

August 1, 2014

John G. Radcliffe
Conservation Commission Chairman
City of New Bedford Conservation Commission
133 William St, Room 304
New Bedford, MA 02740

Re: Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority
South Coast Rail – RDA, Nash Road Grade Crossing

Dear Mr. Radcliffe:

On behalf of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), I am submitting updated information to supplement the Request for Determination of Applicability submitted for the August 5 meeting. The MBTA and design consultant continue to develop and finalize the design plans for the MBTA's Nash Road grade crossing project. Subsequent to the submission of the RDA, supplemental and offsite information was obtained to refine preliminary calculations of the contributing stormwater inputs to the railroad right-of-way. The supplemental information found substantive offsite runoff enters the railroad and due to the absence of existing drainage conveyances, and supports the observation of regular inundation and puddles of portions of the track and right of way. Based upon the refined information, the MBTA is slightly modifying the drainage design and providing the New Bedford Conservation Commission with the update.

The principal change in approach is rather than having a single stormwater discharge point and leaching basin near Station 2800, east of Wetland "WLF" the design now incorporates three discharge points. The design refinement also expands the number of leaching basins from one to four. The changes not only improve the water handling, but also provide more infiltration and better dispersion of the stormwater discharges. Due to flat terrain at the discharge points, stone lined ditches are required to convey the water toward Wetland WLF. These ditches will be partially within the 100 foot buffer from the wetland, but not within the inner 25 foot protective zone. The change will slightly increase the amount of work in the 100 foot buffer by approximately 4,400 square feet. Attached are updated plans showing the revised drainage design and a revised Stormwater section for the RDA.

If you have any questions regarding this request, or require any additional information, please contact me at (617) 532-2243 or Holly Palmgren with the MBTA at (617) 875-3807.

Best regards,



Kevin Slattery, PWS
Senior Environmental Specialist

CC: Holly Palmgren, MBTA
Kimberly Dobosz, MBTA
Jean Fox, MassDOT
Michael Stoffel, HNTB