



**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
**OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES**  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

December 27, 2018

The Narragansett Electric Company  
Attn: Michael F. Ryan, Government Relations  
c/o Mary Smith  
280 Melrose Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**Insignificant Alteration – Permit**

**RE:** Application No. 18-0289 in reference to the property and proposed project located:

Along portions of the Aquidneck Island Reliability Project's transmission line Right-of-Way (ROW) near at least Locust Avenue, Hedley Street, Long Meadow Road, Highpoint Road and St. Mary's Pond between the Dexter Substation at 182 Freeborn Street in Portsmouth and the proposed Jepson Substation in Middletown, RI.

Dear Mr. Ryan:

Kindly be advised that the Department of Environmental Management's ("DEM") Freshwater Wetlands Program ("Program") has completed its review of your **Request for Preliminary Determination** application. This review included a site inspection of the above referenced property ("subject property") and an evaluation of the proposed installation of the anti-galloping devices with temporary timber mat access and restoration measures as illustrated and detailed on site plans submitted with your application. These site plans were received by the DEM on October 30, 2018.

Our observations of the subject property, review of the site plans and evaluation of the proposed project reveals that alterations of freshwater wetlands are proposed. However, pursuant to Rule 9.00 of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Fresh Water Wetlands Act (Rules), this project may be permitted as an **insignificant alteration** to freshwater wetlands under the following terms and conditions:

**Terms and Conditions for Application No: 18-0289**

1. This letter is the DEM's permit for this project under the R.I. Fresh Water Wetlands Act, Rhode Island General Laws (RIGL) Section 2-1-18 et seq.
2. This permit is specifically limited to the project, site alterations and limits of disturbance as detailed on the site plans submitted with your application and received by the DEM on October 30, 2018. A copy of the site plans stamped approved by the DEM is enclosed. Changes or revisions to the project that would alter freshwater wetlands are not authorized without a permit from the DEM.
3. Where the terms and conditions of the permit conflict with the approved site plans, these terms and conditions shall be deemed to supersede the site plans.

4. You must notify this Program in writing immediately prior to the commencement of site alterations and upon completion of the project.
5. A copy of the stamped approved site plans and a copy of this permit must be kept at the site at all times during site preparation, construction, and final stabilization. Copies of this permit and the stamped approved plans must be made available for review by any DEM representative upon request.
6. The effective date of this permit is the date this letter was issued. This permit expires four years from the date issued unless renewed pursuant to the Rules.
7. Any material utilized in this project must be clean and free of matter that could pollute any freshwater wetland.
8. Prior to commencement of site alterations, you shall erect or post a sign resistant to the weather and at least twelve (12) inches wide and eighteen (18) inches long, which boldly identifies the initials "DEM" and the application number of this permit. This sign must be maintained at the site in a conspicuous location until such time that the project is complete.
9. Temporary erosion and sediment controls detailed or described on the approved site plans shall be properly installed at the site prior to or commensurate with site alterations. Such controls shall be properly maintained, replaced, supplemented, or modified as necessary throughout the life of this project to minimize soil erosion and to prevent sediment from being deposited in any wetlands not subject to disturbance under this permit.
10. Upon permanent stabilization of all disturbed soils, temporary erosion and/or sediment controls must be removed.
11. You are responsible for the proper operation, maintenance and stability of any mitigative features, facilities, and systems of treatment and control that are installed or used in compliance with this permit to prevent harm to adjacent wetlands.
12. You are obligated to install, utilize and follow all best management practices detailed or described on the approved site plans in the construction of the project to minimize or prevent adverse impacts to any adjacent freshwater wetlands and the functions and values provided by such wetlands.
13. Only the work shown in red on the approved site plans as proposed additional access and additional swamp mats for the purpose of installing the anti-galloping devices is authorized under this permit.
14. This Program has made specific revisions to the approved site plans. These revisions are clearly marked in red on the approved plans. Specifically, the page numbers in the site plan set have been re-numbered sequentially (1 of 7 to 7 of 7).

**This Permit also constitutes your authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("Corps") under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the work proposed. Your project qualifies as a Self-Verification" ("SV") activity under the Rhode Island General Permit (General Permit No. NAE-2016-2264) (RI GP). You can view this permit at:**

**"[http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Portals/74/docs/regulatory/StateGeneralPermits/RI/Rhode\\_Island\\_General\\_Permits\\_2017.pdf](http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Portals/74/docs/regulatory/StateGeneralPermits/RI/Rhode_Island_General_Permits_2017.pdf)". You are, therefore, not required to file a separate application with the Corps.**

Please note that the General Conditions within the RI GP apply to all activities authorized under the RI GP. Please review them carefully to thoroughly familiarize yourself with their contents. You may wish to discuss all permit conditions with your contractor to ensure that the work can be accomplished in a manner which conforms to all requirements.

You are required to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit and to carry out this project in compliance with the Rules at all times. Failure to do so may result in an enforcement action by this Department and/or subject you to the enforcement provisions of the Corps' regulations.

In permitting the proposed alterations, the DEM assumes no responsibility for damages resulting from faulty design or construction.

Kindly be advised that this permit is not equivalent to a verification of the type or extent of freshwater wetlands on site. Should you wish to have the types and extent of freshwater wetlands verified, you may submit the appropriate application in accordance with Rule 8.03.

This permit does not remove your obligation to obtain any local, state, or federal approvals or permits required by ordinance or law and does not relieve you from any duties owed to adjacent landowners with specific reference to any changes in drainage.

Please contact of this office (telephone: 401-222-6820 x 7408) should you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

*Nancy L. Freeman*

Nancy L. Freeman, Senior Environmental Scientist  
Office of Water Resources  
Freshwater Wetlands Program  
NLF/mlf

Enclosure: Approved site plans

cc: Taylor Bell, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District  
Adam Rosenblatt, Project Manager and Senior Wetland Scientist  
Gareth Eames, Portsmouth Building Official  
Julia Forgue, PE, Newport Director of Utilities