



TOWN OF MONT VERNON

Selectmen's Office

P.O. Box 444

1 South Main Street

Mont Vernon, N.H. 03057

Tel: 603-673-6080/Fax: 603-673-5995

email: townofmontvernon@comcast.net

Received
4/2/2013

March 19, 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 Mont Vernon 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 Mont Vernon 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 Mont Vernon is a small community of 2,409 people in southeastern New Hampshire. It is a rural and slowly developing bedroom community. The town does not have sewers and zoning requires that single-family homes be built on lots of at least 2 acres.

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

- Our UA, based on the 2010 Census, shows a population of only 157 persons.
- The UA is only 0.25 square miles or only 1.5 percent of the town's total area (16.7 sq. mi.)
- The storm drainage system in the UA is almost totally 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 either an unnamed tributary to Purgatory Brook or Hartshorn Brook.
- The unnamed tributary to Purgatory Brook is not on the State's 303(d) list of impaired waters. We believe that the listed impairments for Purgatory Brook itself (pH and bacteria) and Hartshorn Brook (pH) are due to acid rain and wildlife.

We met with Jeff Andrews of the NH Department of Environmental Services on September 26, 2012 and he supports this request. Mr. Andrews recently evaluated the potential for activities occurring within our UA to affect surface water quality.

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 call me at (603) 673-6080.

Sincerely,


_____, Chairman
Board of Selectmen

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