DRAFT

Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification
For the 2026 Proposed NPDES Permit
For the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant
Permit No. MA0040398

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), having examined John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant's ("Permittee") National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit application for the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant to discharge to Sudbury Reservoir (MA82106), and having reviewed the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – Region 1's 2026 draft NPDES permit for the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant (Permit No. MA0040398), issued March 18, 2026 ("2026 draft NPDES Permit"), hereby certifies that there is a reasonable assurance that the proposed discharge will not violate applicable Massachusetts water quality requirements, if made in accordance with the provisions of the 2026 draft NPDES Permit and the conditions set forth below, and provided that the 2026 draft NPDES Permit is not modified in a manner inconsistent with this certification:

The following conditions, together with the terms and conditions contained in the 2026 draft NPDES permit for the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant, are necessary to ensure that the proposed discharge will comply with the applicable provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act Sections 208(e), 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307, and with appropriate requirements of State law, including, without limitation, the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, M.G.L. c. 21, §§ 26-53, and the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards published at 314 CMR 4.00:

a. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21, §§ 26-53, and 314 CMR 3.00 and 4.00, including 314 CMR 3.11(3), 314 CMR 3.19(1), and 314 CMR 4.05, MassDEP has determined that it is necessary to include the following conditions:
    i. The discharge shall be free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that settle to form objectionable deposits; float as debris, scum or other matter to form nuisances; produce objectionable odor, color, taste or turbidity; or produce undesirable or nuisance species of aquatic life.
    ii. The discharge shall be free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that adversely affect the physical or chemical nature of the bottom, interfere with the propagation of fish or shellfish, or adversely affect populations of non-mobile or sessile benthic organisms.
    iii. The discharge shall be free from floating, suspended and settleable solids in concentrations and combinations that would impair any use assigned to the receiving water, that would cause aesthetically objectionable conditions, or that would impair the benthic biota or degrade the chemical composition of the bottom.

iv. The discharge shall be free from color and turbidity in concentrations or combinations that are aesthetically objectionable or would impair any use assigned to the receiving water.
v. The discharge shall be free from oil, grease and petrochemicals that produce a visible film on the surface of the receiving water, impart an oily taste to the edible portions of aquatic life, coat the banks or bottom of the water course, or are deleterious or become toxic to aquatic life.
vi. The discharge shall be free from taste and odor in such concentrations or combinations that are aesthetically objectionable, that would impair any use assigned to the receiving water, or that would cause tainting or undesirable flavors in the edible portions of aquatic life.
vii. The discharge shall be free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that are toxic to humans, aquatic life or wildlife.

To meet the requirements of Massachusetts laws, each of the conditions in the 2026 draft NPDES permit shall not be made less stringent unless MassDEP determines that certification remains appropriate in consideration of the relevant water quality requirements.

Signed this ____ day of _____, 20____

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Lealdon Langley, Director
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Resources
Division of Watershed Management