



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION I  
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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109-3912

October 5, 2017

Emily Boedecker  
Commissioner  
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation  
Main Building - 2nd Floor  
One National Life Drive  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3520

Re: Lake Champlain Total Daily Maximum Load (TMDL) implementation

Dear Ms. Boedecker,

During the summer of 2017, the Environmental Protection Agency Region 1 (EPA) reviewed 10 preliminary draft permits and fact sheets developed by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for certain facilities that discharge treated wastewater to Lake Champlain or to tributaries to Lake Champlain.


The permits reviewed were:

Alburgh (VT0100005)  
Ed Weed FCS (VT0020931)  
Hinesburg (VT0101028)  
Montpelier (VT0100196)  
St. Albans (VT0100323)  
St. Albans Correctional (VT0101117)  
Shelburne #1 (VT0100331)  
Shelburne #2 (VT0100820)  
South Burlington Bartlett Bay (VT0100358)  
Williamstown (VT0100722)

A focus of the review was how each draft permit and fact sheet addressed phosphorous discharges and whether the effluent limits developed are consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any available waste load allocations (WLAs) as is required by 40 C.F.R. 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B)). Region 1 EPA finds that the proposed phosphorous limits in the draft permits listed above were consistent with the phosphorus load reduction goals and WLAs for each facility identified on Table 9 of the June 17, 2016 *Phosphorus TMDLs for Vermont Segments of Lake Champlain*. Vermont's use of these WLAs as the basis for phosphorus limits to protect Lake Champlain is consistent with EPA's NPDES regulations. Additionally, EPA finds that Vermont is implementing the permitting strategy described in the September 15, 2016 *Vermont Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL Phase 1 Implementation Plan* by establishing total phosphorus effluent limits based on the TMDLs in permits for these 10 dischargers to Lake Champlain and its tributaries.

Please feel free to contact Lynne Hamjian at 617-918-1601 if you have any further questions.

Best regards,

  
Deborah A. Szaro  
Acting Regional Administrator