



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

February 2, 2023

Ella D. Mortenson Living Trust ET ALS, Leonard Rachlow, Trustee
c/o John Shekarchi, Attorney
132 Old River Rd.
Suite 103
Lincoln, RI 02865

Freshwater Wetlands Permit

Re: Application No. **22-0465** for the property and project located:

At 135 Austin Avenue, approximately 600 feet north of Austin Avenue and approximately 750 feet northwest its intersection with Mapleville Road, near Utility Pole No. 53, Assessor's Plat 47, lot 288 Smithfield, RI.

Dear Mr. Rachlow:

Kindly be advised that the Department of Environmental Management's ("DEM") Freshwater Wetlands Program ("Program") has completed its review of your **Application for a Freshwater Wetlands Permit** as described in Rule 3.11 of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Fresh Water Wetlands Act, 250-RICR-150-15-3 ("Rules"). This review included a site inspection of the above referenced property ("subject property") and an evaluation of the proposed construction of a single-family home, crushed stone driveway, culvert installation, utilities (private well and OWTS), new utility poles and overhead wires, infiltration trenches with clearing, grading, landscaping, and associated site alterations as illustrated and detailed on site plans submitted with your application. These site plans were received by the DEM on January 17, 2023.

Our observations of the subject property, review of the site plans and evaluation of the proposed project reveals that alterations of jurisdictional areas are proposed. However, pursuant to Rule 3.7.3A of the Rules, this project meets the General Variance Criteria, and a **Freshwater Wetlands Permit** may be issued under the following terms and conditions:

Terms and Conditions for Wetlands Application No. 22-0465: and RIPDES No. RIR102471:

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 determination also includes your final authorization to discharge storm water associated with construction activity under the **2020 RIDPES General Permit for Stormwater Discharge During Construction Activity ("CGP")**. For future references and inquiry, your permit authorization number is RIPDES No. **RIR102471**.

3. 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 January 17, 2023. A copy of the site plans stamped approved by the DEM is enclosed. Changes or revisions to the project that would alter jurisdictional areas are not authorized without a permit from the DEM.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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 city/town representative upon request.
7. Within ten (10) days of the receipt of this permit, you must record this permit in the land evidence records of the Town of Smithfield and supply this Program with written documentation obtained from the Town showing this permit was recorded.
8. The effective date of this permit is the date this letter was issued. This permit expires five (5) years from the date of this letter unless renewed pursuant to the Rules.
9. Any material utilized in this project must be clean and free of matter that could pollute any jurisdictional area.
10. 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.
11. Both the owner and the contractor retained to undertake the construction activity are required to comply with all terms and conditions of the CGP. This includes maintaining the Soil Erosion and Sediment Control (SESC) Plan, performing the required inspections and maintenance of the selected Best Management Practices (BMPs), and retaining inspection records. Further information on the requirements of the CGP is available at:
<http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/water/permits/ripdes/pdfs/cgp092620.pdf>.
12. 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 freshwater wetland, buffer, floodplain, area subject to storm flowage, or area subject to flooding or other jurisdictional areas not subject to disturbance under this permit.
13. Upon permanent stabilization of all disturbed soils, temporary erosion and/or sediment controls must be removed.

14. You are obligated to install, utilize, follow and maintain 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 wetland and buffers and the functions and values provided by such freshwater wetlands and buffers.
15. 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. You must notify this Program in writing upon completion of the required plantings for a compliance inspection by a Program representative.
16. Mitigation or screen plantings of trees and/or shrubs proposed between the project and any adjacent freshwater wetland areas and buffers, except for necessary replacement, must be allowed to develop naturally without being subjected to mowing or manicuring.
17. Any plantings which fail to survive one full growing season shall be replaced. Replacement plantings shall be similarly guaranteed for one full growing season.
18. Artificial lighting is not authorized along the driveway/roadway where it crosses freshwater wetlands and buffers.

Pursuant to the provisions in 250-RICR-150-15-3.8.13 and 250-RICR-150-15-3.14.4(A), as applicable, any properly recorded and valid Freshwater Wetlands Permit is automatically transferred to the new owner upon sale of the property.

Please be aware that the RIDEM's Rules and Regulations Governing the Establishment of Various Fees (250-RICR-30-00-1) require that RIPDES CGP permit holders to pay an Annual Fee of \$100.00. An invoice will be sent to the owner on record in May/June of each year if the construction was still active as of December 31st of the previous year. The owner will be responsible for the Annual Fee until the construction activity has been completed, the site has been properly stabilized, and a completed Notice of Termination (NOT) has been received by the RIPDES Program.

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 or jurisdictional areas on site. Should you wish to have the types and extent of freshwater wetlands verified, you may submit the appropriate application in accordance with 250-RICR-150-15-3.9.3.

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 Sam Dufresne of this office (telephone: 401-222-6820, ext. 277-7275) should you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Nancy L. Freeman

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

NLF/SGD/sgd

Enclosure: Approved site plans

ec: Neal Personeus, DEM Stormwater Program
Nicholas Piampiano, PE, Advanced Civil Design, Inc.
Scott P. Rabideau, PWS, Natural Resource Services, Inc.
Eric D. Colburn, PLS, President, Foster Survey Company
Kevin R. Kotelly, P.E., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District
Daniel Breen, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (NAE-2022-02507)
Christopher McWhite, Building Official, Town of Smithfield