

**Calichman, Steve**

**From:** Steven Calichman [vze29n8r@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 29, 2007 11:18 PM  
**To:** holly.s.johnson@state.ma.us  
**Cc:** Calichman, Steve  
**Subject:** Comments on Environmental Notification Form for the proposed Baldwin Pond Water Treatment Facility

Secretary Ian A. Bowles  
 Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
 Attn: MEPA Office  
 c/o Holly S. Johnson  
 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
 Boston, MA 02114

Re: Proposed Baldwin Pond  
 Treatment Facility  
 Wayland, MA 01778

Dear Secretary Bowles,

Thank you for giving the Wayland Board of Health the opportunity to comment on the above referenced project. The Board is well aware of the coliform bacteria issues and the problems that the Water Department has encountered with excess iron and manganese in the water that has led to many consumer complaints and citizen concerns about the safety of the water supply. The Board is in favor of this project, but realizes that the expansion of the buildings and the construction of the water treatment facility will be difficult and great care is warranted in constructing the new and upgraded facilities in an environmentally sensitive area. I was pleased to participate in the on-site meeting that was held at the proposed location last week. The meeting was run by Ms. Holly S. Johnson of your office and she did a good job allowing everyone to ask questions or voice concerns that were answered by a representative of the design engineering firm, Tata and Howard, as well as the Acting Wayland Water Department Superintendent, Don Millette.

I have the following comments:

1. At this time there are no definitive plans as to what will be proposed to handle the sewage effluent that will be generated by the labor force that will work in the buildings. Apparently, DEP is insisting on a Title 5 subsurface sewage disposal facility instead of a tight tank or some other technology to deal with this problem. While I have a great deal of confidence in subsurface sewage disposal in general, we are talking about a site in which up to 1.5 million gallons of water a day could be pumped out of the ground, creating an extremely large cone of depression that could draw the renovated sewage effluent directly to the well head. At the end of last week I observed soil testing and percolation tests that according to the consulting engineer, are located just outside of Zone I of this well field. The soils consisted of various sands, from fine to medium consistency. Again, for normal circumstances I believe that the soil is very good, but I have concerns as stated above.
2. Plan C-3 that was included in the ENF shows an area designated as covered lagoons. It was explained that this is the area where iron and manganese sludge that is filtered and removed from the treated drinking water will be stored, until it can be trucked off site. The Board and the staff of the BOH do not have any experience with this material. We would like assurances that this material will not cause any odor problems and will not cause any public health issues, either in a wet or dry condition. We also would like some information on how often the lagoons will be cleaned and where the material will be taken and how it will be handled. Is this material usually landfilled?
3. I have some concerns about how the construction site will be de-watered. Given the proximity of the wetlands and the pond it is imperative that a plan be carefully developed that also includes the impact from adverse weather events under the most severe of conditions. There is no excuse for dewatered effluent adversely impacting the pond and related wetlands.

Sincerely yours,

Steven Calichman R.S., C.H.O.  
 Director of Public Health  
 Wayland, Mass.