

**AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
1 National Life Drive, Main 2  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3521**

**DRAFT INDIRECT  
DISCHARGE PERMIT**

Permit No.: ID-9-0172  
PIN: RU95-0044

**SECTION A - "ADMINISTRATION"**

In compliance with provisions of 10 V.S.A. § 1263, and in accordance with the following conditions, the permittee:

Addison Northeast Supervisory Union  
"Mt. Abraham Union High School"  
220 Airport Drive  
Bristol, Vermont 05443

is authorized to discharge treated domestic sewage from an existing subsurface disposal system serving Mt. Abraham Union High School in Bristol, Vermont to groundwater and indirectly into the New Haven River.

A1. Permit Summary:

Expiration Date	June 30, 2021
Type of Waste	Domestic Sewage
Treatment System	Septic Tank
Disposal System	Leachfield
Town	Bristol
Drainage Basin	Otter Creek
Receiving Water	New Haven River
Drainage Area	Approx. 68 sq. mi.
Stream Flow:	
Low Median Monthly Flow (LMMF)	Est. 8,941,100 gallons per day (gpd)
Design Capacity	32,500 gpd (present) 42,500 gpd (Phase II)
Dilution Ratio (at LMMF)	
Stream Flow: Effluent	275 : 1

A2. Compliance Schedule:

The following schedule summarizes the actions and requirements necessary for compliance with the conditions of this permit. The permittee shall complete the requirements in accordance with the dates indicated. See the designated section for specific details.

<u>Condition # &amp; Description</u>	<u>Schedule Date</u>
A3. Apply for renewal of Indirect Discharge Permit	March 31, 2021
D2(A). Have a Vermont Registered Professional engineer complete an inspection of sewage collection, treatment and disposal system.	Annually in April & June
D2(B). Submit Annual Inspection Report	Annually by August 1st
D2(C). Submit Schedule for Implementing engineer's recommendations	Annually by August 1st
D3. Notify Secretary of pumping of septic tank and septage disposal	As specified
E1. Record water meter readings	Monday - Friday while school is in session

A3. Expiration Date:

This permit, unless revoked, or amended shall be valid until June 30, 2021 despite any intervening change in Water Quality Standards or the classification of receiving waters. Renewal of this Indirect Discharge Permit will be subject to all rules applicable at the time of renewal, including biological standards to determine significant alteration of aquatic biota.

The permittee shall apply for an Indirect Discharge Permit renewal by March 31, 2021. For the purposes of Title 3, an application for renewal of this indirect discharge permit will be considered timely if a complete application is received by the expiration date.

A4. Effective Date:

This permit becomes effective on July 1, 2016.

A5. Revocation:

The Secretary may revoke this permit in accordance with 10 V.S.A. §1267.

A6. Transfer of Permit:

This permit is not transferable without prior written approval of the Secretary. The permittee shall notify the Secretary immediately, in writing, before any sale, lease or other transfer of ownership of the property from which the permitted discharge originates. The proposed transferee shall make application for a permit to be reissued in their name. Failure to apply shall be considered a violation of this permit. Responsibility for compliance with the conditions of this permit shall be the burden of the permittee until such time as transfer of the permit to the transferee is complete. This permit shall be transferred only upon showing by the permittee or proposed transferee of compliance with the following conditions:

- a. The transferee shall be a legal entity, financially and technically competent to operate, inspect, maintain and replace the system.
- b. The transferee shall demonstrate that they have the legal authority to raise revenues for the proper operation, inspection, and maintenance of the system.
- c. The transferee shall provide a written agreement containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability between the current and new permittee(s) to the Secretary.

A7. Minor Modifications of Permits:

The Secretary may modify this permit without requiring a permit application, a public notice, or a public hearing to correct typographical errors, or to increase the monitoring frequency in accordance with Condition E(2) of this permit.

A8. Indirect Discharge Rules:

This permit authorizes an existing indirect discharge.

This indirect discharge was reviewed and qualified for an Indirect Discharge Permit in accordance with Section 14-403 (A) of the Indirect Discharge Rules for existing indirect discharges of sewage. No increase in sewage volume is allowed without the written approval of the Secretary.

