

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT Environmental Review

Information Document

April 12, 2024



PROJECT TITLE: Wells 4R and 5 Well Security	
FUNDING RECIPIENT (ENTITY): Merrimack Village District	
COORDINATES: 42.871909,-71.48393399999999	
PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: Merrimack Village District	PWS #: 1531010
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW POINT OF CONTACT: Funding Recipient	
ORGANIZATION: Merrimack Village District	
EMAIL ADDRESS: jill.lavoie@mvdwater.org	

PROJECT LOCATION(S)

ADDRESS	TOWN	COUNTY	ΤΑΧ ΜΑΡ	TAX LOT
31 Front St.	MERRIMACK	Hillsborough	005D-2	000006

INTRODUCTION

The Merrimack Village District has applied for funds through the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) to finance a water infrastructure improvements project.

This document fulfills the requirements Env-Dw 1108 relative to providing information on the environmental review required by Env-Dw 1100.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Merrimack Village District manages 6 groundwater wells. Wells 4R and Well 5 are currently unsecured by a fence around the sanitary protective radius.

PURPOSE AND NEED

Wells 4R and Well 5 are currently unsecured by a fence around the sanitary protective radius. The proposed project will include work where only a small disturbance is required, such as for upgrades, and no increase or expansion is planned.

PROJECT DETAILS

The proposed project will install two 16 x 16-foot chain-link fences around Production Well 4R and Well 5. Both wells are located on the same property approximately 300 feet apart.

Permanent Disturbance:	512.00 sq. ft.
Temporary Disturbance:	0.00 sq. ft.
Total Disturbance:	512.00 sq. ft.

FUNDING PLAN

The Merrimack Village District voted to authorize funding in the amount of \$16,724.00 for this project on 01/22/2024.

The estimated cost of the overall project is \$16,724.00. The funding plan for this project is outlined below.

PROJECT SCHEDULE	
Project Milestone	Projected Date
Anticipated Bid Solicitation Date or Request for Quote Date	10/12/2023
Anticipated Bid Opening Date	10/12/2023
Anticipated Construction Start Date (includes site preparation or clearing)	05/31/2024
Anticipated Construction Completion Date	06/07/2024

Funding Source	Loan Amount	Grant Amount	Loan/Grant Number
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)		\$16,724.00	SWP-377

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS AND MITIGATION

The following sections evaluate the potential environmental and socio-economic impacts that may result from the proposed project and identify all existing or anticipated environmental permits related to the project.

AIR RESOURCES

Describe any anticipated air quality related impacts and proposed mitigation efforts. None

Does the project include the addition or replacement of a fuel burning device, stationary engine, and/or internal combustion engine (e.g. boiler, generator, water pump engine, space heater)? No

Type(s) of fuel burning devices: N/A

Type(s) of fuel: N/A

Number of Diesel Engines: 0

Maximum heat output rating in million BTUs per hour (MMbtu/hr): N/A

Does the project include any demolition?

No

Does the project include any renovation which includes any structures, siding, roofing, heating systems, piping or ductwork, insulation, or utility infrastructure, including but not limited to transite pipe, electrical line, water line, sewer line or storage tanks?

No

Will the project and/or construction generate any toxic air pollutants or fugitive dust? No

Describe any Best Management Practices that will be implemented to avoid and minimize air impacts. No dust or air impacts are anticipated.

Air Resources Division Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Will the ambient air quality remain within national ambient air quality standards as a direct result of the implementation of the project?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Thomas Guertin, 3/19/24

Comments: There are no activities described that will impact ambient air quality standards.

Will the siting, construction, and operation of the project be consistent with applicable State statutes and/or regulations concerning: regulated toxic air pollutants, fugitive dust, and/or opacity?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Thomas Guertin, 3/19/24

Comments: The designation of "Yes" assumes that best management practices are used to control dust from construction equipment and vehicular movement in the construction zone

Will the project meet national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Thomas Guertin, 3/19/24

Comments: None of the activities described have the potential to emit any hazardous air pollutants

Will the project be in compliance with the requirements specified in Env-A 1800 Asbestos Management and Control?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Ray Walters, 03/20/24

Comments: It does not appear from the description of this project that any demolition, renovation, or disturbance of any structures or infrastructure that may include asbestos-containing materials (ACM) is planned to occur.

