



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

Northeast Regional Office • 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington MA 01887 • 978-694-3200

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July 22, 2022

Ms. Catherine Daly Woodbury
Senior Project Manager
City of Cambridge DPW
147 Hampshire Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Response to Mass DEP's Comments
on Updated CSO Control Plan Scope
of Work and Schedule

Dear Ms. Woodbury:

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has received the Response to MassDEP's Comments on Updated CSO Control Plan Scope of Work and Schedule as submitted on June 13, 2022. MassDEP previously provided comments to the City of Cambridge on May 13, 2022 on the Updated CSO Control Plan Scope of Work and Schedule, which was submitted for MassDEP review and approval on April 1, 2022. The Scope of Work and Schedule was submitted in accordance with the Variance for Combined Sewer Overflow ("CSO") Discharges to the Alewife Brook/Upper Mystic River Basin and the Variance for Combined Sewer Overflow Discharges to the Charles River Basin (collectively referred to as the "Variance" or "Variances").

The scope of work and schedule includes a review of public health impacts and regulatory environment, evaluation of existing CSO level of control including analysis of an updated typical year design storm, public participation plan, CSO control alternatives analysis financial/affordability analysis, and preparation of an updated CSO Control Plan.

MassDEP has reviewed the Response to MassDEP's Comments on the Updated CSO Control Plan Scope of Work and Schedule, and hereby approves the scope of work and schedule, subject to the following conditions and clarifications:

1. All project deliverables shall be posted in a timely fashion on the City of Cambridge's website.

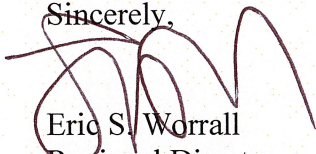
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2. The City of Cambridge, MWRA, and the City of Somerville shall coordinate their activities with respect to the evaluation of existing conditions, development of the typical year design storm, CSO alternatives analysis, public participation, affordability analyses, and development of the updated control plans.
3. MassDEP acknowledges the City of Cambridge's request to solicit MassDEP and EPA input during the process of developing the CSO alternatives analysis and affordability analysis through a series of meetings and workshops, rather than developing and submitting interim deliverables for review and comment. The City of Cambridge, in conjunction with MWRA and Somerville, shall coordinate the meeting/workshop agendas with MassDEP and EPA and prepare meeting minutes or other appropriate written documentation to memorialize the discussions, results, action items, and conclusions of such meetings/workshops, and provide the documentation to MassDEP and EPA for review and concurrence.
4. MassDEP acknowledges the City of Cambridge's schedule extension request. To support this request, by September 1, 2022, MWRA and the cities of Cambridge and Somerville shall submit a combined Gantt chart that shows a proposed detailed schedule for completion of all deliverables under the Variances, and the City of Cambridge shall submit a formal request for an extension that justifies the need for additional time. MassDEP will review these submittals and continue to monitor the progress of the work, in collaboration with EPA, and determine if a schedule extension is warranted to the dates in the Variance and/or the conditions of this approval.
5. MassDEP favors the City of Cambridge's approach that MWRA, Cambridge, and Somerville prepare a common Updated CSO Control Plan provided that MWRA and Somerville agree.
6. The Draft Recommended Updated CSO Control Plan shall be submitted to MassDEP and EPA for review and approval on or before June 30, 2023.
7. The Final Recommended Updated CSO Control Plan shall be submitted to MassDEP and EPA for review and approval on or before December 31, 2023.
8. Any changes to the scope of work or schedule shall be submitted to MassDEP and EPA in writing for approval.

MassDEP looks forward to its collaboration with the City of Cambridge on the development of the Updated CSO Control Plan. Please contact Susannah King at Susannah.king@mass.gov with any questions, or if you require additional information.

Sincerely,



Eric S. Worrall
Regional Director
Northeast Regional Office

Cc: Kathy Watkins, City of Cambridge (via e-mail)
Richard Raiche, City of Somerville (via e-mail)
Brian Postlewaite, City of Somerville (via e-mail)
David Coppes, MWRA (via e-mail)
Susannah King, MassDEP/NERO (via e-mail)
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