



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

WATER INVESTMENT DIVISION
National Life Building, Davis 3
1 National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510
FAX: (802)828-1552

Mr. Brad Ellis, Manager
Authorized Representative
Vernon Advent Christian Home
13 Greenway Drive
Vernon VT 05354

February 10, 2022
Expiration Date: February 10, 2027

**Re: Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number RF1-304**

Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact

Dear Brad Ellis:

The Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation Project.

The Department of Environmental Conservation has reviewed these documents:

- Environmental Information Document, September 2, 2021, by Weston and Sampson Engineers
- Preliminary Engineering Report, objectives were met by the aggregate information presented February 1, 2022, by Weston and Sampson Engineers (see links below)

The Water Investment Division (WID) issued its request for review to the Division for Historic Preservation (DHP), in its letter dated September 10, 2021. The Division for Historic Preservation requested additional information in a communication dated October 11, 2021. The Division of Historic Preservation (DHP) determined they had no further concerns in a communication dated February 1, 2022. <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=194037&DVID=0>

The project has positive environmental impacts consisting of replacement of a failing wastewater disposal system and consolidation of multiple disposal systems. An increase in capacity is proposed in the form of pre-treatment stage. The Vernon Advent Christian Home has Discharge Permit WW-2-0753, ID-9-0273 for its wastewater treatment facility, issued by the Watershed Management Division Wastewater Program.

**Brad Ellis, Authorized Representative, VACH
Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation Project
Finding of No Significant Impact**

This project does not involve construction activity within the floodplain of the nearby Connecticut River. The project will take place on private land owned by Vernon Advent Christian Home. The project received a "Water Quality Improvement Projects in Significant Wetlands and Buffers" registration determination for a General Permit, for work within the buffer of a wetland area <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=194040&DVID=0>.

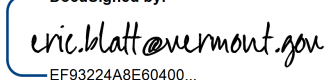
The project involves an increase in treatment capacity and exceeds the threshold for CATEX, otherwise, this project may have been eligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed environmental review; additionally, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are still not significant enough to necessitate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The Department's environmental review procedures require a 30-day public comment period following the issuance of a Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact. If no public comments received during that period demonstrate that this Notice of Intent is in error, then the Finding of No Significant Impact will become effective.

Copies of documents supporting a Finding of No Significant Impact are enclosed. Please keep copies of the enclosed documents, along with any pertinent reports by your consulting engineers, available for public inspection during a public comment period of 30 days. A full listing of the documents that must be available for public inspection is attached. Please contact Hugo Martínez Cazón, P.E. at 802 522-5564, if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

eric.blatt@vermont.gov

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Eric Blatt, P.E. Director of Engineering
Water Investment Division

Enclosures

Documents Posted for Finding of No Significant Impact Public Comment Period (30 days)

1. Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (Signed by Eric Blatt, P.E., Director of Engineering, Water Investment Division, enclosed.)
2. Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact (Approved by Eric Blatt, P.E., Director of Engineering, Water Investment Division, enclosed.)

Brad Ellis, Authorized Representative, VACH
Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation Project
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3. State Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program, <https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/water-financing/srf/environmental-review>

Additional Documents Needed for Finding of No Significant Impact Public Comment Period (30 days)

4. Environmental Information Document titled “*Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document*,” and dated 09/02/2021, by Weston and Sampson.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=192408&DVID=0>
5. Preliminary Engineering Report objectives were met by the aggregate information presented by February 1, 2022 entitled “Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation Project”, from Weston and Sampson.
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=194041&DVID=0>
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=194039&DVID=0>
<https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/IronPIG/DownloadFile.aspx?DID=191999&DVID=0>

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Amy Polaczyk, Kathleen Parish, Wastewater Program, VT-DEC
Terry Shearer, Regional Engineer, VT-DEC, DWGWPD
Marie Levesque Caduto, Watershed Coordinator, VT-DEC
Elizabeth Peebles, Division for Historic Preservation, ACCD
Scott Dillon, Division for Historic Preservation, ACCD
Tim Arsenault, Village of Vernon, Town Clerk
Shane Mullen PE, Project Manager, Weston and Sampson Engineers



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

Department of Environmental Conservation
Facilities Engineering Division
1 National Life Drive, Davis 3
Montpelier, VT 05620

802 522-5564

Notice of Intent to Issue a Finding of No Significant Impact

Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation PROJECT

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number: RF1-304

In accordance with section VII of the Department's "*Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program*", the Department of Environmental Conservation intends to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the proposed Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation Project. This project involves replacement of an aging ejector station with a new duplex submersible pump station. An increase in capacity is proposed in the form of pre-treatment. The Vernon Advent Christian Home has Discharge Permit No. WW-2-0753, ID-9-0273 for its wastewater treatment facility, issued by the Watershed Management Division Wastewater Program.

This project does not involve construction activity within the floodplain of the nearby Connecticut River. The project will take place on land owned by Vernon Advent Christian Home.

Under the Procedure, the project is ineligible for Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) from detailed environmental review. The project involves an increase in treatment capacity and exceeds the threshold for CATEX.

Also, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are not significant enough to necessitate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the Department's environmental review procedures. The project will not increase the current permitted flow capacity of the treatment system, and the project will not include sewer extensions.

