

Civil / Structural Engineering • Surveying • Land Planning • Landscape Architecture

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September 19, 2013
VIA FEDEX OVERNIGHT

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Watershed Management
Bureau of Watershed Regulation
401 East State Street
7th Floor West Wing
Trenton, N.J. 08625
ATTN: Cathy Williams

SEP 30 2013

RE: Highlands Applicability and Water Quality
Management Plan (WQMP) Consistency
Determination – Exemption Request for
Replacement of County Bridge 1401-107
Flanders-Drakestown Road over South Branch of
the Raritan River
Mount Olive Township, Morris County
Our Project No. 2011058

Dear Bureau of Watershed Regulations:

Morris County is planning the replacement of County Bridge 1401-107, Flanders-Drakestown Road over South Branch of the Raritan River in Mount Olive Township.

An exemption request (Exemption Type No. 9 – Repair of Transportation or Infrastructure Systems) is currently being made from the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act.

Project Background.

The project consists of the replacement of the Flanders-Drakestown Road Bridge and reconstruction of the north approach in the immediate vicinity of the bridge and the south approach including the intersection of Flanders-Drakestown Road with River Road.

The Flanders-Drakestown Road Bridge is a twin barrel closed spandrel stone masonry arch structure and is estimated to have been constructed circa 1900. The stone masonry has been coated with gunite. The structure length is approximately 35 feet. The bridge has an existing curb-to-curb width of 18.4' and out-to-out width of 22.5'

It has two narrow lanes travel lanes with stone masonry parapets on both sides. Several deteriorated and hollow sounding areas with random cracks exist in the arch intrados and spandrel walls. The

overall condition of the bridge has been deemed as only fair. In addition, the bridge is functionally obsolete due to the inadequate deck geometry.

A "General Plan and Elevation" for the existing structure has been prepared based on field survey, measurements and is included with the application. The reconstructed structure will be constructed at the same location. The total length of the project is approximately 225 feet.

Proposed Activities.

It is proposed that the existing bridge be replaced using precast concrete twin arches. The prefabricated arches will be selected to provide a hydraulic opening similar to the existing bridge. The curb to curb roadway width on the bridge is proposed to be 30' consisting of two 12' traffic lanes with 3' shoulders on each side. The proposed precast bridge sections, spandrel walls, and wingwall will be supported on cast-in-place concrete footings. The loading capacity of the proposed bridge will be HS 25. The existing alignment will be slightly modified to accommodate the roadway and bridge widening. The limits of the reconstruction for the approach roadways will extend approximately 125 feet at the north approach and 50 feet at the south approach. The project proposes to minimize the disturbance to the freshwater wetlands, transition area, and State open waters.

No new through-capacity travel lanes are proposed.

Other Permits / Approvals.

A Freshwater Wetlands (GP 10A) permit application and Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit will be submitted upon receipt of the Highlands Preservation Determination.

An application for a soil erosion and sediment control certification will be submitted to the Morris County Soil Conservation District upon receipt of the Highlands Preservation Determination.

Sponsoring Government Agency.

Bridge No. 1401-107 is a Morris County structure and the Morris County Engineering Department is the sponsoring County as well as overseeing the proposed activities.

Please find attached the following items for your review:

- One (1) original - NJDEP Highlands Applicability and Water Quality Management Plan
w/ One (1) copy (WQMP) Consistency Determination Application Form, dated September 19, 2013 (signed September 19, 2013)
- One (1) original - Check made payable to the "Treasurer, State of New Jersey" in the amount of
w/ One (1) copy \$750.
- Two (2) copies - Project Location Map
- Two (2) copies - Project Location Map – USGS Quadrangle (Hackettstown and Chester)

Two (2) copies - Project Location Map – Tax Map

Two (2) copies - Proof of Public Notice and Certified Mail Receipts

- Highlands Council – Entire application package
- Notice to Mount Olive Township Municipal Clerk – Entire application package.
- Notice to Mount Olive Township Planning Board, Environmental Commission, and Construction Official.
- Notice to Morris County Planning Board
- Attachment A – Notice to County or Municipal Government Commissions, Boards, or Officials
- Certified Mail Receipts.

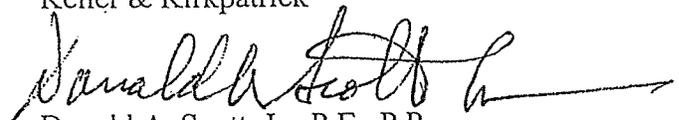
Two (2) copies - Selected Drawings, signed and sealed (dated September, 2013):

- Title Sheet / Key Map
- Plan – Flanders-Drakestown Road
- General Plan and Elevation –Existing (2 Sheets)
- General Plan and Elevation – Proposed (2 Sheets)
- Wetlands Disturbance Plan
- Riparian Zone Disturbance Plan

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me directly at (973) 434-8336 or email dscott@kellkirk.com.

Very truly yours,

Keller & Kirkpatrick


Donald A. Scott, Jr., P.E., P.P.
Permit Agent

DAS/atc

Enclosures

cc: Roslyn Khurdan, Morris County with Enclosures
NJ Highlands Council with Enclosures
Lisa Lashway, Mount Olive Township Clerk with Enclosures

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