

## RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES

235 Promenade Street Providence, Rhode Island 02908



202404260033300 Bk:LR6781 Pg:33 RECORDED Cranston,RI 1/3 04/26/2024 12:53:50 PM PERMIT

April 24, 2024

Pawtuxet River Authority Robert Nero 8 Hope Furnace Road Hope, Rhode Island, 02831

## Freshwater Wetlands Permit

RE: Application No. 24-0002 for the property and project located:

Approximately 650 feet southwest of Ross Simons Drive, approximately 2,000 feet southwest of its intersection with Sharpe Drive, Assessor's Plat 13, Lot 47, Cranston, RI.

Dear Mr. Nero:

Kindly be advised that the Department of Environmental Management's ("DEM") Freshwater Wetlands Program ("Program") has completed its review of your Application for a Freshwater Wetlands Permit as described in Rule 3.11 of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Fresh Water Wetlands Act, 250-RICR-150-15-3 ("Rules"). This review included a site inspection of the above referenced property ("subject property") and an evaluation of the proposed utility scale solar facility, solar panels, transformer pad, overhead utility lines, security fence, and associated landscaping as illustrated and detailed on site plans submitted with your application. The most recently revised site plans were received by the DEM on April 3, 2024.

Our observations of the subject property, review of the site plans and evaluation of the proposed project reveals that alterations of jurisdictional areas are proposed. However, pursuant to Rule 3.7 of the Rules, this project meets all Standards, and a Freshwater Wetlands Permit may be issued under the following terms and conditions:

Terms and Conditions for Wetlands Application No. 24-0002 and RIPDES No. RIR 102621:

- 1. This letter is the DEM's permit for this project under the R.I. Fresh Water Wetlands Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 2-1-18 et seq.
- 2. This determination also includes your final authorization to discharge storm water associated with construction activity under the 2020 RIDPES General Permit for Stormwater Discharge During Construction Activity ("CGP"). For future references and inquiry, your permit authorization number is RIPDES No. RIR 102621. This RIPDES CGP permit is not transferable to any person except after written notice to the Director, in the form of a Permit Transfer Form available on the RIDEM Stormwater Construction Permitting website.
- 3. This permit is specifically limited to the project, site alterations and limits of disturbance as detailed on the site plans submitted with your application and received by the DEM on April 3, 2024. A copy of the site plans stamped approved by the DEM is enclosed. Changes or revisions to the project that would alter freshwater wetlands are not authorized without a permit from the DEM.
- 4. Where the terms and conditions of the permit conflict with the approved site plans, these terms and conditions shall be deemed to supersede the site plans.

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- 5. You must notify this Program in writing of the anticipated start date, and of your contractor's contact information, by submitting the Notice of Start of Construction Form prior to commencement of any permitted site alterations or construction activity. You must also notify this Program in writing upon completion of the project. The Start of Construction Form can be found on the webpage: dem.ri.gov/stormwaterconstruction.
- 6. A copy of the stamped approved site plans and a copy of this permit must be kept at the site at all times during site preparation, construction, and final stabilization. Copies of this permit and the stamped approved plans must be made available for review by any DEM or city representative upon request.
- 7. Within ten (10) days of the receipt of this permit, you must record this permit in the land evidence records of the City of Cranston and supply this Program with written documentation obtained from the City showing this permit was recorded.
- 8. The effective date of this permit is the date this letter was issued. This permit expires five (5) years from the date of this letter unless renewed pursuant to the Rules.
- 9. Any material utilized in this project must be clean and free of matter that could pollute any jurisdictional area.
- 10. Prior to commencement of site alterations, you shall erect or post a sign resistant to the weather and at least twelve (12) inches wide and eighteen (18) inches long, which boldly identifies the initials "DEM" and the application number of this permit. This sign must be maintained at the site in a conspicuous location until such time that the project is complete.
- 11. Temporary erosion and sediment controls detailed or described on the approved site plans shall be properly installed at the site prior to or commensurate with site alterations. Such controls shall be properly maintained, replaced, supplemented, or modified as necessary throughout the life of this project to minimize soil erosion and to prevent sediment from being deposited in any freshwater wetland, buffer, floodplain, area subject to storm flowage, or area subject to flooding or other jurisdictional areas not subject to disturbance under this permit.
- 12. Upon permanent stabilization of all disturbed soils, temporary erosion and/or sediment controls must be removed.
- 13. You are responsible for the proper installation, operation, maintenance and stability of any mitigative features, stormwater treatment facilities, and systems of treatment and control that are installed or used in compliance with this permit to prevent harm to adjacent freshwater wetland, buffer or floodplain, area subject to storm flowage, or area subject to flooding or other jurisdictional areas until documentation is provided that this responsibility has been assigned to another entity. The long-term operation and maintenance plan shall be strictly followed. Operation and maintenance shall be as described in the plan entitled, "Stormwater System Operation & Maintenance Plan, Sharpe Drive Solar, Located in Cranston, RI, Applicant: Sharpe Solar, LLC", bearing the latest revision date of March 29, 2024, dated received Apr. 3, 2024, prepared by: DiPrete Engineering.
- 14. You are obligated to install, utilize, follow <u>and maintain</u> all best management practices detailed or described on the approved site plans in the construction of the project to minimize or prevent adverse impacts to any adjacent freshwater wetland, buffer or other jurisdictional areas and the functions and values provided by such freshwater wetlands and buffers.

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Pursuant to the provisions in 250-RICR-150-15-3.8.13 and 250-RICR-150-15-3.14.4(A), as applicable, any properly recorded and valid Freshwater Wetlands Permit is automatically transferred to the new owner upon sale of the property.

You are required to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit and to carry out this project in compliance with the Rules at all times. Failure to do so may result in an enforcement action by this Department.

In permitting the proposed alterations, the DEM assumes no responsibility for damages resulting from faulty design or construction.

Kindly be advised that this permit is not equivalent to a verification of the type or extent of freshwater wetlands or jurisdictional areas on site. Should you wish to have the types and extent of freshwater wetlands verified, you may submit the appropriate application in accordance with 250-RICR-150-15-3.9.3.

This permit does not remove your obligation to obtain any local, state, or federal approvals or permits required by ordinance or law and does not relieve you from any duties owed to adjacent landowners with specific reference to any changes in drainage.

Please contact Lucianna Faraone Coccia of this office (telephone: 401-537-4225) should you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Andy Charpentier Environmental Scientist III

Office of Water Resources Freshwater Wetlands Program

AC/LFC/lfc

Enclosure: Approved site plans

Kenneth Mason, Director of Public Works, Cranston ec:

Jenna Shea, DiPrete Engineering

Scott Rabideau, NRS, Inc.

Lindsay McGovern, Sharpe Solar, LLC

Neal Personeus, DEM Stormwater Program