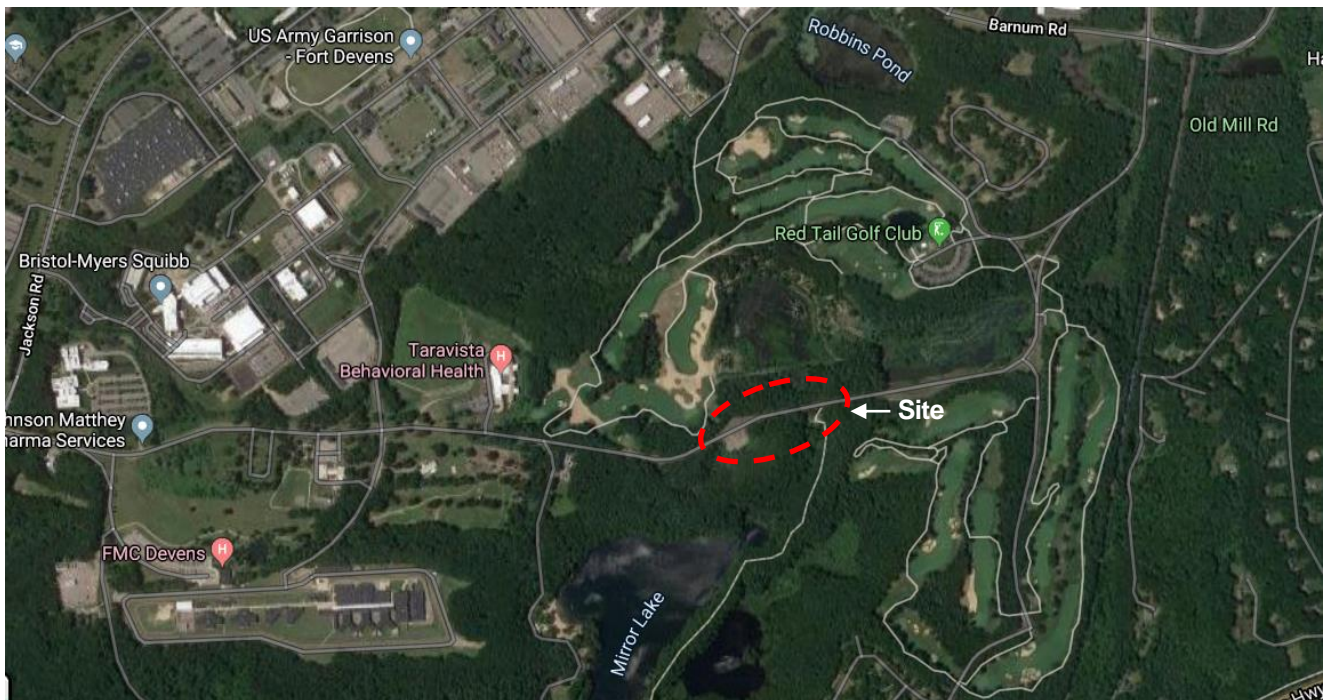


Staff Report

Date: December 1, 2020
To: **Devens Enterprise Commission**
From: Peter Lowitt, Director
RE: **Patton Well Pilot PFAS Treatment System Improvements**

Owner: MassDevelopment
Applicant: MassDevelopment/Devens Utilities
Location: 150 and 168 Patton Road, Devens, MA (Parcel ID 10-9-200 & 11-99-204)
Zoning: Open Space Recreation, Zone I and 2 Water Resources Protection Overlay District

- 1. Premises and Proposed Project:** Devens Utilities is seeking site plan approval and a Wetland Request for Determination of Applicability for the construction of a new water treatment plant, parking, driveway, emergency generator, and associated drainage improvements as well as utility connections within the Patton Road Right of Way which are within 100 feet of wetlands on the north side of Patton Road. Devens Utilities has been before the DEC previously for pilot PFAS treatment systems at the Shabokin Well, Patton Well, and MacPherson Well. Those treatment systems, now in operation, utilize granular activated carbon (GAC) filtration and Patton Well uses a resin filter (ion exchange) to remove PFAS from the drinking water and supply Devens with drinking water that has non-detectable levels of PFAS.