A9. Right of the Agency to Inspect:

The permittee shall allow the Secretary or the Secretary's authorized representative upon the presentation of their credentials and at reasonable times:

- a. To enter upon permittee's premises in which any effluent source, treatment or disposal system is located or in which any records are required to be kept under the conditions of the permit;
- b. To have access to and copy any records required to be kept under conditions of this permit;
- c. To inspect any monitoring equipment or method required in this permit;
- d. To sample any discharge of waste, groundwater or surface water; and
- e. To inspect any collection, treatment, pollution management and disposal facilities required by this permit.

A10. Permit Availability:

A copy of this permit shall remain at the office of the permittee and, upon request, shall be made available for inspection by the Secretary.

A11. Minor Modifications to System:

Minor modifications of the engineering design which do not reduce the treatment effectiveness or increase the capacity of the system may be approved in writing by the Secretary without permit amendment.

Before making modifications to the treatment and/or disposal system the permittee shall submit plans to the Secretary for review and approval. These plans must be approved before any of the modifications or additions are made.

A12. Correction of Failed Systems:

The Secretary may, upon discretion, issue an Amendment to the Indirect Discharge Permit for the design and reconstruction of a failed wastewater disposal system where the replacement system design was not previously approved.

A12. Correction of Failed Systems (continued):

Before reconstruction of the failed system the permittee shall submit plans to the Secretary for review and approval. These plans must be approved before any reconstruction occurs. Due to the urgency of the need to correct failed disposal systems, the Secretary will process these Amendments as soon as possible.

**SECTION B "INDIRECT DISCHARGE"**

B1. Location of Indirect Discharge:

This existing indirect discharge is located in the Otter Creek drainage basin in the Town of Bristol, Vermont. The indirect discharge can be located on the USGS Bristol, Vermont 7.5' quadrangle map at Latitude N 44° 08' 04" and Longitude W 73° 05' 49".

B2. Nature of Indirect Discharge:

The wastewater is treated in a septic tank and flows by gravity to a series of distribution boxes which discharge the effluent to the leachfield. The disposal area has a disposal capacity of 32,500 gallons per day. The sewage treatment and disposal system is based on a student and faculty population of 1,300 and a design sewage flow of 25 gpd/person.

The Mt. Abraham Union High School was designed for expansion. The expansion (Phase II) would increase the student and faculty population from 1,300 to 1,700 people.

**SECTION C "SYSTEM APPROVALS"**

C1. Previous Approvals:

The sewage treatment and disposal system is reported to have been constructed using the following plans prepared by Julian Goodrich, Architects:

Sheet A-2 entitled "Site Plan and Details for Mt. Abraham High School", dated 8/28/67.

C2. Phase II Construction:

Prior to any expansion of the Mt. Abraham Union High School to allow for an increase in the student and faculty population to above 1,300 people, the permittee shall apply for a permit amendment and submit engineering plans and specifications for the expansion of the sewage treatment and disposal system to the Secretary for review and approval.

**SECTION D "SYSTEM OPERATION"**

D1. General Operating Requirements:

The sewage treatment and disposal system shall be operated at all times in a manner that will: (1) not permit the discharge of sewage onto the surface of the ground; (2) not result in the surfacing of sewage; (3) not result in the direct discharge of sewage into the waters of the State; and (4) not result in a violation of the Vermont Water Quality Standards.

In accordance with accepted design practices, the effluent disposal rate to the disposal fields shall not exceed 32,500 gallons per day except as may occur on an occasional basis during normal operation.

D2. Annual Inspection, Report and Implementation Schedule:

A. Annual Inspection:

Annually during the months of April and June, the permittee shall engage a Vermont Registered Professional engineer to make a thorough inspection, evaluation, and report of the complete sewage collection, treatment and disposal system. During April, the engineer shall inspect, at a minimum, the disposal field. The remainder of the inspection may be done in June, as soon as possible after the last day of school. The final engineer's inspection shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. inspecting the entire collection system, removing manhole covers to observe the condition of the sewers and manholes, and noting any signs of inflow or excess infiltration;
2. evaluating the accumulation of solids and scum in the septic tank and determining if the septic tank should be pumped out that year;
3. verifying the proper operation of the pumps, alarms and controls for the pump station;

D2. Annual Inspection, Report and Implementation Schedule:

A. Annual Inspection (continued):

4. verifying that the flow is correctly proportioned through the distribution boxes and checking the levelness of all distribution boxes in the disposal fields;
5. walking the disposal field during the month of April and checking for evidence of surfacing sewage; and
6. noting any necessary repairs or maintenance that needs to be performed on the sewage collection, treatment and disposal system.

