

ADDENDUM: Environmental Justice Screening Form

Project Name	MWRA Section 22 and Section 21 Rehabilitation Project
Anticipated Date of MEPA Filing	December 7, 2022 Environmental Monitor
Proponent Name	Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA)
Contact Information (e.g., consultant)	Katherine Ronan, MWRA katherine.ronan@mwra.com , 617-788-1177
Public website for project or other physical location where project materials can be obtained (if available)	https://www.mwra.com/projects/water/sec21-22/sec21-22-update.html
Municipality and Zip Code for Project (if known)	Boston, Milton, Quincy
Project Type* (list all that apply)	Water Supply – Treatment/conveyance
Is the project site within a mapped 100-year FEMA flood plain? Y/N/yes unknown	Yes
Estimated GHG emissions of conditioned spaces if known (click here for GHG Estimation tool)	N/A – There are no conditioned spaces associated with the Project

Project Description

<p>1. Provide a brief project description, including overall size of the project site and square footage of proposed buildings and structures if known.</p> <p>The Project involves rehabilitation of portions of MWRA’s Section 22 and Section 21 water pipelines in areas of Boston, Milton and Quincy. These pipelines are critical components of MWRA’s drinking water system and deliver water to customers in these communities. The purpose of this rehabilitation Project is to restore the pipelines to their full function and ensure reliable delivery of safe and clean drinking water to customers in these communities, now and into the future.</p> <p>Section 22 was constructed in 1950, is approximately 16,000 feet long, and is composed primarily of 48-inch-diameter unlined steel pipe. Portions of Section 22 are located in the Neponset River Estuary Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). A 650-foot-long portion of Section 22 runs under the Neponset River, which is composed of 52-inch-diameter concrete-lined steel pipe. Section 21 was constructed in the early 1900s, is approximately 3,600 feet long and is composed of 24-inch-diameter cast iron pipe. Both pipelines are in need of rehabilitation. Section 22 has required numerous repairs over the years and Section 21 is heavily corroded.</p> <p>Specialized construction methods including “cleaning and lining” and “sliplining” will be used along much of pipeline, which greatly limit areas of excavation and reduce both environmental and public health impacts associated with rehabilitation of the pipelines. Additionally, a portion (approximately 2,800 feet) of the existing Section 22 pipeline which is currently located within a salt marsh and the Neponset River Estuary ACEC, will be relocated into Granite Avenue in Quincy. This will reduce environmental impacts associated with rehabilitation and future maintenance of this segment of pipeline. This Project is tentatively planned in phases between 2025 and 2027.</p>
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<p>2. List anticipated MEPA review thresholds (301 CMR 11.03) (if known)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 301 CMR 11.03(3)(a)1. a. alteration of one or more acres of salt marsh or bordering vegetating wetlands - 301 CMR 11.03(11)(b) Any Project within a designated ACEC, unless the Project consists solely of one single family dwelling.
<p>3. List all anticipated state, local and federal permits needed for the project (if known)</p> <p>State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Massachusetts Department of Transportation (DOT) Access Permit - Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Construction Access Permit - Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) License to Enter - Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Section 401 Water Quality Certification - Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Chapter 91 Massachusetts Public Waterfront Act - Massachusetts Historical Commission Review <p>Local</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MassDEP/Milton Conservation Commission Order of Conditions <p>Federal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Pre-Construction Notification - Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management Federal Consistency Review - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities
<p>4. Identify EJ populations and characteristics (Minority, Income, English Isolation) within 5 miles of project site (can attach map from EJ Maps Viewer in lieu of narrative)</p> <p>The Project is located within one mile of 62 census tracts in Boston and Quincy identified as Environmental Justice communities on the Massachusetts 2020 Environmental Justice Populations map viewer. As shown on the attached map, the characteristics of EJ populations within 1 mile of the Project site include Minority; Income; Minority and Income; Minority and English Isolation; and Minority, Income and English Isolation. The characteristics EJ Populations with 5 miles of the Project site include Minority; Income; English Isolation; Minority and Income; and Minority, Income and English Isolation.</p>
<p>5. Identify any municipality or census tract meeting the definition of “vulnerable health EJ criteria” in the DPH EJ Tool located in whole or in part within a 1 mile radius of the project site</p> <p>The EJ populations in Boston exhibit “vulnerable health EJ criteria” related to childhood asthma, childhood blood lead, and low birth weight.</p>

6. Identify potential short-term and long-term environmental and public health impacts that may affect EJ Populations and any anticipated mitigation

Environmental and public health impacts associated with the Project will be temporary in nature and related to active construction. Construction traffic related to delivery of materials has the potential to impact neighborhoods in the immediate vicinity of the Project, which include both EJ and non-EJ populations. However, work will move along the length of the pipeline and will not be in front of any single location for an extended period of time. Other possible temporary impacts include noise, dust and emissions associated with construction. Best management practices will be implemented to mitigate these short-term impacts including dust control, compliance with anti-idling regulations and use of emission control devices. Construction noise will be minimized by ensuring that equipment is functioning properly and equipped with noise reducing features. Typical work hours will be limited to between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Project was designed to entirely avoid permanent wetland impacts and to minimize temporary impacts to wetlands and the Neponset River Estuary ACEC to the maximum extent possible. Best management practices including construction mats and erosion controls will be implemented to avoid impacts to wetlands resources.

7. Identify project benefits, including “Environmental Benefits” as defined in 301 CMR 11.02, that may improve environmental conditions or public health of the EJ population

The goal and purpose of the Project is to ensure continued safe, reliable drinking water and promote public health in the communities served by these pipelines, including Boston, Quincy and Milton, which include both EJ and non-EJ populations.

8. Describe how the community can request a meeting to discuss the project, and how the community can request oral language interpretation services at the meeting . Specify how to request other accommodations, including meetings after business hours and at locations near public transportation.

To request a meeting to discuss the project and request oral language interpretation services at the meeting, please contact Katherine Ronan, MWRA, at 857-289-1742 or katherine.ronan@mwra.com