ALTERATION OF TERRAIN

Does the project include any of the following earth moving activities as defined in Env-Wq 1502.19 (filling, grading, dredging, mining, excavation, construction, topsoil removal, stump removal, stockpiling earth material, or any other activity that results in a change to the pre-existing conditions and/or contours)? Yes

Does the project include a temporary or permanent disturbance of 100,000 square feet of terrain, or 50,000 square feet of terrain with any portion of disturbance within the protected shoreland as defined by RSA 483-B? No

Does the project include the disturbance of an area exceeding the steep slope criteria of Env-Wq 1502.58(b)(1)? No

Does the project meet the criteria outlined in Env-Wq 1503.03 General Permit by Rule? Yes

Alteration of Terrain Program Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Does the project involve earth moving activities, as defined under Env-Wq 1502.19, that would trigger an Alteration of Terrain review?

Answer: Yes	
Reviewer: Mike Schlosser, 3/22/24	
Comments:	

Is the project consistent with all criteria outlined in Env-Wq 1503.03, allowing the project to proceed under the General Permit by Rule (GPBR)?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Mike Schlosser, 3/22/24

If the project is not consistent with all criteria in Env-Wq 1503.03, can the project proceed under the GPBR if a waiver is requested and approved?

Answer: N/A

Reviewer: Mike Schlosser, 3/22/24

Comments:

Will the project require an Alteration of Terrain permit?

Answer: No

Reviewer: Mike Schlosser, 3/22/24

Comments:

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

Is the project located within any of the municipalities in NH's coastal zone? No

Will the project require a federal license of permit (e.g. Army Corps of Engineers section 10 or 404 permit; National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit)?

N/A

Coastal Zone Management Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Is the project consistent with the enforceable policies of the NH Coastal Program in accordance with Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended? [PL 92-583]

Answer: N/A

Reviewer: Chris Williams

Comments: Merrimack is located outside New Hampshire's coastal zone.

CONTAMINATION AND HAZARDOUS WASTE SITES

Is the project located within one-half (1/2) mile of any known environmental contamination sources? No

Waste Management Division Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Does the WMD anticipate any adverse effects from this project?

Answer: No

Reviewer: Meaghan Broderick

Comments: WMD does not anticipate any adverse effects from this project.

Does the Superfund Section anticipate any adverse effects from this project?

Answer: No

Reviewer: Andrew Hoffman

Comments: The fencing project will not impact or be impacted by the NH Plating superfund Site, located over 1.5 miles to the south.

Will the project address any active and ongoing violations and/or enforcement actions?

Answer: No

Reviewer: Meaghan Broderick

Comments: There are no active or ongoing WMD violations or enforcement actions in the project area.

DESIGNATED RIVERS

Does the project fall within a Designated River Corridor? Yes

Rivers Management and Protection Program Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Is the project consistent with the provisions of the Rivers Management and Protection Act and have appropriate advisory committees been notified? [RSA 483]

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Tracie Sales, 4/4/2024

Comments: The proposed project to install fences around Wells 4R and 5 in Merrimack, NH is located within the corridor of the state designated lower Merrimack River. The Lower Merrimack River LAC (LMRLAC) was notified of the project on 3/18/2024 but was not able to discuss the project at its meeting on 3/28/2024. Given the nature of the project, the Rivers Program has no concerns about the proposed fence installation.

Will the project avoid adversely affecting any rivers designated, or which are being considered for designation, under the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act? [PL 90-542]

Answer: N/A

Reviewer: Tracie Sales, 3/18/2024

Comments: The proposed project to install fences around Wells 4R and 5 in Merrimack, NH will not impact any federally designated Wild and Scenic River.

DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER

Does the project include the siting, rehabilitation, hydrofracking, or permitting of one of the following: a community water supply well OR a non-community, non- transient water supply well for a non-profit entity? No Type of Well: N/A

Will the project result in any wastewater discharge (including treatment backwash) onto or into the ground? No

The project may require registration or permitting from the Underground Injection Control and/or Groundwater Discharge Programs. If the project is already registered/permitted, provide the registration and/or permit number: N/A

Have adequate measures been taken to ensure that activities associated with this project will not lead to the discharge of potential contamination to the ground and comply with rule Env-Wq 401 regarding Best Management Practices for Groundwater Protection?