**Brad Ellis, Authorized Representative, VACH
Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation Project
Finding of No Significant Impact**

Consideration of the FNSI included a review of the following documents:

- **Environmental Information Document** (EID) signed 09/02/21, by Weston and Sampson Engineers, of Waterbury VT.

Further information on the project and this Notice of Intent is available for inspection at the following locations:

Sandra Harris, Selectboard Chair
Village of Vernon
567 Governor Hunt Rd.
Vernon, VT 05354

tel. 635-2611 ext. 311
sharris@vernonvt.org

hugo martínez cazón, p.e.
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
Facilities Engineering Division
1 National Life Drive, Davis 3
Montpelier, VT 05620-3510

tel. 802 522-5564
hugo.martinez.cazon@vermont.gov

(Note: National Life requires photo identification to obtain an access badge for entry.)

Shane M. Mullen, PE, CPESC
Weston and Sampson Engineers
98 South Main Street, Suite 2
Waterbury, Vermont 05676

direct: 802-882-7030
mullens@wseinc.com

No significant administrative action will be taken on this project for thirty (30) days from issuance of this Notice of Determination, to allow for public response.

DocuSigned by:

eric.blatt@vermont.gov

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Eric Blatt, P.E., Director of Engineering
Water Investment Division

February 10, 2022

Date

Department of Environmental Conservation
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources



Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

TO: Eric Blatt, P.E., Director of Engineering, Water Investment Division

FROM: Hugo Martínez Cazón, P.E.
Pollution Control Design Engineer, Water Investment Division

SUBJECT: Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation Project

Evaluation of Eligibility for Finding of No Significant Impact

DATE: February 10, 2022

A. Project Identification

Project Name: Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation

Address: Brad Ellis, Authorized Representative
Vernon Advent Christian Home
13 Greenway Drive
Vernon VT 05354

Project Location: Town of Vernon, Vermont
This project involves replacement of a failing wastewater disposal system and consolidation of multiple disposal systems. An increase in capacity is proposed in the form of pre-treatment stage. The Vernon Advent Christian Home has Discharge Permit WW-2-0753, ID-9-0273 for its wastewater treatment facility, issued by the Watershed Management Division Wastewater Program.

Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Number: **RF1-304**

**Brad Ellis, Authorized Representative, VACH
Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation Project
Finding of No Significant Impact
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Loan Number RF1-304**

B. Summary of Environmental Review

The Department of Environmental Conservation, Water Investment Division, has reviewed this proposed project in accordance with the Department's State Environmental Review Procedures for Projects Funded Through the Vermont/ EPA Revolving Loan Program.

The Department has reviewed the following planning documents:

- Environmental Information Document titled “Environmental Report and Environmental Information Document,” submitted 09/02/21, by Weston and Sampson Engineers.
- Preliminary Engineering Report entitled “Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation Project,” from February 1, 2022 by Weston and Sampson Engineers.

A Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) is the appropriate environmental review response for this project if the issues presented can be resolved with mitigation or permits. This project is not eligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed environmental review due to potential impacts to the Connecticut River. Also, the project’s direct and indirect environmental effects do not necessitate issuance of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), consistent with the criteria as described in section XI of the Department’s environmental review procedures.

1. Project Description

The Vernon Advent Christian Home is in Windham County, Vermont in the Connecticut River Basin.

This project involves replacement of a failing wastewater disposal system and consolidation of multiple disposal systems. An increase in capacity is proposed in the form of pre-treatment stage. The Vernon Advent Christian Home has Discharge Permit WW-2-0753, ID-9-0273 for its wastewater treatment facility, issued by the Watershed Management Division Wastewater Program.

This project does not involve construction activity within the floodplain of the nearby Connecticut River. The project will take place on property owned by Vernon Advent Christian Home.

This work is expected to be constructed with a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan.

Eligibility for clean water revolving loan (CWSRF) construction funding will be limited to the eligible clean water work as detailed in the Preliminary Engineering Report and to physical areas cleared through this environmental review process.

The contract documents will contain standard requirements to limit hours of construction and to control noise, dust and discharges of stormwater runoff or pollutants during construction.

**Brad Ellis, Authorized Representative, VACH
Vernon Advent Christian Home (VACH) Wastewater System Consolidation Project
Finding of No Significant Impact
Vermont/ USEPA Clean Water Loan Number RF1-304**

2. Justification for Finding of No Significant Impact

We have determined that the proposed project meets the criteria for issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact.

Otherwise, this project may have been eligible for Categorical Exclusion from detailed environmental review. Additionally, the direct and indirect environmental effects of the project are still not significant enough to necessitate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Specifically, the project will not increase the design hydraulic capacity of the wastewater treatment plant by more than 20 percent, and it will not increase the design organic treatment capacity (equivalent population served) by more than 30 percent. The project does not include sewer extensions.

The project will create no increase of effluent pollutant loadings (pounds per day) permitted to be discharged from associated wastewater treatment system.

A public hearing will be held at the VACH Conference Room to meet the hearing requirements and Vermont Public Meeting requirements, during the comment period of this FNSI process.