coordinator in EPA Region 1 Water Division (WD). Starting on 21 December 2025, these submittals must be done electronically as NetDMR attachments and/or using EPA's NPDES Electronic Reporting Tool ("NeT"), or another approved EPA system, which will be accessible through EPA's Central Data Exchange at https://cdx.epa.gov/. These requests, reports and notices include:

      (1) Annual Pretreatment Reports,

      (2) Pretreatment Reports Reassessment of Technically Based Industrial Discharge Limits Form,

      (3) Revisions to Industrial Discharge Limits,

      (4) Report describing Pretreatment Program activities, and

      (5) Proposed changes to a Pretreatment Program

   b. This information shall be submitted to EPA WD as a hard copy at the following address:

      U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
      Water Division
      Regional Pretreatment Coordinator
      5 Post Office Square - Suite 100 (06-03)
      Boston, MA 02109-3912

4. Submittal of Biosolids/Sewage Sludge Reports

   By February 19 of each year, the Permittee must electronically report their annual Biosolids/Sewage Sludge Report for the previous calendar year using EPA's NPDES Electronic Reporting Tool ("NeT"), or another approved EPA system, which is accessible through EPA's Central Data Exchange at https://cdx.epa.gov/.

5. Submittal of Requests and Reports to EPA Water Division (WD)

   a. The following requests, reports, and information described in this permit shall be submitted to the NPDES Applications Coordinator in EPA Water Division (WD):

      (1) Transfer of permit notice;
      (2) Request for changes in sampling location;
      (3) Request for reduction in testing frequency;
      (4) Request for change in WET testing requirement; and
      (5) Report on unacceptable dilution water / request for alternative dilution water for WET testing.
      (6) Report of new industrial user commencing discharge

(7) Report received from existing industrial user
(8) Request for extension of compliance schedule

b. These reports, information, and requests shall be submitted to EPA WD electronically at R1NPDESReporting@epa.gov.

6. Submittal of Sewer Overflow and Bypass Reports and Notifications

The Permittee shall submit required reports and notices under Part VII.B.4.c, for bypasses, and Part VII.D.1.e, for sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) electronically using EPA's NPDES Electronic Reporting Tool ("NeT"), which will be accessible through EPA's Central Data Exchange at https://cdx.epa.gov/.

7. State Reporting

Duplicate signed copies of all WET test reports shall be submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Watershed Management, at the following address:

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Resources
Division of Watershed Management
8 New Bond Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01606

8. Verbal Reports and Verbal Notifications

a. Any verbal reports or verbal notifications, if required in Parts I through VII of this General Permit, shall be made to both EPA and to MassDEP. This includes verbal reports and notifications which require reporting within 24 hours (e.g., Part VII.B.4.c.(2), Part VII.B.5.c.(3), and Part VII.D.1.e).

b. Verbal reports and verbal notifications shall be made to:

EPA ECAD at 617-918-1510
and
MassDEP's Emergency Response at 888-304-1133

VI. Administrative Requirements

A. Notice of Termination (NOT) of Discharge or Change of Owner/Operator

Permittees shall notify EPA and the appropriate State agency in writing upon the termination of any discharge(s) authorized by this General Permit. The NOT shall include the name, mailing address, phone number, and the location of the facility for which the notification is being submitted, the NPDES permit number of the discharge identified by the notice, and an indication of whether the discharge has been eliminated or if the owner/operator of the discharge has changed. The NOT shall be signed in accordance with the signatory requirements of 40 CFR

§ 122.22. Completed and signed NOTs shall be submitted to EPA at R1NPDESReporting@epa.gov and to MassDEP at MassDEP.NPDES@mass.gov.

B. Continuation of this General Permit After Expiration

If this General Permit is not reissued prior to its expiration date, it will be administratively continued in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act (5 U.S.C. 558(c)) and 40 CFR § 122.6 and remain in full force and in effect for discharges covered prior to its expiration.

Coverage under this permit will not be available to any facility that is not authorized to discharge under the General Permit before the expiration date.

Any Permittee whose authorization to discharge under this General Permit was administratively continued will automatically remain covered by the continued General Permit until the earlier of:

1. Authorization to discharge under a reissued permit or a replacement of this permit; or

2. The Permittee's submittal of a Notice of Termination; or

3. Issuance of an individual permit for the Permittee's discharge; or

4. A formal permit decision by EPA not to reissue this General Permit, at which time EPA will identify a reasonable time period for covered dischargers to seek coverage under an alternative general permit or an individual permit. Coverage under this permit will cease at the end of this time period.