



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

Northeast Regional Office • 150 Presidential Way Woburn, MA 01801 • 978-694-3200

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June 16, 2023

James Wilcox
Director of Engineering Services
City of Cambridge DPW
147 Hampshire Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Final CSO Notification Plan
Compliance Review
Approval Letter

Dear Mr. Wilcox:

The Northeast Regional Office of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (“MassDEP”) has reviewed the City of Cambridge’s (“City”) Final CSO Public Notification Plan submitted pursuant to 314 CMR 16.06(1). The plan was received by MassDEP on January 12, 2023.

Based on its review, MassDEP hereby approves the submitted Final CSO Public Notification Plan with the following condition:

The City’s plan states “*Cambridge will include the **median** volume discharged from each CSO location from data reported to DEP and EPA for the prior three calendar years.*”

The City shall correct the estimated volumes to use the **mean** flow, consistent with the requirement in 314 CMR 16.04(10)(c) “*Estimated volume of the discharge or overflow based on the **average** discharge or overflow from data reported to the Department and EPA for the prior three calendar years.*”

Additionally, MassDEP notes the following:

- The City requested a waiver from 314 CMR 16.04(9) regarding retraction of notifications because the City needs more than 48 hours to review meter performance. The regulations only require a retraction to be issued *if* the permittee becomes aware that no discharge or overflow occurred within 48 hours of issuing the public advisory notification. If the

This information is available in alternate format. Please contact Melixza Esenyie at 617-626-1282.

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City does not have this information within 48 hours, no retraction is needed. Therefore, Cambridge is able to comply with the regulations as written and no waiver is needed.

- Three comment letters were received by MassDEP during the public comment period from Property Owners and Residents in the Alewife Area, the Charles River Watershed Association, and Save the Alewife Brook. These comment letters were also sent to the City.

MassDEP reserves the right to request additional information if necessary.

If you have any questions, please contact David Butler at 781-697-6566 or David.R.Butler@mass.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S King', written in a cursive style.

Susannah King
Section Chief
Wastewater Management

Cc: massdep.sewagenotification@mass.gov