

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION I

Date of Notice: June 11, 2007

Public Notice Number: PN2007-0009

Comment Period: June 12, 2007 - July 11, 2007

Action: Notice of Proposed Assessment of Class II Clean Water Act Section 309(g)(2)(B) Administrative Penalties and Opportunity to Comment

Under Section 309(g) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g), EPA is authorized to assess a civil penalty after providing the person subject to the penalty notice of the proposed penalty and the opportunity for a hearing, and after providing interested persons public notice of the proposed penalty and a reasonable opportunity to comment on its issuance. In Class II proceedings under Section 309(g)(2)(B), any person who violates certain provisions of the Clean Water Act may be administratively assessed a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 per violation per day for each day during which the violation continues, up to a maximum of \$125,000. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 19 (Adjustments of Civil Penalties for Inflation) promulgated pursuant to the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, 31 U.S.C. § 3701, the maximum civil penalties that may be administratively assessed have been increased as follows: For violations occurring between January 31, 1997 and March 14, 2004, up to \$11,000 per violation per day for each day during which the violation continues, up to a maximum of \$137,500; and, for violations occurring on or after March 15, 2004, up to \$11,000 per violation per day for each day during which the violation continues, up to a maximum of \$157,500. Proceedings are conducted in

accordance with the "Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation or Suspension of Permits," at 40 C.F.R. Part 22 ("Part 22").

The procedures by which the public may submit written comments on a proposed penalty order or participate in a penalty proceeding are set forth in Part 22. The deadline for submitting public comment on a proposed penalty order is thirty (30) days after issuance of public notice.

Pursuant to Section 309(g), EPA is providing public notice of the following proposed administrative penalty assessment:

In the Matter of: Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant

Name and Mailing Address of Respondent: Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant
Cleary-Flood Station
1314 Somerset Avenue
Taunton, MA 02780

Name and Address of Facility or Site Addressed by Complaint:

Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant
Cleary-Flood Station
1314 Somerset Avenue
Taunton, MA 02780

Description of Business or Activity Conducted by the Respondent: is a municipal electric utility that conducts activities associated with the production and distribution of electricity.

Description of Violations Alleged in Complaint:

Respondent has violated certain provisions of the Clean Water Act. In particular, Respondent has failed to comply with terms and conditions of its Individual National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and its Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Activities.

Proposed Settlement Penalty: Up to \$157,500

Name of Case: Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant

Docket Number: CWA-01-2007-0099

Date Filed with Regional Hearing Clerk: June 8, 2007

Name, Mailing Address, and Telephone Number of Regional Hearing Clerk: Wanda Rivera, Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. EPA, Region I, One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (RAA), Boston, Massachusetts 02114; (617) 918-1113.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Persons wishing to receive a copy of Part 22, review the complaint or other documents filed by the parties in this proceeding, comment upon the proposed penalty assessment, or participate in any hearing that may be held, should contact the Regional Hearing Clerk identified above. Unless otherwise noted, the public record for the proceeding is located in the EPA Regional Office at One Congress Street, Boston, Massachusetts, and the file will be open for public inspection during normal business hours.

In order to provide opportunity for public comment, EPA will not take final action in this proceeding prior to thirty (30) days after issuance of this notice.