



Department of Environmental Protection

Western Regional Office • 436 Dwight Street, Springfield MA 01103 • 413-784-1100

Maura T. Healey
Governor

Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Rebecca L. Tepper
Secretary

Bonnie Heiple
Commissioner

Issued Electronically
housatonicwater@gmail.com

February 13, 2025

Mr. James Mercer
Housatonic Water Works Company
80 Maple Street
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Re: Great Barrington
Housatonic Water Works Company
PWS ID# 1113003
Enforcement

Dear Mr. Mercer,

On October 8, 2024, MassDEP issued a Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) to Housatonic Water Works Company (HWWC) requiring the permitting and construction of filtration upgrades designed to remove manganese from its Long Pond Reservoir supply source. HWWC submitted the permit application and supporting materials on November 8, 2024 and November 27, 2024. MassDEP issued a permit approving the filtration upgrades on December 13, 2024. Notably, both the UAO and the December 13, 2024 permit approval contain (either directly or by reference) enforceable deadlines related to the project. In accordance with the requirements of the UAO, HWWC is required to commence construction of the filtration upgrades within 90 days of the permit approval. For MassDEP's purposes, 'commence construction' means that physical construction begins and that vendors and supplies have been procured/allocated for the project in a manner that will allow the project to proceed without any unreasonable delay or interruption.

Through this correspondence, MassDEP is reminding HWWC of the deadlines associated with both the UAO and the permit, as well as requiring that HWWC submit routine progress reports on the project pursuant to 310 CMR 22.03(1). **HWWC shall submit monthly status reports by no later than the 15th day of each month for the preceding calendar month. Each report shall provide a summary of equipment order status, construction activities completed, planned activities for the next calendar month, and a summary of the overall projected construction schedule. These routine reports shall continue until construction of the project is complete and MassDEP indicates in writing that they are no longer required. The first of these reports will be regarding February is due on March 15.**

The Plan submitted as part of the application is presented below for reference with updates (in bold) to reflect activities that have already occurred, including MassDEP's permit approval date and the date for commencing construction from the UAO:

11-26-24	Submit additional project narratives to MADEP.
Nov 24 - Dec 24	Design Review by MassDEP, reply to comments

12-13-24	MADEP project approval
2-15-25	Order Filtration Equipment – Est. 8-month delivery time
3-13-25	Begin Site Work (90-days from MassDEP’s permit approval per UAO)
3-13-25	Begin New Electrical Service Installation, Order Generator
6-1-25	Begin Treatment Plant Building Construction
8-1-25	Complete Treatment Plant Building Construction
10-1-25	Complete Internal Buildout- Walls, Electrical, Lighting, HVAC,
10-15-25	Treatment Plant Equipment Delivery
11-1-25	Complete Standby Generator Installation, Electrical Service Installation
1-15-26	Complete Treatment Plant Equipment Installation
3-1-26	Complete Startup and Testing, Plant Ready for Use

MassDEP requires that within 5-days of receipt of this letter, HWWC provide written confirmation that the filtration equipment was ordered by the February 15th date included within the Plan and that the construction of the filtration equipment is on schedule in accordance with the Plan and MassDEP’s October 8th Unilateral Administrative Order. Any deviation from the schedule that was included within the Plan must be detailed in HWWC’s response.

This letter also serves as a reminder of the deadlines within MassDEP’s December 13, 2024 permit for conditions 2 through 4, and 6 through 8. These items are due by March 13, 2025. MassDEP has included a copy of the December 13, 2024 permit with this letter for your convenience.

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Douglas Paine by email at Douglas.Paine@mass.gov.

Respectfully,



Andrew Kelly
 Drinking Water Program
 Bureau of Water Resources

cc: DWP Boston; OE Boston; Board of Health; DEP-WERO-D. Paine; Haley Ward

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