Yes

Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Does the DWGB anticipate any adverse effects from this project on groundwater resources (e.g. bedrock/overburden aquifers, private water supplies, or public water supplies/systems)?

Answer: No

Reviewer: Andrew Koff 3/20/2024

Comments:

Does the project require registration or permitting from the Underground Injection Control and/or Groundwater Discharge programs? [Env-Dw 404; Env-Dw 402]

Answer: No

Reviewer: Andrew Koff, 3/20/2024

Comments:

Have adequate measures been taken to ensure that activities associated with this project will not lead to the discharge of potential contamination to the ground, and comply with rule Env-Wq 401 regarding Best Management Practices for Groundwater Protection?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Andrew Koff, 3/20/2024

Comments:

Is the project consistent with the Sole Source Aquifers program? [SDWA 1421(e)]

Answer: N/A

Reviewer: Andrew Koff, 3/20/2024

Comments:

Will the project address any active and ongoing violations and/or enforcement actions?

Answer: N/A

Reviewer: Eric Skoglund; March 19, 2024

Comments: This project should not adversely affect the public water system. There are no open or ongoing violations/significant deficiencies related to this system.

FARMLAND PROTECTION POLICY ACT

Does the project involve acquisition of undeveloped land, conversion of undeveloped land, new construction, or site clearance?

No

Will the project impact prime farmland, unique farmland, and/or land of statewide or local importance? N/A

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Will the project avoid adversely affecting significant amounts of prime agricultural land or agricultural operations on this land? [Farmland Protection Policy Act]

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: NRCS Farmland Conversion Impact Assessment

Comments: The entirety of the project work will occur within the existing disturbed area of the installed production wells and therefore the project is exempt from the Farmland Protection Policy Act's Farmland Conversion Impact Assessment.

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

Is the project located within, or will it have an impact on, a 100-year floodplain (Zone A) or Coastal High Hazard zone (Zone V) as identified by FEMA?

Yes

Please describe why the project cannot be located outside of these areas, including a summary of any and all alternatives that were considered. Also provide a description of the measures proposed to mitigate these impacts.

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Is the project consistent with Executive Order 14030 (Federal Flood Risk Management Standard [FFRMS]) regarding construction on floodplains?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: FEMA Federal Flood Risk Management Standard consultation

Comments: The project area is located in a special flood hazard area (see attached FEMA FIRMette map); however, because the project solely consists of installing a chain-link fence, no impacts to the infrastructure is anticipated due to potential flooding and there is no anticipated harm to or within the floodplain as a result of this project.

HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

Has a Request for Project Review (RPR) been submitted to the NH Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR) for the entire project scope?

N/A

Will the project result in changes to historical resources (including archaeological resources, cultural resources, or historic properties)?

No

Does the project require work on, or demolition of, any historic buildings (greater than 45 years old), structures (bridges, walls, culverts, etc.), districts, and/or landscapes? No

Provide the age of the resource(s) to be impacted.

N/A

Is the project located within, or directly adjacent to, a historic district? No

Is the project scope limited to the repair, replacement, or installation of infrastructure piping, equipment, and/or appurtenances where all work will occur within an existing building footprint, utility trenches, road surfaces? No

Does the project involve ground disturbing activity? Describe current and previous land use and disturbances. Yes - Digging holes for fence posts.

Will construction activities occur within 25 feet of a cemetery?

No

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Will the project comply with Executive Order 11593 – Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Division of Historical Resources

Comments: In accordance with the executed Programmatic Agreement between NHDES and the NH State Historic Preservation Officer (NHSHPO), dated October 28, 2022, the project meets the requirements outlined in Appendix 1 Exemption #2, and does not require review by the NH Division of Historical Resources (DHR) NHSHPO, as no adverse impacts are anticipated. Should the scope of the project change, review by DHR may be required.

