

TO: Wayland Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator
FROM: www.waylandwells.com
DATE: July 16, 2012
RE: NStar Wellhead Protection Mitigation Plan

During much of June 2012, Wayland's Oak Hill/Meadowview Road residential neighborhood was subjected to widespread devastation as NStar implemented a scorched-earth clear-cutting process to mechanically remove hundreds of mature trees in their right-of-way easement.

Many of the destroyed trees were evergreens planted by Boston Edison years ago to provide a natural landscaping buffer to mitigate the views of the transmission lines. For many years, the utility topped and trimmed to control growth. No trees in this right-of-way area had reportedly caused a power outage.

Waylandwells.com objected to the use of the Meadowview Well drinking water supply area as one of the staging grounds for NStar's operations. Initially we were told by NStar's utility forester that the vegetation clearing near and in the wetlands would be done manually. Instead, NStar contractors used heavy equipment to clear cut in the Zone I and primary recharge area for a town drinking water well.

NStar must now take full responsibility for its actions, including negative impacts to town assets, water resources and wetlands.

Per your request at the July 9, 2012 Selectmen's meeting, we provide this Memo with sample photographs attached to illustrate each of these impacts:

- Meadowview Well entrance on June 12, 2012 (before clear-cutting in this area) #1580
- heavy equipment in the Zone I; potential damage to Town water supply assets #1672
- heavy equipment stored overnight in designated protected water resource area #1798
- heavy equipment repeatedly crossing over town's underground infrastructure #1668
- other heavy equipment threats to sensitive areas #1642
- tires dumped in water supply area #1634
- fuel stains on mats and roadway #1864
- damages to the Town's asphalt road surface #1871
- major terrain alterations in wetlands and water supply area #1648
- no erosion controls on hilly terrain and in wetlands #1762
- water supply area left without security screening; locked gate now ineffective #1844

There are two additional issues related to NStar equipment and operations that need to be addressed. Wayland's 2011 Wellhead Protection Plan, approved by the Department of Environmental Protection, recommends on pages 38, 51, 62, 72, and 80 that the Town contact

NStar to determine that it has in fact removed all toxics (PCBs, MODEF, etc.) from its transformers in the Zone IIs of the town wells. A reportable release of toxics into soils from an NStar transformer occurred at the Rt.30 Cochituate Nursing Home in June 2010, hence the need to verify. Attached photo #1885 shows a transformer in the Zone I near the Meadowview Well utility buildings. Attached photo #1724 shows a transformer on Oak Hill Road in the Meadowview Well Capture Zone.

The town also needs to know whether lead or other toxics have leached from deteriorated painted surfaces of NStar poles into the wellhead area soils and groundwater. Attached photo #1877 shows the base of a white-painted transmission line pole in the Meadowview Well Zone I.

At the upcoming July 18, 2012 public meeting with NStar, Waylandwells.com will be prepared to present these issues and propose mitigations and policy recommendations.

We respectfully request that a Powerpoint projector be available for our use. Please confirm.

Thank you.

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www.waylandwells.com