

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

WATER SYSTEM NAME	MANCHESTER WATER WORKS
PROJECT TITLE	MASSABESIC DAM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
ADDRESS	LAKE SHORE RD, MANCHESTER
WATER SYSTEM PWS#	1471010/DWGT# 46

INTRODUCTION

The Manchester Water Works has applied for funds through the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF), in accordance with RSA 485-F.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Manchester Water Works, established in 1871, serves water to approximately 160,000 people throughout the city and portions of six surrounding communities. Massabesic Lake serves as the water supply for the regional Manchester area as well as limited recreational use. Massabesic Lake Dam was originally constructed in 1873 and recent assessment of the dam by NHDES determined that improvements are necessary to address noted deficiencies and prevent catastrophic failure.

The proposed improvement project includes: alterations to the dam spillway to increase spillway capacity; installation of collapsible flashboards designed to sequentially “fail” at the 50-year and 100-year storm events; raising the left dam embankment to achieve the desired 1-foot of freeboard during the Spillway Design Flood (SDF); raising the existing canal earthen dikes and concrete gatehouse wing walls by about 1.9 feet to 2.3 feet to achieve the required 1-foot of freeboard during the SDF; resurfacing an 800-foot section of Lake Shore Road to withstand overtopping by as much as 1.6 feet during the SDF; installation of vertical grouted riprap protection along the downstream side of the resurfaced road to protect against scour and erosion.

The proposed project will improve public health and safety as well as increase the resiliency of the water source infrastructure.

Whereas this project constitutes only a minor project and no significant environmental impacts are anticipated, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is proposed.

PUBLIC REVIEW

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen voted to authorize funding in the amount of \$1,045,350 for this project on 2/18/2020. *A public notice will be published by the Manchester Water Works and a 30-day comment period will be held in accordance with the DWGT rules. Comments will be accepted through November 7, 2020.*

The full document is available at, and comments may be addressed to the following locations:

Manchester Water Works Attn: David Miller, 281 Lincoln Street, Manchester, NH, 03106; or NHDES-Drinking Water & Groundwater Bureau Attn: Emily Nichols, Environmental Review Coordinator, PO Box 95, 29 Hazen Dr, Concord NH 03302-0095 or by email at: Emily.Nichols@des.nh.gov.

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