

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
1 WINTER STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NEW ENGLAND - REGION I
OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION
ONE CONGRESS STREET - SUITE-1100 (CMP)
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE OF A DRAFT MODIFICATION TO A NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT TO DISCHARGE INTO THE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER SECTIONS 301 AND 402 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT (THE "ACT"), AS AMENDED, AND REQUEST FOR STATE CERTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 401 OF THE ACT.

DATE OF NOTICE: June 3, 2009

PERMIT NUMBER: MA0003891

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: MA-028-09

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

General Electric Company
159 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01201

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

General Electric Company
159 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01201

RECEIVING WATERS: Housatonic River (East Branch) and Unkamet Brook

RECEIVING WATERS CLASSIFICATION: B, Warm Water Fishery (Housatonic River Watershed)

PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT PERMIT MODIFICATION:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) have cooperated in the development of a draft permit modification for the above-identified facility. The effluent limits and permit conditions imposed have been drafted to assure that State Water Quality Standards and provisions of the Clean Water Act will be met. EPA has formally requested that the state certify the draft permit pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and expects that the draft permit will be certified.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRAFT PERMIT:

A Fact Sheet (describing the type of facility; type and quantity of wastes; a brief summary of the basis for the draft permit modification conditions; and significant factual, legal and policy questions considered in preparing the draft permit modification) may be obtained at no cost by writing, calling, or emailing EPA's contact person named below:

Brian Pitt
Municipal Permits Branch
EPA Office of Ecosystem Protection
One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (CMP)
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023
(617) 918-1667
"pitt.brian@epa.gov"

The administrative record containing all documents relating to the draft permit is on file and may be inspected at the EPA Boston office mentioned above between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Copies of the draft permit and fact sheet are may also be found at the following EPA Internet Websites: www.epa.gov/ne/ge and www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/mass.html.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

The public comment period for the General Electric Company draft permit modification begins on **June 3, 2009** and ends on **July 2, 2009**. All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of the draft permit modification is inappropriate, must raise all issues and submit all available arguments and all supporting material for their arguments in full by the close of the public comment permit (See also: 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 124.13). Please note that only the conditions subject to modification have been reopened. EPA will not accept comments on unopened conditions. Comments should be directed to the U.S. EPA, Office of Ecosystem Protection, Attention: Brian Pitt, One Congress Street, Suite 1100, Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023.

If during the public comment period, significant new questions are raised concerning the permit modification, EPA may require a new draft permit modification or fact sheet or may reopen the public comment period. Also, EPA may schedule a public hearing if, on the basis of requests, the Director finds a significant degree of public interest. A public notice will be issued for any of these actions.

FINAL PERMIT DECISION AND APPEALS:

Following the close of the comment period, the Regional Administrator will issue a final permit decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice. Within 30 days following the notice of the final permit decision any person with standing may submits petition to the Environmental Appeals Board to contest the final decision

GLENN HAAS, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BOSTON, MA

KEN MORAFF, ACTING DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
BOSTON, MA