

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION
103 SOUTH MAIN STREET
WATERBURY, VERMONT 05671-0405

FACT SHEET
January 2012

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)
PERMIT TO DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

FILE NO.: 04-05
PROJECT ID NO.: EJ96-0232
NPDES NO: VT0000841
PERMIT NO.: 3-1429

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Frank W. Whitcomb Construction Corp.
PO Box 1000
Walpole, VT 03608

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

"Whitcomb Quarry"
160 Whitcomb Street
Colchester, VT

RECEIVING WATERS AND CLASSIFICATION: Unnamed tributary of Sunderland Brook: Class B. Class B waters are suitable for bathing and recreation; irrigation and agricultural uses; good fish habitat; good aesthetic value; acceptable of public water supply with filtration and disinfection.

I. Proposed Action, Type of Facility, and Discharge Location

The above named applicant applied on September 27, 2011 to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation for a renewal of a discharge permit to discharge into the designated receiving water. The discharge is from the Whitcomb Quarry, Colchester, VT to an unnamed tributary of Sunderland Brook. The facility is a quarry and stone crushing operation.

II. Description of Discharge

This permit authorizes the discharge of a commingled wastewater consisting of quarry dewatering water, quarry process water from a stone crushing operation and stormwater runoff. A quantitative description of the discharge in terms of significant effluent parameters is presented in section IV. below.

III. Limitations and Conditions

The effluent limitations of the permit, the monitoring requirements, and any implementation schedule (if required), may be found on the following pages of the permit:

Effluent Limitations: Page 2
Monitoring Requirements: Page 2

IV. Permit Basis and Explanation of Effluent Limitation Derivation

History & Summary

Frank W. Whitcomb Construction Corp owns and operates the "Whitcomb Quarry" in Colchester, VT. The quarry process includes extraction and crushing of stone and produces product for a variety of uses such as road fill, subsurface wastewater systems, and construction material. Several sources of wastewater are generated on the site and commingle in the collection and treatment system prior to discharge. Specifically:

Quarry Dewatering Water : Stormwater and groundwater seepage must be removed from the quarry to allow for the removal of rock.

Stone Crushing Operation Waste water: Water is used for various purposes, including dust control, in the stone crushing operation.

Stormwater Runoff: Stormwater generated on the site from haul roads, storage piles, buildings, etc is conveyed via swales, culverts, and grading to the sedimentation basin for treatment.

The commingled discharges from the quarrying and stone crushing operations are subject to 40 CFR Part 436, Subpart B – Crushed Stone Subcategory. Subpart B defines process generated wastewater as follows:

"(e) The term "process generated waste water" shall mean any waste water used in the slurry transport of mined material, air emissions control, or processing exclusive of mining. The term shall also include any other water which becomes commingled with such waste water in a pit, pond, lagoon, mine, or other facility used for treatment of such waste water."

Based on this definition the stone crushing operation wastewater is considered a process generated waste water". Since the quarry dewatering water and the site stormwater runoff commingle with the stone crushing wastewater in the treatment facility (Sedimentation Basin) the entire commingled discharge from the basin is defined as process wastewater and subject to the terms and conditions of this permit.

Having completed its review of the application, the Department has made a determination to issue a discharge permit for this discharge. Following is a discussion of the specific factors considered in the renewal of this permit.

Effluent Limitations

Flow

The flow limitation is 2.0 mgd, monthly average, and is unchanged from the current permit. Flow monitoring is required daily. The discharge from this facility is sporadic (i.e. a few days per quarter) and depends on the operation of the quarry, rainfall and groundwater seepage.

Turbidity

The permit contains a turbidity limitation of 25 N.T.U. This limitation is based on Section 3-01.B.1 of the Vermont Water Quality Standards effective January 1, 2008. Turbidity sampling is required twice per month.

pH

The permit contains a pH limitation of 6.5 to 8.5 SU. This limitation is based on Section 3-01.B.9 of the Vermont Water Quality Standards effective January 1, 2008. pH sampling is required twice per month.

Metals and Nutrient Analyses

Since heavy metals can be associated with the geologic formations in the state, Condition I.A.2. requires the permittee to conduct a total metals (antimony, arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, iron, lead, nickel, selenium, silver, and zinc) analysis of the discharge by June 30, 2014.

In addition in order to gather data on the eutrophication on the potential of various types of discharges, Condition I.A.2 also requires sampling for Total Phosphorus, Total Nitrogen, and Total Calcium by June 30, 2014.

Perchlorate Analysis

Since blasting has been done at this quarry, the draft permit contains a monitoring requirement for perchlorate. Perchlorate was present in some types of explosives previously used in the mining and quarrying industry and has been detected in the discharges from other quarries. Therefore perchlorate monitoring is being required. Specifically, Condition I.A.3 requires perchlorate sampling and analysis of the effluent by June 30, 2014.

Other Permit Conditions

Special Condition A.4.a. requires the permittee to maximize the water recycling to reduce the volume of water discharged.

Special Condition A.4.c. requires the permittee to implement a spill prevention and control plan to prevent any equipment spills or leaks from entering the wastewater treatment system.

Special Condition A.4.d. prohibits this discharge from causing or contributing to violations of water quality standards.

VI. Procedures for Formulation of Final Determinations

The public comment period for receiving comments on this draft permit is from January 9, 2012 through February 9, 2012, during that time interested persons may submit their written views on the draft permit. All written comments will be retained by the Department and considered in the formulation of the final determination to issue, deny or modify the draft permit. The period of comment may be extended at the discretion of the Department.

Written comments should be sent to:

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
 Department of Environmental Conservation
 Watershed Management Division Building 10 North
 103 South Main Street
 Waterbury, VT 05671-0405

Comment may also be submitted by e-mail using the e-mail comment provisions included at <http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/ww/Drafts.htm>. Comments can also be faxed to: 802-338-4890.

Any interested person or groups of persons may request or petition for a public hearing with respect to this draft permit. Any such request or petition for a public hearing shall be filed within the public comment period described above and shall indicate the interest of the party filing such request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

The Department will hold a hearing if there is significant public interest in holding such a hearing. Any public hearing brought in response to such a request or petition will be held in the geographical area of the draft discharge or other appropriate area, at the discretion of the Department and may, as appropriate, consider related groups of draft permits. Any person may submit oral or written statements and data concerning the draft permit at the public hearing. The Department may establish reasonable limits on the time allowed for oral statements and may require the submission of statements in writing. All statements, comments, and data presented at the public hearing will be retained by the Department and considered in the formulation of the final determination to issue, deny, or modify the draft permit.

The complete application, draft permit, and other information are on file and may be inspected at the VTDEC, Watershed Management Division, VSAC Building, Winooski. Copies will be made at a cost based on the previous Secretary of State Official Fee Schedule for Copying Public Records from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.