

NJDEP WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLANNING RULE ADOPTED - NOVEMBER 2016

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Office of Water Resources Management Coordination adopted new Water Quality Management Planning (WQMP) rules (N.J.A.C. 7:15) on November 7. The NJDEP repealed the current regulations (originally adopted in 2008) in their entirety and replaced them with the new rules.

The adopted rules maintain several key components of the current WQMP program including mapping of Sewer Service Areas (SSAs), use of mapped environmentally sensitive areas, preparation and adoption of areawide Wastewater Management Plans (WMPs) and County Designated Planning Agencies (DPAs). The significant changes include:

- No requirement to withdraw any area from a designated SSA if the updated WMP is not adopted by a certain date
- More flexibility in the process of determining the extent of SSAs through coordination with the NJDEP
- Performing WQMP consistency determination as part of other NJDEP permitting review processes by simply determining whether the project site is mapped within a designated SSA
- A two-tiered approach to amendment applications to facilitate quicker reviews of sites smaller than 100 acres and projects with flows less than 20,000 gallons per day
- Provide flexibility when addressing agricultural dependent endangered and threatened species.

A copy of the adopted rules and related information can be access on the NJDEP website at:

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/rules/adoptions.html/>

To discuss the adopted WQMP rule and how it might be applicable to your project, please contact your Langan project manager or:

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