

FACT SHEET

Jessica's Brick Oven Bakery, Methuen Air Quality non-Major Comprehensive Plan Application and Cumulative Impact Analysis


Introduction

Jessica's Brick Oven Bakery ("the Bakery") is proposing to expand its existing bakery operations due to increased consumer demand. The facility will expand operations to a new building located at 33 Danton Drive in Methuen, Massachusetts. The proposed expansion project is subject to the Massachusetts Air Pollution Control Regulations (310 CMR 7.00) and requires an air quality permit for emissions from the expanded bakery operations. The Bakery plans to submit a non-major Comprehensive Plan Application (nmCPA) with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), which will include a Cumulative Impact Analysis (CIA) as required by 310 CMR 7.02(14) to ensure that the project does not result in any adverse or disproportionate impacts to neighboring communities, including Environmental Justice (EJ) communities and other interested parties. The CIA includes enhanced public outreach to nearby EJ communities and interested parties, assessment of existing community conditions, and analysis of cumulative impacts of the proposed project. Members of the public who are interested in learning more about the proposed project, providing input to the CIA that is being conducted, or who wish to be added to the distribution list that will be used to keep community members informed may reach out to the Bakery contact (information at the bottom of the Fact Sheet).

Once completed, the CIA will be submitted along with the nmCPA for review by MassDEP. At that time the Bakery will notify members of the public how they can review the nmCPA and CIA and how they can ask questions or submit informal comments as MassDEP reviews the nmCPA and CIA. A proposed decision on the permit will be issued after MassDEP completes its review. There will be a formal 60-day public comment period on the MassDEP proposed decision.

Facility Information

The Bakery operates a commercial bakery located at 35 Danton Drive in Methuen, Massachusetts. The Bakery provides a large selection and variety of fresh yeast-leavened breads to local and statewide markets. The predominant products produced use a "sponge and dough" method of breadmaking, which involves the production of a "sponge" where the flour dough is subjected to fermented yeast before it is combined with other ingredients in the mixing stage. The primary emissions associated with this process are volatile organic compounds (VOCs, primarily ethanol) emitted from the ovens during baking. Natural gas is used as a fuel source for the ovens and a single pan washer and emits typical combustion air pollutants. The current project will expand the Bakery's production in a separate, new building. The new building will include a new Bread production line and tunnel oven to support the commercial bread making process. The systems will have five stacks – two combustion, two hood, and one steam with a height extending 10 feet above the roofline. The Bakery is surrounded by existing low-rise buildings. The area is primarily dedicated to industrial and commercial operations and adjacent to major transportation routes. The Bakery has an existing air quality plan approval (Approval#: NE-20-006 and ePlace Authorization #: AQ02P-0000023) for its current emissions.



Project Information

As noted above, the Bakery is expanding its operations by adding one additional baking oven in the new building. The new operations will be fueled by a natural-gas fired oven. The building will have two combustion, two hood and one steam stack that will vent to the roof with a height extending 10 feet above the roofline.

The estimated emissions are approximately 11.5 tons total of VOCs from the breadmaking process. There are additional emissions of less than 1 ton per year per air pollutant associated with the burning of fuel for the ovens including nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter and sulfur dioxide. These emissions are not anticipated to exceed air quality standards. Some construction impacts are also anticipated, but will be temporary in nature and mitigated using the best available management practices. A small increase in truck traffic associated with construction and with expanded operations. These impacts are not anticipated to be significant/

The proposed equipment is not subject to any federal air permitting requirements. The project does not meet any thresholds for review under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA).

Environmental Justice Populations

The Bakery is located in an Environmental Justice (EJ) community, and there are six EJ Block Groups within one mile of the proposed project as shown in Figure 1 using MassDEP's CIA Mapping tool. Four EJ Block Groups are based on minority criteria (yellow), one is based on income criteria (green), and one is based on minority, income and English isolation (light blue), with Spanish being the spoken language for some community members. The proposed project is specifically in Block Group 2, Census Tract 25009252201, Essex County.

The Bakery will continue to broadly engage our neighboring communities, including the EJ communities in Methuen, to provide information about our proposed project. The Bakery will provide the factsheet with an invitation to a public meeting (hybrid with QR code). We will post information at the library and City Hall and request to place this information on the City's Community Events calendar. The Bakery will also solicit guidance from community members for other locations to post information on the project (local stores, churches, community centers, etc.). The invitation for the public meeting will be extended to the outreach list provided by MassDEP and to everyone that provides comments on the project. This communication will build on Jessica's Brick Oven Bakery existing robust community engagement efforts and programs.