Will the project comply with sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Division of Historical Resources

Comments: In accordance with the executed Programmatic Agreement between NHDES and the NH State Historic Preservation Officer (NHSHPO), dated October 28, 2022, the project meets the requirements outlined in Appendix 1 Exemption #2, and does not require review by the NH Division of Historical Resources (DHR) NHSHPO, as no adverse impacts are anticipated. Should the scope of the project change, review by DHR may be required.

Will the project avoid significant adverse effects on parklands or other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Division of Historical Resources

Comments: In accordance with the executed Programmatic Agreement between NHDES and the NH State Historic Preservation Officer (NHSHPO), dated October 28, 2022, the project meets the requirements outlined in Appendix 1 Exemption #2, and does not require review by the NH Division of Historical Resources (DHR) NHSHPO, as no adverse impacts are anticipated. Should the scope of the project change, review by DHR may be required.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

Has a request for intergovernmental review been submitted to the NH Office of Strategic Initiatives for the entire project scope?

Yes

Have the results been received?

Yes

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Has the Intergovernmental Review Process been completed and have all comments been adequately addressed? [NH EO 83-10]?

Answer: Yes	
Reviewer: Department of Energy	
Comments: SAI# 24.063 – Concur	

NOISE

Will the project result in increased noise sources, or impact noise-sensitive areas (e.g. residential areas, schools, libraries)? Please consider both permanent and temporary impacts. No

Describe any anticipated noise impacts that will occur as a result of the project (both temporary and permanent). N/A

PLANTS AND WILDLIFE

Has an NHB Datacheck/IPAC/NOAA been submitted? Submitted?: Yes NHB Reference Number: NHB24.0899

Will the project occur entirely within a developed area (an area that is already paved or supports structures) and the only vegetation is limited to frequently mowed grass or conventional landscaping? Yes Will the project involve the removal of trees and/or vegetation? No

Please characterize the vegetation to be removed: N/A

Please quantify the vegetation to be removed in acreage (ONE acre is 43,560 square feet): $\ensuremath{\mathsf{N/A}}$

Timing of Activity (what month(s) vegetation removal will occur): N/A

Have any sensitive plant and/or animal species, exemplary natural communities, and/or natural community systems been identified within the project area in any of the consultations. N/A

What any or all conservation and/or mitigation measures will be incorporated into the project (including measures that would reduce a significant impact to a less than significant impact, if applicable). N/A

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Will the project comply with State regulations regarding state-listed threatened or endangered species or exemplary communities? [RSA 212-A; RSA 217-A]

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: NHB24.0899, NH Fish and Game (NHFG)

Comments: Based on initial screening of the project information submitted for NHB DataCheck review, NHFG determined that, although there were NHB records present in the vicinity, NHFG does not expect that they will be impacted by the proposed project. No further consultation with NHFG is required.

Will the project comply with the Endangered Species Act of 1973? [PL 93-05]

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: US Fish and Wildlife Service (IPaC), Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB24.0899), NH Fish and Game

Comments: New Hampshire Fish and Game does not expect impacts to the federally listed IPaC species. Consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Section 7 digital planning tool: Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) determined there will be "No Effect" to the northern long-eared bat. See the conservation/mitigation section above for best practices to avoid impacts to plant and wildlife species.

Will the project comply with the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: US Fish and Wildlife Service (IPaC)

Comments: The Bald Eagle may occur in the vicinity of the project. Wherever possible, schedule earth clearing outside the window of when Bald Eagles are present to avoid possible impacts.

Will the project comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: US Fish and Wildlife Service (IPaC)

Comments: Several migratory bird species may occur in the vicinity of the project area including: Bald Eagle, Blackbilled Cuckoo, Bobolink, Canada Warbler, Chimney Swift, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Red-headed Woodpecker, Rusty Blackbird, and Wood Thrush. Wherever possible, schedule earth moving activities outside the window of when these species may be present to avoid impacts to migratory birds.

If any waterbodies will be impounded, diverted, controlled, or modified then will the project comply with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Molly Thunberg 4/2/2024

Comments: No waterbodies will be impounded as part of this project.

SHORELAND

Will any portion of the project occur within 250 feet of public waters?

