

# **Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant (TMLP) West Water Street Engines, Taunton: Proposed Decision on Air Permit**

## ***Introduction***

TMLP West Water Street (the “Facility”) is an existing electric generating facility with four 2.495 MW diesel engine generators installed in 2016 and started operating in 2017 located at 500 West Water Street in Taunton. TMLP has applied to the MassDEP for two changes to the air permit issued by MassDEP prior to construction.

These proposed changes are subject to Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) air pollution regulations, so TMLP must apply for and receive a revised permit before it can implement the changes. MassDEP will provide a 30-day public comment period on its draft decision approving or denying the air permit revisions. Information on how to review MassDEP’s draft air permit revision decision and how to submit comments, as well as contact information for both TMLP and MassDEP, can be found at the end of this Fact Sheet.

## ***Project Description***

### **Location:**

- The 500 West Water Street facility is situated on a 3.8-acre parcel along the Taunton River. The site is relatively flat with an elevation ranging from 8 to 16 feet above mean sea level (MSL). This site was formerly used as an electric generation station from 1902 until 1978.
- The site includes a 7,000 SF building and two substations as well as the four engines that are the subject of this air permit.
- The area surrounding the Facility is a mix of industrial, commercial, recreational, and residential uses.
- The Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs has designated Environmental Justice (EJ) populations within a one-mile radius of the site. The areas are designated as EJ populations for Minority, Income, and Minority & Income.
- In addition to the identified Environmental Justice populations, the MassDEP has determined that the project is in an area that has been identified as having a population in which greater than 5% of residents may speak Portuguese or Portuguese Creole as a primary language. In accordance with the Massachusetts Limited English Proficiency Policy, this Fact sheet will be translated for distribution.
- Figure #1 at the end of this Fact Sheet provides a map that identifies the various designated EJ population areas within a one-mile radius of the Facility.

### **Permit Revision Information:**

- The facility currently operates under a MassDEP air permit, called a Non-Major Comprehensive Plan Approval (“NMCPA”), that was last issued on December 20, 2016.
- One of the changes requested by TMLP is to remove a requirement to monitor one parameter

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(compressed air pressure) on one of the air pollution control devices. The Applicant has proposed that the monitoring of compressed air to the Miratech supplemental control system is not necessary as there are numerous other continuous parameters monitored to demonstrate compliance with the existing approval and ensure the Miratech system is operating properly.

- The other change requested by TMLP is to reduce the frequency of portable monitoring of Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and Carbon Monoxide (CO) concentrations in the exhaust if certain conditions are met. The portable monitoring is a spot check on the process monitoring that is on continuously to control the air pollution control system. The applicant has provided historical monitoring data demonstrating the Miratech system's effectiveness and has proposed to reduce the NO<sub>x</sub> and CO verification monitoring frequency from a quarterly to annual basis.

### ***Summary of MassDEP's Draft Air Quality Permit***

- The application requested the two changes as described above.
- In the resulting revised Air Permit, MassDEP will include all monitoring, testing, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements necessary to ensure that the Facility will continue to operate in compliance with applicable regulations and emissions limits.

### ***MassDEP Air Quality Permitting Process and Public Comment Opportunity***

- MassDEP will review of the Applicant's permit revision application and issued a proposed decision. There will be a 30-day public comment period on MassDEP's proposed decision. During the public comment period, anyone may submit comments to MassDEP about the draft decision. MassDEP will issue a Public Notice which includes instructions for submitting comments.
- After the 30-day public comment period, MassDEP will consider any comments received about MassDEP's draft decision.
- When MassDEP issues a final approval or denial of the permit revision application, a 21-day appeal period will begin. During the appeal period, individuals or groups that have legal standing as described in MassDEP's regulations may request an adjudicatory hearing on the decision as per MassDEP's air pollution control regulations at 310 CMR 7.51.

## **Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant (TMLP) West Water Street Engines, Taunton: Proposed Decision on Air Permit**

MassDEP is providing advanced notice to interested stakeholders of the start of the public comment period, including but not limited to:

Taunton Mayor's Office  
Attn: Mayor Shaunna O'Connell  
15 Summer Street  
Taunton, MA 02780  
rbarter@taunton-ma.gov

Taunton Board of Health  
Attn: Heather Gallant  
45 School St #1  
Taunton, MA 02780  
hgallant@taunton-ma.gov

Southeast Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD)  
Attn: William Napolitano  
bnap@srpedd.org

Citizens for Citizens, Inc.  
Attn: Debbie Araujo  
1 Taunton Green  
Taunton, MA 02780  
daraujo@cfcinc.org

Taunton Diversity Network, Inc.  
tauntondiversitynetwork@gmail.com

- If you have any questions about this Fact sheet or wish to be notified of the start of the public comment period, please contact Peter Russell at the MassDEP Southeast Region's Air Quality Permit Unit at [peter.russell@mass.gov](mailto:peter.russell@mass.gov) or (508) 946-2821

### ***Location of Draft Permit & Application Materials***

- Online at MassDEP website: (<https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/EEA/PublicApp/>), then search for Site Name "Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant" and Application Date 09/16/2021.