2. Site issues:

The Applicant has redesigned the project to move the buildings closer to the street and away from TTOR conservation restricted lands as well as diminishing utility work within the Patton Road right of way in order to reduce impacts on wetlands. There are minor stormwater design revisions needed to bring the plans into compliance with our regulations and this is proposed as a condition of approval.

The work also involves utility connection work within the Patton Road Right of Way which are within the 100-foot wetlands buffer on the north side of Patton Road, and the installation of a new water treat plant with diesel generator tank, a sewage tank and a residuals tank. The project is west of the existing Patton Well site and adjacent to a Slope Resource Area and within a Priority Habitat Area for Blandings Turtle, therefore the project will need to consult with and obtain authorization from the Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program. This will be made a condition of approval for the project. A negative RDA with conditions has been prepared for this project. To avoid impacts to this threatened species, any ground disturbance needs to occur outside of the turtle's active season (April 15-October 15). Additional landscaping has been proposed to buffer the facility from Patton Road.

3. Application and Process: Wright Pierce, on behalf of MassDevelopment Utilities Department, submitted a Level II Unified Permit application package, including the application, Request for Determination of Applicability, project narrative for ReUse Plan and Industrial Performance Standards Shabokin and Patton Water Treatment Plan Projects dated September 2, 2020, requests for waivers, abutters list, stormwater report entitled MassDevelopment Stormwater Management Plan, Patton Water Treatment Plant, dated September 2020; Emergency Action Plan Site Specific Program, Devens, project checklist and additional document required per the Project Checklist that included a Geotechnical Report, Proposed Water Treatment Building, Patton Well Site, Devens Massachusetts dated July 10, 2020 and Plans prepared by Wright Pierce on behalf of MassDevelopment Utilities and consisting of 16 sheets dated September 9, 2020 on September 11, 2020 and revised November 23, 2020 as follows:

- Cover Sheet
- C-1 General Notes, Legends and Abbreviations
- C-2 Existing Conditions and Demolition
- C-3 Site Plan
- C-4 Site Grading Plan
- C-5 Site Piping Plan
- C-6 Water Main Plan
- C-7 Site Lighting Plan
- C-8 Site Landscaping Plan
- C-9-12 Details
- C-13 Erosion Control Notes and Details
- A-3 First Floor Plan
- A-4 Elevations
- A Convault Brochure was also part of the submittal package.
- Truck Turning movement exhibits dated 9-24-2020 prepared by Wright Pierce
- Email Communication from Peter Lowitt to John Marc-Aurelle, November 12, 2020 regarding property line issues and response from John Marc-Aurelle to Peter Lowitt addressing this issue, also dated November 12, 2020
- Staff Report dated October 23, 2020.
- Revised Narrative letter dated 09-30-2020 Narrative for Reuse Plan and Industrial Performance Standards
- Email Lucas Anthony to Neil Angus responses to comments including copy of email to NHESP Charles Daigle dated 9-29-2020, Public Safety Coordination email to Tim Kelly Devens Public Safety Officer from Lucas Anthony also dated 9-29-2020.
- Letter from Jennifer Johnson, Nitsch Engineering to Neil Angus regarding Patton Well project #9419 dated October 1, 2020
- Letter from Neil Angus to Lucas Anthony Wright Pierce dated October 2, 2020 regarding DEC review comments.
- Plan Circulation Memo dated 9-18-2020
- MESA Patton Shabokin Wells filing dated 9-23-2020 from Caron Environmental Consulting on behalf of MassDevelopment Devens Utilities.
- An email from Lucas Anthony of Wright Pierce to Neil Angus, DEC regarding withdrawl of a waiver request for night time lighting dated 11/3/2020. Motion activated lighting will be used in lieu.
- Stormwater Management Plans revised 11/23/20
- Nitsch Engineering review comments dated 12/1/2020.

4. **Remaining Issues:** The following conditions should address the remaining issues:
Compliance with MESA and authorization from NHESA for working in Blandings Turtle habitat.

Minor Stormwater design calculations comments from Nitsch dated 12/1/20 to bring the submission into compliance with our requirements for no runoff in the 2 year storm event.

5. **Recommended Action:** Staff recommends closing the public hearing, issuing a Negative RDA for the utility work off Patton Road, and approving the draft Record of Decision with conditions of approval.