B. Annual Inspection Report:

By August 1st each year the permittee shall have a professional engineer submit an annual report including the following items:

1. a complete list of the items inspected and the results of the inspection;
2. the measured depths of sludge and scum in each septic tank;
3. a discussion of the recommended repairs and maintenance required; and
4. evaluation of water meter readings to determine sewage flows.

C. Implementation Schedule:

By August 1st each year the permittee shall notify the Secretary in writing stating how the engineer's recommendations are to be implemented and including a schedule for the required repairs and maintenance.

D3. Septage Disposal:

During the system's annual inspection, the depth of sludge and scum shall be measured in the septic tank. The septic tank shall be pumped if: 1) the sludge is closer than twelve (12) inches to the outlet baffle or; 2) the scum layer is closer than three (3) inches to the septic tank outlet baffle or; 3) if otherwise recommended by the inspecting engineer. The permittee shall notify the Secretary in writing of the name and address of the pumper and the municipal sewage treatment facility or other approved facility where the septage is to be or was disposed.

D4. System Operation and Maintenance:

The sewage collection, treatment, and disposal system shall be operated and maintained at all times in a manner satisfactory to the Secretary and in a manner that will not pose a risk to the public health and safety, or cause contamination of drinking water supplies, groundwater and/or surface water.

D5. Reporting of Failures:

The permittee shall immediately report any failure of the sewage collection, treatment, or disposal system to the Secretary, first by telephone within 24 hours of the failure and then in writing within 5 days of the failure. The written notice shall include a discussion of the actions taken or to be taken to correct the failure.

D6. Discharge Restrictions:

The permittee shall not allow any person to discharge or cause to be discharged anything other than sanitary sewage to this collection, treatment and disposal system.

**SECTION E "MONITORING"**

E1. Water Meter Readings:

The permittee shall record water meter readings for the Mt. Abraham Union High School daily Monday - Friday while the high school is in session. The readings should be taken at approximately the same time each day. The total daily volume of water used and the individual water meter readings shall be submitted to the Secretary by the 15th day of the month following the date of recording. The report shall be signed by the permittee under the following certification language:



E1. Water Meter Readings (continued):

“I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined, and am familiar with, the information submitted herein. I believe the submitted information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment.”

E2. Monitoring Requirements:

No water quality monitoring of the system is required under this permit. However, the Secretary reserves the right to require monitoring of the system in accordance with Condition A(7) should operation of the system fail to meet the requirements of Sections D(1) and D(4).

**SECTION F "COMPLIANCE REVIEW"**

If the results of any inspection or monitoring indicate that a violation of the effluent disposal rate, or a violation of the Vermont Water Quality Standards, is occurring, or is likely to occur, the Secretary may require the permittee to take appropriate corrective actions to eliminate or reduce the possibility of a violation.

The issuance of this permit, ID-9-0172, to the Addison Northeast Supervisory Union by the Secretary relies upon the data, designs, judgment and other information supplied by the applicant, the applicant's consultants and other experts who have participated in the preparation of the application. The Secretary makes no assurance that this system will meet the performance objectives of the applicant and no warranties or guarantees are given or implied.

**SECTION G "EFFECTIVE DATE"**

This Indirect Discharge Permit, ID-9-0172, issued to the Addison Northeast Supervisory Union for the discharge of treated domestic sewage from the Mt. Abraham Union High School located in Bristol, Vermont, is effective on July 1, 2016.

Alyssa B. Schuren, Commissioner  
Department of Environmental Conservation

By:       **DRAFT**       Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
George Desch, Acting Director  
Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division