Census Tracts and EJ Block Groups within 1 mile of the Project Site

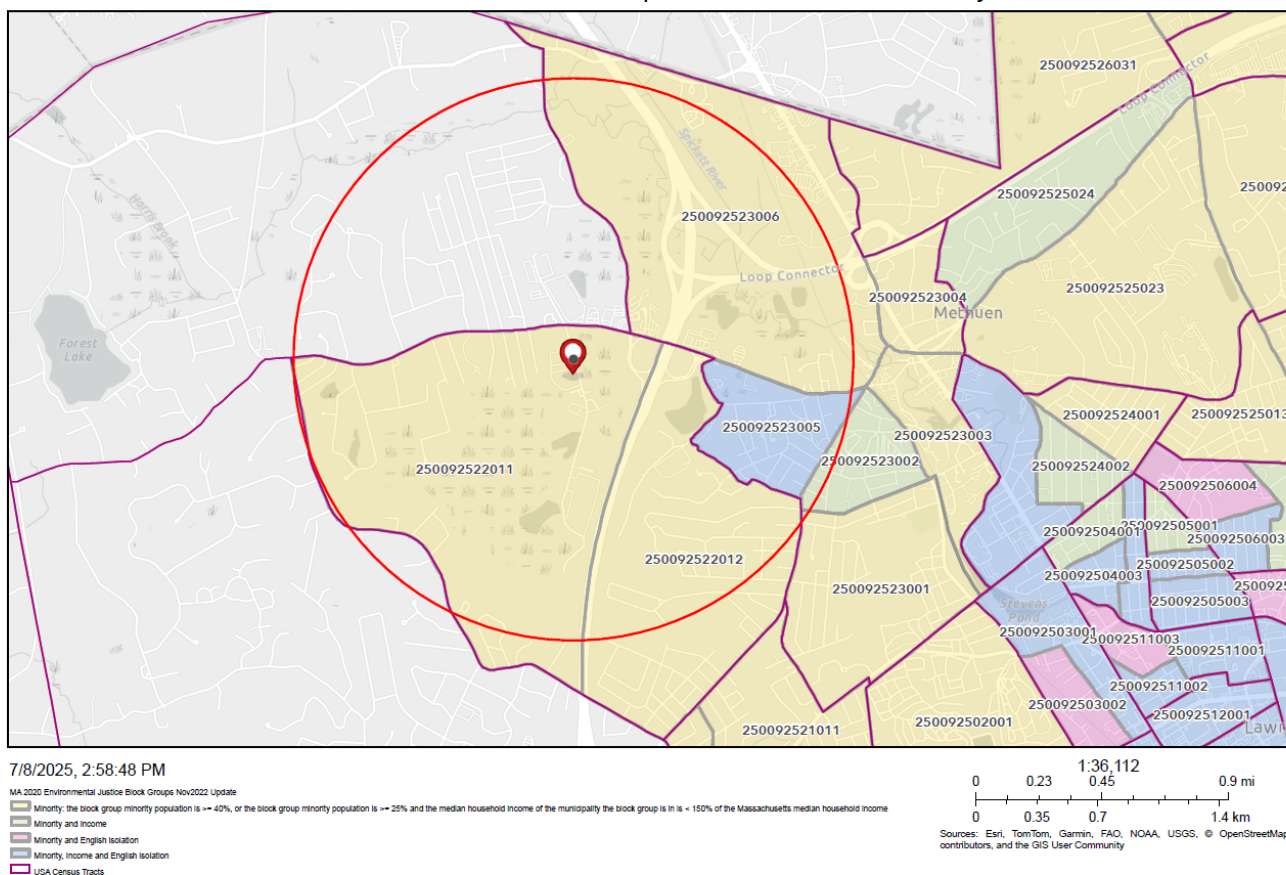


Figure 1: EJ Block Groups within 1 mile of the Facility

Applicant Contact Information

Questions regarding this project can be directed to:

Contact Person: Sawyer Webb

Title: General Manager

Email: sawyerw@jessicasbrickoven.com

Phone: 978-655-4455

or through the below QR code



This fact sheet is available in Spanish, if translation into another non-English language is needed, please contact Sawyer Webb at sawyerw@jessicasbrickoven.com and use the subject FACT SHEET.

Esta hoja informativa está disponible en español, si necesita traducción en otro idioma comuníquese con Sawyer Webb (sawyerw@jessicasbrickoven.com) y use el asunto HOJA INFORMATIVA.