

MASSACHUSETTS PERMIT TO DISCHARGE POLLUTANTS TO SURFACE WATERS

In compliance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, as amended (M.G.L. Chap. 21, §§ 26 - 53) and the implementing regulations at 314 CMR 3.00 and 4.00,

Patriot Beverages, LLC
25 Copeland Drive
Ayer, MA 01432

is authorized to discharge from the facility located at

Patriot Beverages
20 Harvard Road
Littleton, MA 01833

to receiving waters named

Unnamed Tributary to Reedy Meadow Brook (Segment MA84B-01), Class B
Merrimack River Watershed

in accordance with the following effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and additional conditions:

1. The issuance date of this permit is the date it is signed by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP).¹
2. This permit shall become effective on October 2, 2025.²
3. This permit shall expire on September 30, 2030.
4. This permit supersedes the permit issued on September 19, 2013 (jointly with the NPDES permit issued by EPA).
5. Pursuant to MassDEP's authority under M.G.L. c. 21, §§26-53, 314 CMR 3.00, and 314 CMR 4.00, this permit incorporates by reference: Part IA., Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements; Part IB., Unauthorized Discharges; Part IC., Special Conditions; and Part ID., Reporting Requirements, as set forth in the 2025 final NPDES Permit No. MA0004936, issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 1, issued to the Patriot Beverages, LLC ("Permittee") on July 30, 2025 (the 2025 final NPDES Permit) and attached hereto by reference as Appendix 1 and available on EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/massachusetts-draft-individual-npdes-permits>; provided, however:
 - a. that the notification required by Part IA.3. shall also be provided to massdep.npdes@mass.gov;

¹ Any person aggrieved by the issuance of this permit may file an appeal within 30 days of the issuance date. Further details on appeal rights will be attached to the final permit.

² According to 314 CMR 2.08(1), if no comments objecting to the issuance or terms of the permit were received by the Department during the public comment period, then the permit shall be effective upon issuance. If comments objecting to the issuance or the terms of the permit were received by the Department during the public comment period, then the permit shall become effective 30 days after issuance.

- b. that the reporting required by Part IB.1 shall be in accordance with 314 CMR 3.19(20)(e) (24-hour reporting);
 - c. that discharges of a new chemical or additive authorized under Part IC.5 are only authorized under this permit 30 days following written notification to MassDEP electronically to massdep.npdes@mass.gov, and only if not otherwise notified in writing by MassDEP;
 - d. that a copy of the requests, reports, and information required by Part ID.3. to be submitted to EPA shall also be submitted to MassDEP electronically to massdep.npdes@mass.gov; and
 - e. that, if there is a conflict between the definitions in 314 CMR 3.02 and/or 314 CMR 4.00 and the definitions in Part IIE, the definitions in 314 CMR 3.02 and/or 314 CMR 4.00 shall control, as applicable.
6. This permit incorporates by reference the Standard Permit Conditions set forth in 314 CMR 3.19.
7. Notwithstanding any other provision of the final NPDES permit to the contrary, all PFAS monitoring results shall be reported to MassDEP via the eDEP portal, or as otherwise specified in writing by MassDEP to the Permittee, within 30 days after the Permittee receives the sampling results, in addition to the final NPDES Permit reporting requirements. Information regarding the submittal of data via eDEP may be found at <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/submit-wastewaterresiduals-pfas-data-via-edep>.
8. In order to ensure that the discharge will not violate applicable state water quality standards, 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:
- a. 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.
 - b. 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.
 - c. 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.
 - d. 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.
 - e. 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.
 - f. 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.
 - g. The discharge shall be free from pollutants in concentrations or combinations that are toxic to humans, aquatic life or wildlife.

Issued on this 2nd day of September, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lealdon Langley', with a stylized, cursive script.

Lealdon Langley, Director
Division of Watershed Management
Department of Environmental Protection

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS**MA Permit No. MA0004936****Patriot Beverages, LLC****Littleton, Massachusetts**

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP or the “Department”) is issuing a Surface Water Discharge (SWD) Permit to the Patriot Beverages, LLC (the Permittee) for Patriot Beverages (the Facility) located in Littleton, Massachusetts. The permit is being issued under the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, as amended (M.G.L. Chap. 21, §§ 26 - 53) and the implementing regulations at 314 CMR 3.00 and 4.00.

In accordance with the provisions of 314 CMR 2.09, MassDEP is obligated to prepare a response to comments received on the draft SWD Permit No. MA0004936 (the “Draft Permit”). The Response to Comments explains and supports MassDEP’s determinations that form the basis of the final permit (the “Final Permit”). From May 21, 2025, through June 20, 2025, MassDEP solicited public comments on the Draft Permit for the Patriot Beverages Final Permit issued on July 30, 2025, to discharge industrial treated wastewater through Outfalls 001 and 002 to an unnamed tributary to Reedy Meadow Brook, Merrimack River Watershed.

