**NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**
**WATER DIVISION**
**P.O. BOX 95**
**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03302-0095**

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY - REGION I**
**OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION**
**5 POST OFFICE SQUARE**
**BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109-3912**

# NOTICE OF EXTENSION OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

THIS IS A JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE OF AN **EXTENSION TO** THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT FOR **MERRIMACK STATION** IN BOW, NEW HAMPSHIRE TO DISCHARGE INTO THE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER SECTIONS 301 AND 402 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT, AS AMENDED, AND REQUEST FOR STATE CERTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 401 OF THE ACT, AND ISSUANCE OF A STATE SURFACE WATER PERMIT UNDER NH RSA 485-A:13, I(a).

DATE OF NOTICE: **August 17, 2017**

PERMIT NUMBER: **NH0001465**

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: **NH-09-17**

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

**Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH)**
**P.O. Box 330**
**Manchester, NH 03105-0330**

NAME AND LOCATION OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

**Merrimack Station**
**97 River Road**
**Bow, NH 03301**

RECEIVING WATER: **Merrimack River, Class B**

INFORMATION ABOUT THE EXTENSION OF THIS REOPENED PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

On August 4, 2017 the comment period was reopened pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 124.14(b) to allow additional comment to address certain data, information, and arguments, that pertain to certain aspects of the permit that became pertinent since issuance of the draft permit in 2011 and the revised draft permit in 2014. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 124.14(c), the comment period for the Draft Permit was not reopened "across the board." It is, instead, only reopened with respect to certain issues. In conjunction with the August 2, 2017 public notice, EPA has prepared a document entitled, "Statement of Substantial New Questions for Public Comment" (the Statement). The Statement discusses the new data, information (including new regulations), and arguments, that appear to raise substantial new

questions and prompted EPA to reopen the comment period. The Statement also specifies particular records that are at issue. These records are included in EPA's administrative record for the Merrimack Station NPDES permit. The Statement and the administrative record are available at on EPA's website at https://www3.epa.gov/region1/npdes/merrimackstation/index.html. EPA is also making a copy of the Statement available at our offices in Boston, Massachusetts or a copy can be obtained by contacting Sharon DeMeo at the address listed below.

Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 124.10, the reopened public comment period for the Merrimack Station Draft Permit is hereby **extended an additional 60 days** from October 4, 2017 to December 4, 2017. All persons, including applicants, who want to submit comments on the issues that were identified in the reopened public notice on August 2, 2017, must raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably available arguments and all supporting material for their arguments in full by **December 4, 2017**, to the address listed below.

Ms. Sharon DeMeo
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OEP06-1)
Boston, MA 02109-3912
Telephone: (617) 918-1995

Any materials supporting the comments must be submitted in full and may not be incorporated by reference unless they are already part of the administrative record. In reaching a final decision on the Merrimack Station NPDES permit, the Regional Administrator will respond to all significant comments and make these responses available to the public at EPA's Boston office.

FINAL PERMIT DECISION:

Following the close of the comment period and after a public hearing, if such hearing is held, 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.

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| EUGENE J. FORBES, P.E., DIRECTOR<br>WATER DIVISION<br>NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF<br>ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES | ARTHUR JOHNSON, ACTING DIRECTOR<br>OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION<br>U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION<br>AGENCY - REGION 1 |

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