



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STATION NEWPORT
690 PEARY STREET
NEWPORT, RI 02841-1522

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NAVSTA NEWPORT RI
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IN REPLY REFER TO
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Ser 424/108
FEB 2 2001

Mr. Kenneth Anderson
Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver H. Stedmen Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

Dear Mr. Anderson:

SUBJECT: AMENDED CONSISTENCY DETERMINATION UPGRADE/IMPROVEMENTS
TO SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM (COASTERS HARBOR SEWER
CROSSING) AT NAVAL STATION (NAVSTA) NEWPORT RI (RI CRMC
FILE NO.95-3-45)

The Navy proposes to amend its originally approved plans to remove the excess backfill and dredged material recovered during the installation of the subject sanitary sewer at Coasters Harbor Island. Initially, the Navy planned to dispose of this material off of Station property. It is now proposed to spread this material over a site adjacent to Gate 2 at the NAVSTA, where it is currently stockpiled. The site will then be hydro-seeded.

An amended consistency determination has been prepared for this action and is enclosed as part of this letter. We have determined that this action is consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with Rhode Island's coastal zone management program. Request your concurrence with this determination. Please provide your response within 30 days. Should you have any questions, our point of contact is Mr. Steve Haslam at (401) 841-7616.

Sincerely,

H. L. SCHWIND
Captain, CEC, U.S. Navy
Public Works Officer
By direction of the
Commanding Officer

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**AMENDMENT TO
COASTAL MANAGEMENT CONSISTENCY REVIEW (File No: 95-3-45)
FOR UPGRADE/IMPROVEMENTS TO SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM
NAVAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTER
NEWPORT RI**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Reference is made to the Department of Navy Coastal Management Consistency Review for the Replacement of Coasters Harbor Sewer Crossing dated Mar 13, 1995 wherein the effects of the installation of a replacement sewer line were discussed. Under this project, excess backfill and dredge material excavated for the sewer line installation was to be removed off site.

The current proposed action, and the subject of this amended consistency review, is to modify the original proposed action to spread the excess backfill and dredge material at the site where it was temporarily placed during the sewer line construction. The site is a 1.5 acre lot adjacent to Gate 2 of the Naval Station Newport and Coasters Harbor.

RELATED SECTIONS

Reference is made to the CRMP of 1990 (Red Book) and Amendment of April 25, 1996.

The Coasters Harbor location is shown on the Prudence Island Quadrangle Map. The project location is within Type I waters (Conservation Areas). The related sections for the water use and project type are addressed in detail as follows.

Section 200.1: Type 1 Conservation Areas

Policies General:

Approximately 6,700 cubic yards (cy) of excess backfill from throughout the project area and 300 cy of dredged material from Coasters Harbor have been stockpiled on a site near Gate 2 at the Naval Station Newport. It is proposed to regrade this material over this site so as to create no more than one-on-three slopes and to hydro-seed the material. The edge the material will be retained at least 50 feet from the coastal feature. Placement of this material will raise the site elevation between one to four feet. This revision to the project scope is not inconsistent with the policies of the Coastal Resources Management Plan.

Section 210.1/6: Coastal Beaches/Manmade Shorelines

Policies:

The proposed change in the disposal of excess backfill and dredge material will not significantly alter the existing shoreline features as placement (spreading and seeding) of this material will raise the site elevation between one to four feet.

Section 300.1: Category B Requirements

1. Describe the need for the proposed activity or alteration.

The Navy's Consistency Determination dated Mar 13, 1995 provided a discussion of the project need for the upgrading of the sanitary sewer. This amendment has been prepared to address the change in the disposal of approximately 7,000 cy of excess backfill and dredged material excavated during the installation of the sanitary sewer line. This material has been stockpiled adjacent to Gate 2 of the Naval Station Newport since completion of the sewer line installation in Sept 1998. The proposed action is to spread this soil on the site where it has been stockpiled as this is more cost-effective than transporting the material to an offsite location. The site would then be hydro-seeded.

2. Demonstrate that all applicable local zoning ordinances, building codes, flood hazard standards, safety codes, fire codes, and environmental requirements have or will be met.

Placement (spreading and seeding) of the stockpiled material over the 1.5-acre site will raise the site elevation by an average 1 to 4 feet. The site is located within the 100-year flood plain zone. This action will result in reducing the available flood storage by 4.3 acre-feet. Compared to the 136 square miles which forms the Narragansett Bay the proposed reduction will not significantly affect the flood storage capacity of the Bay

The Navy has performed characterization sampling of the stockpiled material. Soil samples were analyzed for TPH, PCB, VOCs, SVOCs, and RCRA 8 metals. Based on this characterization effort, arsenic levels in the stockpiled material ranged from 4.0 to 10.9 ppm. In addition, a TCLP analysis on the soil pile indicated the presence of arsenic levels at levels below 4 ppb (non-detect). These test results show the stockpiled soil is within the range of background levels for arsenic in this geographical area and is suitable to remain on site. Also see Department of the Navy, Office of the General Counsel for the Northern Division Naval Facilities Engineering Command letter of 13 Dec 2000 included as Attachment I.

3. Describe the boundaries of the coastal waters and land area that are to be affected.

The proposed site for the placement (spreading and seeding) of excess backfill soils and dredged material is adjacent to Gate 2 at the Naval Station Newport. The site is bounded by a Navy housing area to the south, Coasters Harbor to the west and north, and Third Avenue Extension to the east. The center of this site is approximately 150 feet from Narragansett Bay. A minimum distance of 50 feet will be retained between the edge of the soil placement and the coastal feature.

4. Describe potential impacts on erosion and deposition processes along the shore and in tidal waters.

The project will have no long-term effects on erosion and deposition processes along the shore and within the tidal waters. Hydro-seeding the site following the spreading of the stockpiled material will minimize soil erosion. Short-term impacts during the spreading and vegetative growth period will be minimized by the use of hay bales and silt fence sediment controls.

5. Describe potential impacts on the abundance and diversity of plant and animal life.

The site where the excess backfill and dredged material has been stockpiled was a grass covered, open field with some deteriorated pavement at the easterly end of the area. As such, the site did not provide significant habitat for plant and animal life. After the stockpiled material has been spread over the site, the disturbed area will be re-seeded. This action will not have any long-term impacts on the abundance and diversity of local plant and animal life.

6. Describe potential impacts to tidal waters and/or the shore.

The proposed placement of the excess excavated soil and dredged material will not change public access to tidal waters and the shore area.

7. Describe potential impacts on water circulation, flushing, turbidity, and sedimentation.

Appropriate erosion control measures will be used to contain runoff on the site during the placement and re-seeding operations. There are no significant impacts anticipated on water circulation, flushing, turbidity or sedimentation.

8. Demonstrate that there will be no significant deterioration in the quality of the water in the immediate vicinity as defined by DEM.

Temporary siltation controls will be installed to prevent significant erosion and deterioration in the local water quality. The controls will remain in place until successful vegetative growth has occurred.