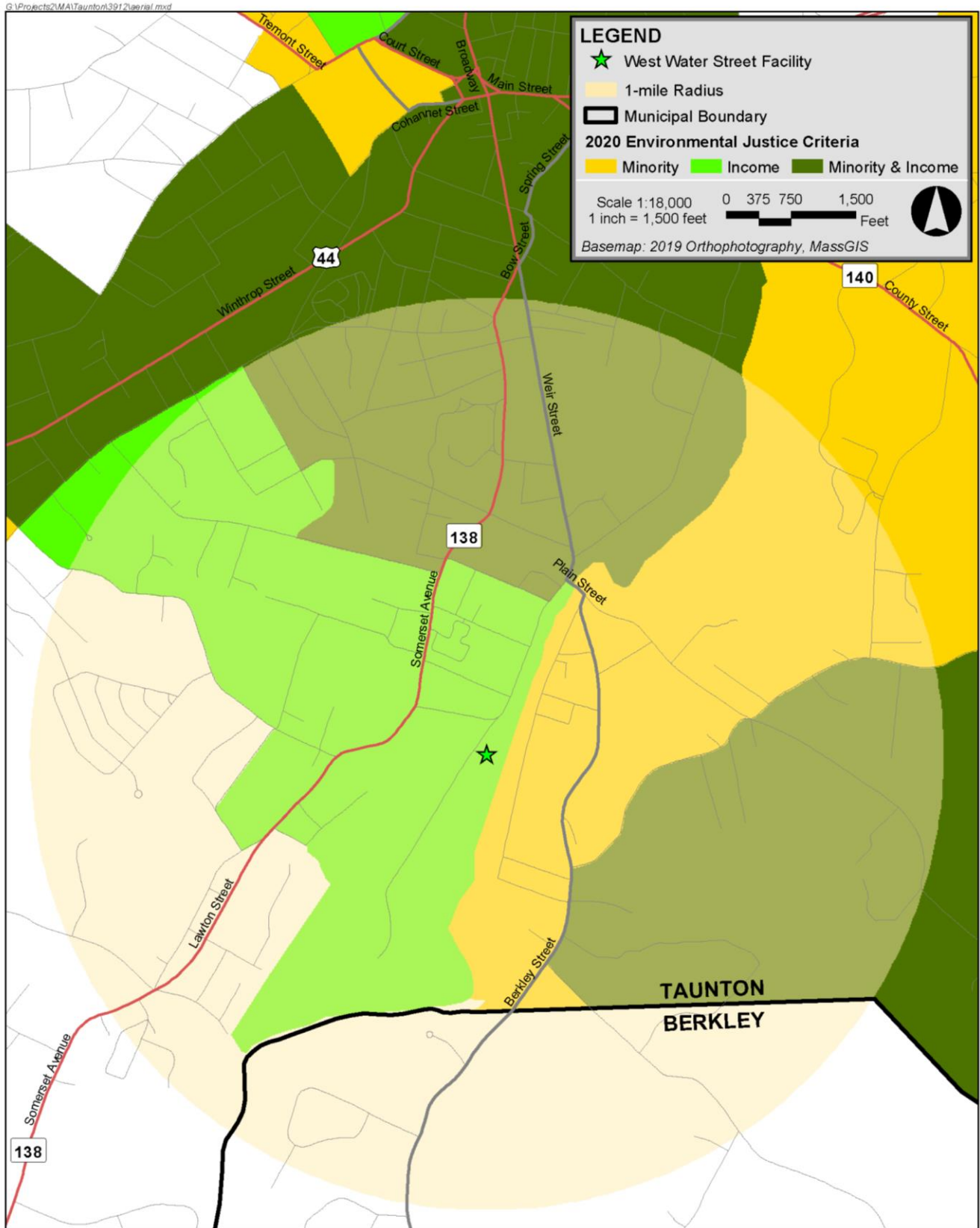
#### ***Proponent Contact Information for Any Questions***

- TMLP, James Irving  
[jimirving@tmlp.com](mailto:jimirving@tmlp.com)  
508-824-3159

#### ***MassDEP Contact Information for Any Questions***

- Air Quality Permit Chief: Thomas Cushing – [thomas.cushing@mass.gov](mailto:thomas.cushing@mass.gov) – (508) 946-2824

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TMLP Taunton, Massachusetts



**Figure 1**

Environmental Justice 2020 Populations