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United States Environmental Protection Agency
Water Technical Unit
P.O. Box 8127
Boston, MA 02114

April 30, 2004

RE: Town of New Castle Storm Water Management Program Annual Report
NPDES Permit Number: NHR041022

To Whom It May Concern:

The purposed of this letter is to provide the initial Annual Report for the Town of New Castle's Storm Water Management Program. The program is being implemented for the discharge of storm water from the Town's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) to waters of the United States.

Compliance with the Permit Conditions

The Town is in compliance with the permit conditions established by the US EPA. The best management practices (BMPs) identified in the Storm Water Management Plan for the six minimum control measures have been implemented and information related to the BMPs and their measurable goals has been recorded.

Appropriateness of the Selected BMPs

Each of the selected BMPs remain appropriate for meeting the goals of reducing the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, protect water quality and otherwise meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act.

Assessment of the Progress Towards Achieving the Measurable Goals

Minimum Control Measure #1: Public Education and Outreach on Storm Water Impacts

NC1-001 Quarterly Newsletter: Over the period of May 2003 through April 2004 four quarterly newsletters were sent out to each of the Town residents. Each newsletter contained an article related to storm water management. An average of 500 newsletters were mailed each quarter.

NC1-002 HHW Collection and Disposal: In May 2003, the Town of New Castle participated in the Household Hazardous Waste collection day with the Town of Hampton. An unknown number of residents from New Castle participated in the collection day disposing. We will coordinate this year with the Town of Hampton to track participants from New Castle and approximately weight of waste.

NC1-003 Pet Waste Management: The Town continues to post and maintain signs indicating "Clean Up After Your Pet" in common areas. Incidents of non-compliance with the pet waste management ordinance remain low.

Minimum Control Measure #2: Public Participation and Involvement

NC2-001 Conservation Commission: The Conservation Commission has made progress in restoring the Bull Toad Pond located near the Town Common. NH Coastal Program will be doing some excavation of the pond to make an evaluation of debris. The Town is seeking additional grant monies to complete the work and start restoration of other areas.

NC2-002 Storm Drain Stenciling: The stenciling of all storm drains was completed in 2003 in conformance with the measurable goals. New drains or areas that are repaved will be stenciled as necessary. The Town will check the status of the stenciling each year and re-paint as necessary to maintain their visibility.

NC2-003 Adopt a Highway Program (State Route 1B): The adopt a highway program (Friends of Nancy Seagren) completed a clean-up along Route 1B in spring, summer, and fall of 2003. A total of 30 bags of litter were removed. The clean-up program will be continued this year. Additional streets or increased frequency of clean-up are under evaluation by the Town of New Castle and will be completed when necessary.

NC2-004 Beach Cleaning Program: The Town has solicited local groups for assistance with clean up and maintenance of the beach area. No group has volunteered at this time and the Town will continue to coordinate with them for potentially taking part or completing the beach cleaning and maintenance program. Each month (Blue Ocean Society) walks and cleans the beaches of New Castle. The society had 30 volunteers that collected 87 pounds of trash. The Great Island Common/beach is also cleaned by town employees on a daily basis.

Minimum Control Measure #3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

NC3-001 Educate the local police on illicit dumping of pollutants into storm water drains: Education of the New Castle Police Department regarding illicit dumping has not yet commenced but will be completed by the end of Year 2. The prohibition of illicit dumping is a common sense item, and the Town will work with the Department for detection and enforcement procedures.

NC3-002 Educate residents on indicators of failing septic systems: Information on indicators of failing septic systems has been provided to some residents. A formal informational brochure will be provided to all residents by the end of year two. The 50% target for education of residents in Year 2 was not fully met.

Minimum Control Measure #4: Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control

NC4-001 Planning Board Site Plan Review: The current building ordinances regarding storm water runoff and control are being reviewed, and no major revisions appear to be necessary. Any minor changes to the site plan review requirements will be implemented in Year 2.

NC4-002 Increase frequency of inspections at building sites: Construction activities in the Town this year were limited to twelve residential constructions and completion of the renovation of the Wentworth By The Sea Hotel and Conference Center. These sites were inspected regularly by the Town Code Enforcement Officer, and the structural BMPs were maintained and repaired as necessary during construction.

NC4-003 Increase use of hay bales and silt fence at construction sites: Silt fence and hay bale barriers were utilized on 100% of the construction sites adjacent to surface water in Year 1 of the program. The building ordinances do not currently require these specific BMPs, but will be revised to include them on projects that could potentially generate storm water run-off with pollutants to surface waters.

Minimum Control Measure #5: Post-Construction Storm Water Management in New Development/Redevelopment

NC5-001 Inspect vegetative drainage areas receiving storm water discharge: The Town has inspected all vegetative drainage areas and found only minor erosion at some locations. The eroded areas will be repaired and vegetation re-established in Year 2. Annual inspections of drainage areas will continue to be completed and repairs made as necessary.

Minimum Control Measure #6: Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

NC6-001 Purchase new snowplow: A new snow plow was not purchased as anticipated. The existing plow is being maintained to reduce leaking of fluids. The purchase of a new plow is included in the budget for 2004.

NC6-002 Town Common and New Castle Beach Inspections: The Town continues to complete regular inspections and clean up of trash or other waste at the Town Common and New Castle Beach. Incidents of littering and uncontrolled pet waste remain low in the public areas.

NC6-003 Street Cleaning: The Town has completed sweeping all streets in April 2004. Funds were not available last year to complete a sweeping in the Fall. Funds for two sweepings are not included in this year's budget, but will be evaluated for inclusion in the 2005 budget.

NC6-004 Lawn Care: No fertilizer or pesticides were applied to Town-maintained vegetated areas. If future use is deemed necessary, the soil conditions will be evaluated to determine appropriate application rates.

Summary of Results of Any Information that has been Collected and Analyzed.

The only data to be collected in accordance with this Storm Water Management Plan is the number of residents participating in the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day. However, the number of participants was not recorded those years. The number of participants will be monitored each year to demonstrate whether the Town's efforts are successful in increasing the participation.

Activities for the Next Reporting Cycle

- Continue to include storm water information in quarterly newsletters
- Complete Bull Toad Pond restoration
- Complete update to Site Development Ordinances
- Seek volunteer groups to participate in beach clean-up
- Coordinate with Police Department for implementing illicit discharge detection and enforcement
- Complete education of residents of indicators for failing septic systems
- Repair eroded drainage areas

Changes in Identified BMPs or Measurable Goals

No changes to the BMPs or measurable goals are proposed. The Town intends on complying with the targeted measurable goals by the end of Year 2, for those items that are to be completed by Year 2 (NC3-001, NC3-002, NC4-001, and NC5-001).

The Town of New Castle is not reliant on any other community or regulated MS4 for achieving the measurable goals in the Storm Water Management Plan.

We believe that the above information satisfies the requirements for the annual reporting in the Town of New Castle's coverage under the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Small MS4s. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Beecher, Chairman
New Castle Board of Selectmen

cc: NHDES-Water Division, Wastewater Engineering Bureau