No

Has a Shoreland Permit been obtained or applied for? Permit?: N/A Permit Number: N/A

Shoreland Program Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

The project appears to require review and permitting by the Shoreland Protection Program. [RSA 483-B]

Answer: No	
Reviewer: D. Forst	
Comments: None	

Will the project address any active and ongoing violations and/or enforcement actions?

Answer: No	
Reviewer: D. Forst	
Comments: None	

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC

Will the project serve a disadvantaged community or result in any impacts on disadvantaged residential areas? No

Environmental Review Coordinator Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Will the siting avoid having a significant adverse effect on an existing residential area in accordance with Executive Order 12898 regarding Environmental Justice?

Answer: Yes
Reviewer: Molly Thunberg 3/18/2024
Comments: This project is expected to have positive social and economic impacts for the community served.

WASTEWATER – RESIDUALS MANAGEMENT

Does the proposed project include any construction that may encounter wastewater or wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) sludge/biosolids? Not applicable for Wastewater projects.

Does the drinking water system contain a drinking water treatment facility (DWTF)? Yes Does the proposed project involve infrastructure (e.g. piping, pumps/stations/storage) for raw water (from the source to system inlet) or treated water (from the DWTF outlet to the end user)? No

Does the DWTF include the discharge of water residuals from treatment equipment backwash process to an external infiltration lagoon/basin for dewatering/disposal? N/A

Does the proposed project include any construction that may encounter drinking water treatment facility sludge? No

Wastewater - Residuals Management Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Is the project consistent with EPA's most recent version of Standards for the Use and Disposal of Sewage Sludge? [40 CFR 503]

Answer: N/A

Reviewer: Patricia Chesebrough

Comments: None

Is the project consistent with EPA's 1996 handbook "Technology Transfer Handbook: Management of Water Treatment Plant Residuals"?

Answer: N/A

Reviewer: Patricia Chesebrough

Comments: None

Is the project consistent with the current State regulations regarding sludge disposal? [Env-Wq 800]

Answer: N/A

Reviewer: Patricia Chesebrough

Comments: None

WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER PERMITTING

Will the total contiguous land disturbance for this project and any additional phases be one (1) acre or more? No

Will there be a dewatering discharge to a surface water during construction?

No

Is the discharge contaminated, or does it have the potential to be contaminated?

N/A

Does the project involve the construction or upgrade of a wastewater treatment facility or water treatment facility? No

Will the completed project result in a new or increased discharge to a surface water?

N/A

Does the project involve the addition, modification, or relocation of a stormwater discharge? No

Wastewater – Permitting Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Does the project require any State Surface Water Discharge Permits and/or Federal NPDES Permits, including the NPDES Stormwater Permits? [CWA 402; 40 CFR 122.26 (b) et seq.; CWA 402(p)]

Answer: No

Reviewer: Hayley Franz 3/18/2024

Comments: Because the project will not result in one acre or more of land disturbance or a dewatering discharge to a surface water, no State Surface Water Discharge Permits or Federal NPDES permits are required.

Is the project subject to the state antidegradation policy? [40 CFR 131.12; Env-Wq 1708]

Answer: No

Reviewer: Hayley Franz 3/18/2024

Comments: Because the project will not result in a new or increased discharge to a surface water, the antidegradation policy does not apply.

Will the project address any active and ongoing violations and/or enforcement actions?

Answer: No

Reviewer: Teresa Ptak 3/19/2024

Comments:

WETLAND PROGRAM

Does the project area contain any vernal pools? No

Describe what measures and construction practices will be implemented to minimize impacts to these resources. N/A

Are impacts to wetlands and/or streams anticipated as a result of this project? No

Describe the impacts and quantify, in square footage, the temporary and permanent disturbance. $\ensuremath{\mathsf{N/A}}$

Has a wetland permit been obtained from the NHDES Land Resource Management Program? $\ensuremath{\mathsf{N/A}}$

Does the project include stream crossings consisting of repair, replacement, replacement-in-kind, rehabilitation (e.g. slip lining); installation of a culvert, arch, or bridge; or installation of a temporary stream crossing? No

Will any waterbodies be impounded, diverted, controlled, or modified as part of the project? No

Wetland Program Review (the following section completed by NHDES staff)

Under the provisions of RSA 482-A the project appears to require review and permitting by the Wetlands Bureau.

