



NEWS & NOTES

A PUBLICATION OF THE MWRA ADVISORY BOARD
OCTOBER 2010

ADVISORY BOARD COMMENTS ON CLINTON WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PERMIT

In what could be a prelude to the MWRA's Deer Island National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, the Advisory Board has fired the first salvo. In a strongly worded letter, which preserves our right to appeal, the Advisory Board stated that "EPA is not authorized under the Code of Federal Regulations governing the NPDES Program to include the Town of Clinton and the Lancaster Sewer District as co-permittees.

The Advisory Board further states that "EPA does not have the legal authority to include non-point sources such as Clinton and the Lancaster Sewer District in the draft permit." If EPA intends to engage Clinton and/or the Lancaster Sewer District, it should only be through separate and direct permits/actions, not through the MWRA permit.

The Advisory Board is also concerned that new stringent total phosphorous levels included as part of this permit could force MWRA ratepayers to expend millions of dollars in capital investment to meet these levels. The Advisory Board stated that EPA should first consider, through a direct permit with Clinton and the Lancaster Sewer District, a source reduction program developed and borne by Clinton and Lancaster. Once the source reduction plan has been implemented, the need for "end of pipe" solutions should be reevaluated. The Advisory Board's comment letter can be found on our website, or accessed directly through this link:

<http://goo.gl/ndeF>

NOVEMBER ADV BRD MEETING TO BE HELD IN CHELSEA

The November 18 Advisory Board meeting will be held at the MWRA Operations Center, 2 Griffin Way, Chelsea, MA.

Members will be voting on the 2011-12 Advisory Board Legislative Package. Our Legislative letter can be found on our website, or accessed directly through this link:

<http://goo.gl/51jX>

AFTER DECADE + ABSENCE, ADVISORY BOARD TO HOST WORKSHOP PANEL AT MMA ANNUAL MEETING

In recognition of our 25 years, the Advisory Board/MWRA are hosting a panel discussion entitled: "An Environmental Success Story – MWRA's 25-Year Journey through Rates, Regulations and Ultimately Rebirth."

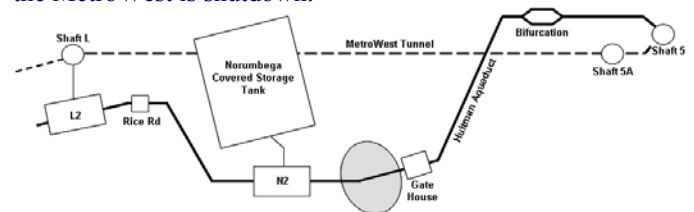
Panelists will include Katherine Dunphy, Chair of the MWRA Advisory Board and MWRA Executive Director Fred Laskey. Staff is in the process of firming up commitments from the Executive and Legislative branches of state government, along with municipal and regulatory representatives to also serve on the panel.

The workshop will be held on Friday, January 21, 2011, at the Massachusetts Municipal Association's Annual Meeting.

STATUS OF SHAFT 5A LEAK

MWRA has completed the physical work at the Hultman Aqueduct necessary to return it to service. The pipe has been filled and chlorinated, and dechlorination and flushing is underway.

The repair contractor has mobilized at the Shaft 5A leak site in preparation for the repair. The current schedule calls for the reactivation of the Hultman and the shut down of the MetroWest in early November. The repair is scheduled to take roughly two weeks, with crews working around the clock once the MetroWest is shutdown.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Nov 11 Veterans' Day – Office Open
- Nov 12 Executive Committee Meeting – Advisory Board Office
- Nov 17 MWRA Board of Directors Meeting – Charlestown
- Nov 18 Advisory Board Meeting – Chelsea
- Nov 25 Happy Thanksgiving!

If you have any questions regarding topics raised in this newsletter or any other MWRA issue, please contact:

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