



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

Central Regional Office • 8 New Bond Street, Worcester MA 01606 • 508-792-7650

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June 8, 2016

Town of Medway Board of Health
155 Village Street
Medway, MA 02053
Attn: Beth M. Hallal, Health Director

Re: Medway
Exelon-West Medway II
Environmental Concerns
On-site wells

Dear Ms. Hallal,

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (“MassDEP”) has reviewed the Board of Health’s (“the Board”) questions regarding the proposed second well for the Exelon project as detailed in a letter dated March 14, 2016 to MassDEP from the Board. Exelon plans to install a second well at their site for the proposed West Medway II project and use this and an existing well for process water. The wells are not proposed to be used for drinking water purposes, as they have indicated that they plan to continue to obtain their potable water from the Town of Medway’s public water system. The Board’s concerns primarily relate to monitoring withdrawal volumes from the two wells.

MassDEP has discussed the Board’s concerns with Exelon and requested that certain water withdrawal information from their onsite wells be collected and submit the information to MassDEP on an annual basis. Exelon has agreed to these requirements and MassDEP will be including them as conditions of the air quality permit that is pending with MassDEP. The conditions will require installation of water meters to track the withdrawal volume from any wells used as process water at the proposed facility, proper maintenance of those meters, record keeping, and annual reporting of the monthly withdrawal from each well to MassDEP.

MassDEP’s Water Management Act (“WMA”) Program regulates withdrawals that exceed a threshold volume defined as “an average daily withdrawal volume of 100,000 gallons for any period of three consecutive months, from a total withdrawal of not less than 9,000,000 gallons”. Reporting of the monthly withdrawals will allow MassDEP to determine if the threshold volume is exceeded. Exelon indicated throughout the MEPA process that their project will not result in a withdrawal greater than the WMA threshold volume and therefore the wells do not require MassDEP review.

Regarding the questions of multiple well operations, it is common practice for wells to be operated simultaneously or in an alternating on/off manner. If the combined withdrawal data exceeds the WMA thresholds, MassDEP's oversight under the WMA would be triggered.

MassDEP appreciates your questions and concerns with regards to this matter. If you have any other questions about water withdrawals please contact Susan Connors of the Drinking Water/Water Management Programs at 508-767-2701 or me at 508-767-2827.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marielle Stone". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Marielle Stone
Deputy Regional Director
Bureau of Water Resources