BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS **BOARD** UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C.

In re:

Town of Northbridge, Wastewater Treatment Plant

NPDES Permit No. MA-0100722

NPDES Appeal No. 06-11

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JAN 1 4 2008

CLERK ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS BOARD

INITIALS

FOURTH STAY ORDER

By submission filed on January 11, 2008, U.S. EPA Region 1 (the "Region") seeks an extension of the stay in the above-captioned matter until March 18, 2008. *See* Motion to Extend Stay of Proceedings (Jan. 11, 2008) ("Motion"). The Motion states that the Town of Northbridge, the petitioner in this matter, consents to the extension request. In support of this Motion, the Region

states:

Since the date of the last status report, the parties have met to discuss both the winter bacteria limits and the phosphorous limits. The Region experienced delay in its plan related to the bacteria limits, but in a letter to the Town and the Board dated January 10, 2008, the Region did withdraw the contested winter bacteria limits. The Region will issue a draft permit modification for public comment no later than January 18, 2008, which will propose winter bacteria limits that are slightly less stringent than those that were withdrawn.

With respect to the phosphorous limits, the parties have agreed to a tentative compliance schedule, to be embodied in an administrative order, that would address remaining steps to be taken to enable the Town's wastewater treatment plant to meet the phosphorous limits contained in the permit. The schedule is subject to approval by the Town's Board of Selectmen. Counsel for the Town has informed the Region that he intends to present the proposal to the Board of Selectmen at its meeting on the evening of January 14, 2008. Assuming that the proposal is acceptable to the Selectmen, the parties would finalize the details of the schedule, and the Region would prepare to issue an administrative order.

To provide sufficient time for the parties to complete negotiations regarding the phosphorous limits, and for the Region to issue an administrative order, the Region with the assent of counsel for the Town, requests that the proceedings be stayed an additional sixty-three (63) days, to March 18, 2008. Motion at 2-3.

For good cause shown, the Motion is granted. The Region's response to the petition for review must now be filed with the Board no later than March 18, 2008.¹ The parties shall submit a status report to the Board no later than February 15, 2008.

So ordered.

Dated: Jacawary 11, 2005

ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS BOARD

Rathere a Atin By:

Kathie A. Stein Environmental Appeals Judge

¹ Documents are "filed" with the Board on the date they are *received*.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the forgoing Fourth Stay Order in the matter of Town of Northbridge, Wastewater Treatment Plant, NDPES Appeal No. 06-11, were sent to the following persons in the manner indicated:

First Class Mail:

Jeffrey T. Blake Kopeland and Paige, P.C. 101 Arch Street Boston, MA 02110

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Y Dated:

Annette Duncan Secretary