Answer: No

Reviewer: K. Benedict

Comments: No wetland impacts anticipated as a result of the project.

Are there any ongoing enforcement actions which will be affected by this project?

Answer: No

Reviewer: K. Benedict

Comments:

Will the project comply with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act?

Answer: Yes

Reviewer: Molly Thunberg 3/18/2024

Comments: No impacts to waterbodies will result from this project.

PUBLIC REVIEW

A public notice will be published by NHDES and the Merrimack Village District and public comment period held in accordance with the Env-Dw 1100.

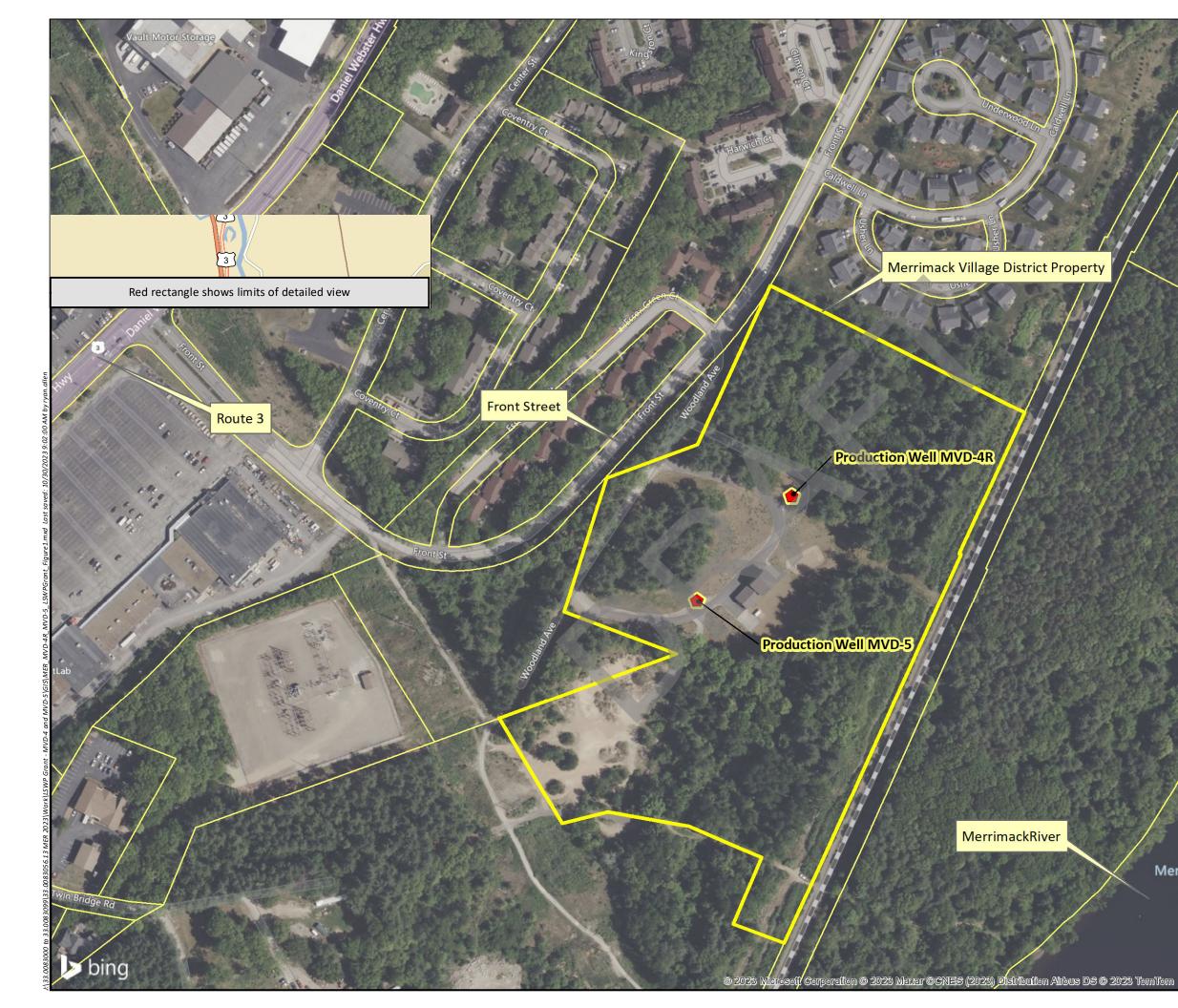
Based on the information outlined above and in accordance with Env-Dw 1100, NHDES has determined that project qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion (CE).

