



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

March 28, 2023

Lewis N. Gaffett  
PO Box 20  
New Shoreham, RI 02807

**Insignificant Alteration – Permit**

Re: Application No. 22-0349 for the property and project located:

1231 Off High Street, approximately 200 feet west from of the terminus of Upper High Street, and approximately 1100 feet northwest from the intersection of Upper High Street and Ebbetts Hollow, Assessor's Plat 7, Lot 160, New Shoreham, RI.

Dear Mr. Gaffett:

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 construction of a single-family dwelling with an attached garage, onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS), new waterline to connect to an existing well, electrical connection, crushed stone driveway, deck, two rain gardens for stormwater management, grading, landscaping, temporary erosion controls, and screen plantings as illustrated and detailed on site plans submitted with your application. These site plans were received by the DEM on March 20, 2023.

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 250-RICR-150-15-1.9 of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Fresh Water Wetlands Act, 250-RICR-150-15-1, this project may be permitted as an **insignificant alteration** to freshwater wetlands under the following terms and conditions:

Terms and Conditions for Wetlands Application No. 22-0349:

1. This letter is the DEM's permit for this project under the R.I. Fresh Water Wetlands Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 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 March 20, 2023. 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 of the anticipated start date, and of your contractor's contact information, by submitting the Notice of Start of Construction Form prior to commencement of any permitted site alterations or construction activity. You must also notify this Program in writing upon completion of the project. The Start of Construction Form can be found on the webpage: [dem.ri.gov/stormwaterconstruction](http://dem.ri.gov/stormwaterconstruction)
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 or town representative upon request.
6. Within ten (10) days of the receipt of this permit, you must record this permit in the land evidence records of the Town of New Shoreham and supply this Program with written documentation obtained from the Town showing this permit was recorded.
7. The effective date of this permit is the date this letter was issued. This permit expires four (4) years from the date of this letter unless renewed pursuant to the Rules.
8. Any material utilized in this project must be clean and free of matter that could pollute any freshwater wetland.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. Upon permanent stabilization of all disturbed soils, temporary erosion and/or sediment controls must be removed.
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. All plantings of shrubs, trees or other forms of vegetation as shown or detailed on the approved plans, or detailed in this permit, must be installed as soon as possible after completion of final grading; weather and season permitting.
14. Buffer zone plantings of trees and/or shrubs proposed between the project and any adjacent freshwater wetland areas, except for necessary replacement, must be allowed to develop naturally without being subjected to mowing or manicuring.
15. Any plantings which fail to survive one full growing season shall be replaced. Replacement plantings shall be similarly guaranteed for one full growing season.

16. Prior to commencement of any site alterations, permanent buffer zone markers must be installed along the limit of disturbance at the locations indicated in red ink on the approved site plans, in order to provide permanent reference points on site that are clear to present and future property owners. Acceptable permanent type markers include 4" x 4" pressure treated timber posts, galvanized fence posts with cap, or granite or concrete bounds. Markers must extend a minimum twenty-four (24) inches above grade. A permanent-type tag or sign labeled "RIDEM Buffer Zone" must be placed on each marker. A permanent-type fence at least twenty-four (24) inches tall placed along the limits of disturbance and similarly labeled may be substituted where desired. No alterations of any kind are permitted beyond these markers without first obtaining the necessary permit from this Program. **Please note that previously maintained areas of perimeter wetland beyond the limit of disturbance must be allowed to revegetate naturally.**
17. This Program has made specific revisions to the approved site plans. These revisions are clearly marked in red on the approved plans and include the sequential renumbering of sheets. This project must take place in compliance with these revisions.
18. Crushed stone used for the driveway must be in accordance with the State of Rhode Island Stormwater Management Guidance for Individual Single-Family Residential Lot Development. (i.e. the crushed stone used must be ¾ inch to 1½ inch diameter, washed, angular crushed stone installed to a minimum depth of 3 inches. The grade of the finished driveway shall not be higher than the adjacent ground elevation).

Pursuant to the provisions in 250-RICR-150-15-1.7(A)(9) and 250-RICR-150-15-1.11(D), as applicable, any properly recorded and valid permit is automatically transferred to the new owner upon sale of the property.

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.

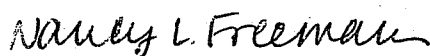
In permitting the proposed alterations, the DEM assumes no responsibility for damages resulting from faulty design or construction.

Kindly be advised that this permit is not equivalent to a verification of the type or extent of freshwater wetlands on site. Only those wetland edges in proximity to the proposed limit of disturbance were reviewed. Should you wish to have the types and extent of freshwater wetlands verified, you may submit the appropriate application in accordance with 250-RICR-150-15-1.8(C).

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 Sophie Clode of this office (telephone: 401-222-6820, ext. 2777419) should you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Nancy L. Freeman, Principal Environmental Scientist  
Office of Water Resources  
Freshwater Wetlands Program

Enclosure: Approved site plans

cc: Mohamed Freij, PE, PLS, Supervising Environmental Engineer, DEM OWTS Program  
Sergio F. Cherenzia, PE, President, Cherenzia & Associates, Ltd.  
Scott P. Rabideau, PWS, President, Natural Resource Services, LLC  
Charles Phelps, Building Official, Town of New Shoreham