

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF CUSTOMER AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

INTER-OFFICE MEMO

Date: August 31, 2011

To: Joe Martella, Senior Engineer
Office of Waste Management

From: Ann Battersby, Senior Environmental Scientist
Office of Customer and Technical Assistance

Subject: Former Gorham Manufacturing Facility – Park Parcel (aka Parcel D)
333 Adelaide Ave, Providence, RI
Case No. 2005-059 (Associated with Case No. 97-030)

During a meeting held on July 12, 2011 at the Office of Customer and Technical Assistance (OCTA), MACTEC Inc. submitted several site plans depicting a preliminary design of a “Recreational Cap” to be placed on portions of the above referenced “Park Parcel” or “Parcel D” of the Former Gorham Manufacturing Facility. The preliminary plans were submitted to OCTA for the purpose of verifying the wetland edge of Mashapaug Cove and associated Swamp fringe. Initial flagging for the site was conducted by EA Engineering for MACTEC Inc. in 2007 and flags were subsequently rehung in the same location on August 25, 2011 by MACTEC personnel based upon GPS coordinates. Following the meeting at OCTA on July 12, 2011, a public meeting and comment period was issued for the feasibility of the proposed remedial alternatives for the site. A formal submittal of a Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) has not been received by RIDEM’s Office of Waste Management. OCTA personnel conducted an inspection of the flagged wetland edge on August 25, 2011 to formally verify the wetland edge so that planning for the proposed recreational cap could be made accordingly. During the site visit, OCTA personnel were accompanied by MACTEC Inc. Senior Engineer, Phil Muller.

The site inspection indicated that Mashapaug Pond is greater than a quarter acre in size with an associated Swamp fringe and has a 50-foot perimeter wetland. Wetland flags WTLF A1-A29 represent the edge of the wetland within the limit of disturbance (LOD) for the project. Based upon the inspection of the site, it has been determined that the flagged wetland edge is accurate with the exception of Wetland Flags WTLF A15 & A16

and WTLF A24-A26 that were moved in the field approximately 8 ft south and approximately 5 feet west, respectively. The edge of the “recreational cap” will be placed approximately 5 feet from the wetland edge. It is proposed that all trees and vegetation will be removed for placement of the cap within the 50-foot perimeter wetland and the LOD. It has been determined by the site inspection that this activity is exempt from obtaining a permit according to Rule 6.08 the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Freshwater Wetland Act (Rules). Activities in accordance with Rule 6.08 must be confined only to that described in the Remedial Design – Phase 1 Recreational Cap site plans submitted to OCTA. If the design in the final RAWP differs from that which this office has reviewed, an additional site visit may be warranted to assure that activities are exempt under Rule 6.08.

In undertaking this project, measures must be taken which will minimize the disturbance and adverse impacts to the subject freshwater wetland and the following conditions must be adhered to:

- Appropriate sedimentation and erosion controls must be in place and in proper working order at all times until all disturbed areas are stabilized and vegetated.
- All disturbed ground shall be loamed and seeded with the appropriate grass mixture and maintained until the ground is stabilized.
- Woody vegetation within the LOD shown on site plans can be cleared only when deemed necessary to adequately complete the remedial activity by the Office of Waste Management and the environmental consultant hired by the owner.
- Redevelopment of the site is NOT authorized by this Office as part of this review. Any non-remedial activities proposed within the limits of on-site wetlands will require submission of an appropriate Application to this Office and subsequent authorization.

All activities associated with this project, including the site remediation work, must be conducted in accordance with Rule 6.01 of the Rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project and for facilitating comments from this Office. If you have any further questions you can reach me at ext. 7284.