ATTACHMENTS

The following attachments detail this project:

- Attachment A Aerial Map
- Attachment B FEMA Flood Map
- Attachment C Photos

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FIGUREAt achment A

Aerial Photo of the Production Wells MVD-4R and MVD-5 Merrimack, New Hampshire

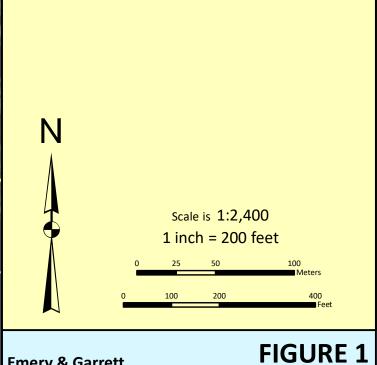
Legend



Production Well

Merrimack Village District Property

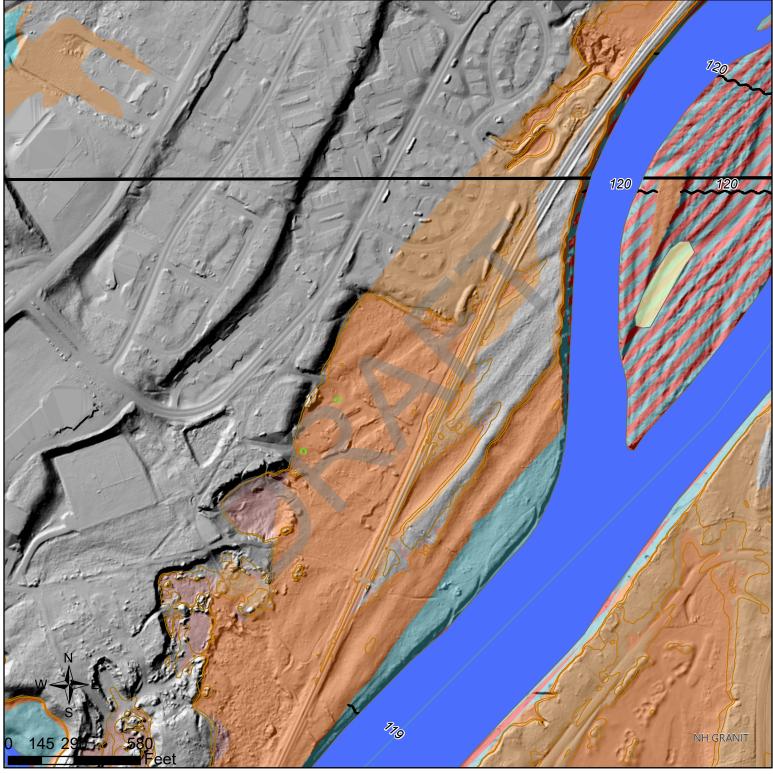
Tax Parcels



Emery & Garrett FIGURI Groundwater Investigations, A^P Bivision of GZA NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Services

FEMA Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Attachment B (FFRMS)

Date exported: 4/2/2024 Data credit NHDES, GRANIT, FEMA



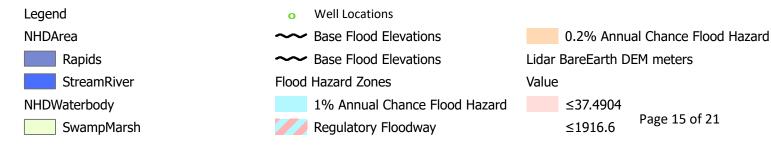


Photo 1



Photo 2a



Photo 2b



Photo 3a



Photo 3b



Photo 4

