



The City of North Adams, Massachusetts

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Newton W. Tedder
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Mail Code OEP06-4
Boston, MA 02109-3912



Dear Mr. Tedder:

We received EPA's notification that our City may be subject to the upcoming MS4 permit and would like to request that EPA exercise its authority to grant an MS4 waiver for our City. The purpose of this letter is to formally request that the City of North Adams be granted a waiver for the requirements to obtain coverage under an NPDES permit for the MS4 that we own and operate in a small southern section starting at the Adams town line and running into the City along Route 8.

The City of North Adams is the smallest City in the State of Massachusetts with a population of only 13,703 people. While North Adams is a City it is a mostly rural community located in the hills of Berkshire County.

We've reviewed the list of impaired waters and TMDLs in the draft MS4 permit and the 2012 303(d) list found that in our City these waterbodies are impaired for alteration in stream-side or littoral vegetative covers, other flow regime alterations, and Fecal Coliform and are subject to these TMDLs: None.

Our City's MS4 system does not connect to any adjacent MS4 system.

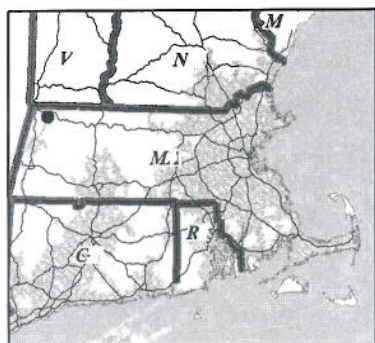
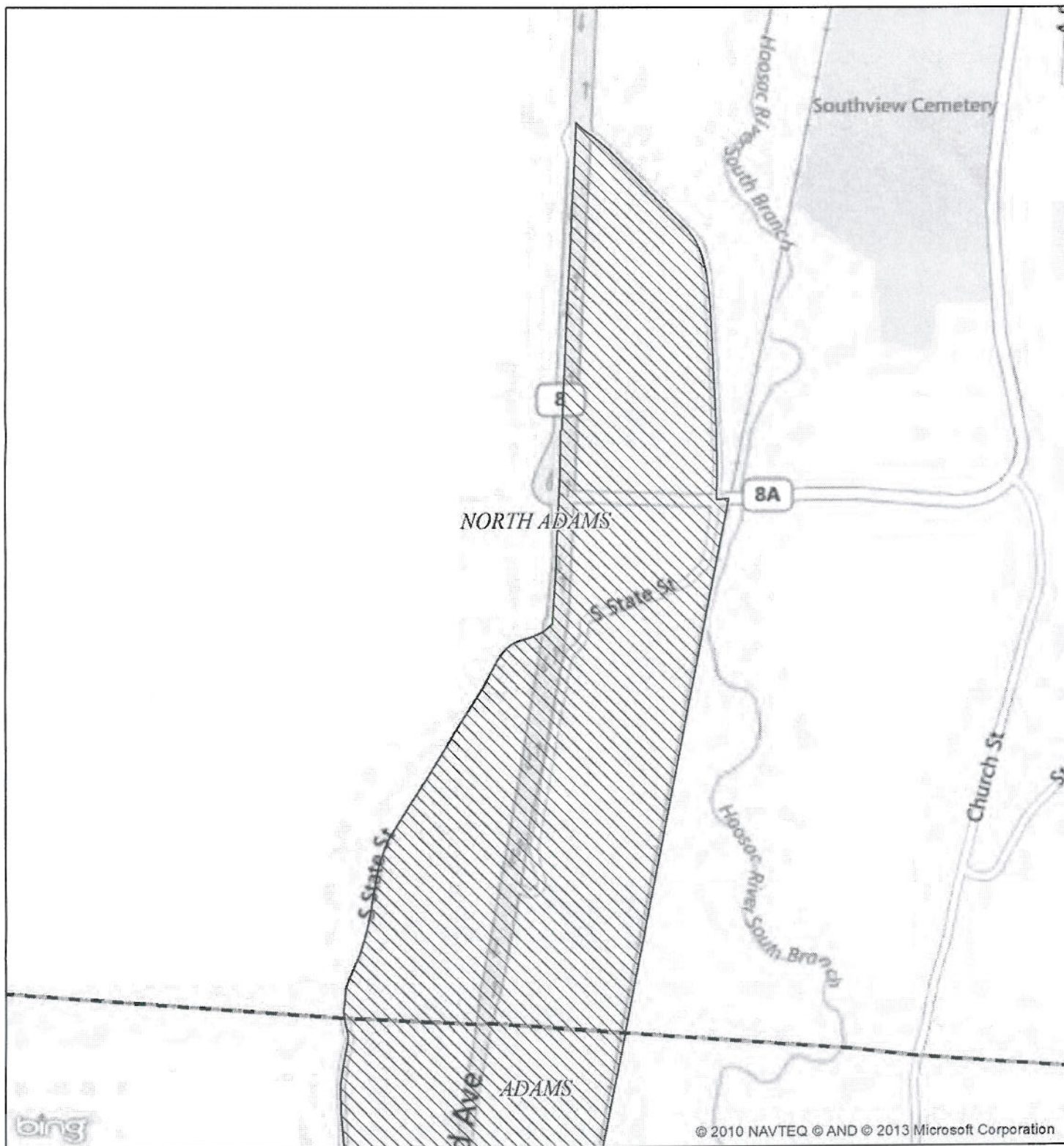
The reason we are asking for this waiver is that:

- With only 12 people living in the urbanized area the amount of pollution contributed to the receiving waters is negligible.
- The impairments and TMDLs do not include stormwater as a significant source of pollutants.
- Located just over the border is the Adams Waste Water Treatment Plant that discharges into Adams' North Branch of the Hoosic River to confluence with North Branch Hoosic River, North Adams.

In summary, we believe strongly that the impairments are not due to the limited runoff that does originate from the very small number of homes, population 12, that are located in our urbanized area. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Canales



**NPDES Phase II Stormwater Program
Automatically Designated MS4 Areas
North Adams MA**

Regulated Area:



Town Population: **13703**
Regulated Population: **12**
(Populations estimated from 2010 Census)



Urbanized Areas, Town Boundaries:
US Census (2000, 2010)
Base map © 2013 Microsoft Corporation
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