During the public comment period for the draft NPDES permit (May 16, 2025 through July 16, 2025), EPA received comments from:

- Patriot Beverages, LLC, dated June 16, 2025

During the public comment period for the draft SWD permit (May 21, 2025, through June 20, 2025), MassDEP received comments from:

- Patriot Beverages, LLC, dated June 16, 2025

Since these comments were identical to those submitted to EPA, MassDEP has reviewed EPA’s Response to Comments issued concurrent with the final NPDES permit on July 30, 2025 and concurs with their responses and the associated adjustments made to the final NPDES permit. MassDEP hereby incorporates by reference EPA’s Response to Comments and is not adding any additional responses on the comments received. The final NPDES permit and the Response to Comments are available on EPA’s website at: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/massachusetts-final-individual-npdes-permits>.

Consistent with EPA’s determination, MassDEP’s knowledge of the facility has benefited from the various comments and additional information submitted during the public comment period but the information and arguments presented did not raise any substantial new questions concerning the Permit that warranted MassDEP exercising the discretion to reopen the public comment period. A copy of the Final Permit, WQC, and this Response to Comments document will be posted on the MassDEP website.

A copy of the Final Permit and WQC may be also obtained by writing or calling Xiaodan Ruan, MassDEP, Surface Water Discharge Permitting Program, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114;

telephone: 857-256-4172; email: xiaodan.ruan@mass.gov. MassDEP strongly encourages that interested parties email Xiaodan Ruan if they wish to obtain a copy of the Final Permit or WQC.

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS for STATE SURFACE WATER DISCHARGE PERMIT

Within 30 days of the issuance of MassDEP's decision to grant or deny a Surface Water Discharge Permit pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21, § 43, and 314 CMR 3.00, any person aggrieved may request an adjudicatory hearing.

How should the request for an adjudicatory hearing be made?

A request for an adjudicatory hearing for the state Surface Water Discharge Permit must be made during the 30-day period following issuance of the state permit, in accordance with 314 CMR 2.08 and 310 CMR 1.01. 310 CMR 1.01(6)(b) establishes the required form and content of the request. Failure to meet the requirements of 310 CMR 1.01 may result in dismissal of the request or the requirement to file a more definite statement.

A person filing a request for an adjudicatory hearing must complete and mail a MassDEP Fee Transmittal Form and send it with a valid check to the Commonwealth Master Lockbox, as instructed below, if a fee is required by 310 CMR 4.06. The MassDEP Fee Transmittal Form can be downloaded from:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/service/approvals/transmittal-form-for-payment.html>.

The written notice requesting an adjudicatory hearing shall be delivered to MassDEP's Case Administrator together with (i) a photocopy of the decision being appealed, (ii) a photocopy of the completed MassDEP Fee Transmittal Form, if required, and (iii) a photocopy of the check used to pay any adjudicatory hearing filing fee due for the appeal under 310 CMR 4.06. The notice of claim must be made in writing and sent by email to Caseadmin.OADR@state.ma.us.

Please do not send the original of the completed MassDEP Fee Transmittal Form and check to the Case Administrator. Instead, please follow the instructions below for delivery of the original of the completed Fee Transmittal Form and check to the Commonwealth Master Lockbox.

A \$100 adjudicatory hearing filing fee must be paid, unless (i) a simplified hearing is requested for a reduced fee of \$25, (ii) the person requesting an adjudicatory hearing is a town, a municipal agency, a county or a municipal housing authority, in which case there is no fee, or (iii) the person requesting the hearing is seeking to have MassDEP waive the adjudicatory hearing filing fee because paying the fee will create an undue financial hardship.

A person who believes that payment of the fee would be an undue financial hardship shall file with the request for adjudicatory hearing a request for waiver of the fee together with an affidavit setting forth the facts the appellant believes constitute the undue financial hardship. For more information on the adjudicatory hearing filing fee and the grounds on which the Department may waive the fee, please see 310 CMR 4.06.

If a fee is required, the completed MassDEP Fee Transmittal Form and a valid check made payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the amount of the fee due must be mailed to:

Mass. Department of Environmental Protection
Commonwealth Master Lockbox
P.O. Box 4062
Boston, Massachusetts 02211

Failure to pay the adjudicatory hearing filing fee, if required, may be grounds for dismissal of the appeal.

In accordance with 314 CMR 2.08(5), any person, other than the permit applicant or permittee, who files a request for an adjudicatory hearing with the Department pursuant to 314 CMR 2.08(2) on an individual permit or general permit coverage, also shall simultaneously send a copy of the request by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the applicant or permittee. Any person who files a request for an adjudicatory hearing with the Department pursuant to 314 CMR 2.08(2) on a general permit also shall simultaneously send a copy of the request by certified mail, return receipt requested, to each permittee covered by the general permit.