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Town of Barrington PO Box 660 333 Calef Highway Barrington, NH 03825



Phone: (603) 664-9007 Website www.barrington.nh.gov

January 28, 2013

Thelma Murphy, Chief Stormwater and Construction Permits Section Water Permits Branch, Office of Ecosystem Protection U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 5 Post Office Square – Suite 100 (OEP06-1) Boston, Massachusetts 02109-3912

SUBJECT: Request for Waiver for Town of Barrington, NH from

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permitting Requirements

Dear Ms. Murphy:

The purpose of this letter is to formally request that the Town of Barrington be granted a waiver pursuant to 40CFR122.32(d) from the requirement to obtain coverage under an NPDES permit for the MS4 that we own and operate in the small Urbanized Area (UA) in town.

The Town of Barrington is a small community of 8,546 people in southeastern New Hampshire. It is a rural and slowly developing bedroom community. The Town does not have a municipal sewer system and zoning requires that single-family homes be built on lots of at least 80,000 square feet.

We believe that this request is appropriate for the following reasons:

- Based on the 2010 Census, our UA shows a population of only 159 people.
- The UA is only 0.61 square miles or only 1.3 percent of the town's total area (48.6 sq. mi.)
- The storm drainage system in the UA is almost totally comprised of drainage swales discharging to intermittent streams and the soils in the area allow for significant infiltration. We do not believe that any of the swales are interconnected to a neighboring town's MS4 since the land all slopes toward the Isinglass River, a tributary to the Cocheco River.
- The Little River in Brentwood is not on the State's 303(d) list of impaired waters.
- We met with Jeff Andrews of the NH Department of Environmental Services on September 26, 2012 and he supports this request. Mr. Andrews evaluated the potential for activities occurring within our UA to affect surface water quality.

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A prompt reply to this letter is requested since we do not wish to expend resources unnecessarily on the Notice of Intent if the permit requirement can be waived.

If you have any questions relative to this request, please feel free to call at (603) 644-7395.

Sincerely,

Mike Clark, Chairman Board of Selectmen

cc: Jeffrey G. Andrews, P.E., NHDES