RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

QUONSET DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Title of Rule: Quonset Business Park Development Package

Rule Identifier: 880-RICR-00-00-4

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: April 23, 2025 End of Public Comment: May 23, 2025

Rulemaking Authority:

RIGL 42-64.10

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The Quonset Development Corporation (QDC) owns and operates the wastewater treatment system at the Quonset Business Park in accordance with 40 CFR 403, "General Pretreatment Regulations for Existing and New Sources of Pollution." The Quonset Business Park Development Package, 880-RICR-00-00-4, acts as the required Sewer Use Ordinance (SUO) for the Quonset Business Park wastewater treatment facility (QBP WWTF). In 2023, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) issued a Letter of Inspection Findings to QDC with multiple comments requesting updates to the SUO to comply with 40 CFR 403. The proposed amendments to 880-RICR-00-00 are in response to RIDEM's comments.

The proposed amendments clarify the definition of an "industrial user" under the SUO, and adds the definition of Significant Non-compliance as required by RIDEM. All other revisions affect Section 4.16, "Sewer Treatment System User Regulations." The proposed amendments are intended to standardize terminology and to clarify who must apply for wastewater permits and the process by which permits are reviewed and approved. RIDEM also requested that QDC add language to assert certain authorities that are provided by 40 CFR 403.

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until May 23, 2025 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Chelsea Siefert
Quonset Development Corporation
95 Cripe Street
North Kingstown, RI 02852
csiefert@quonset.com

In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, an oral hearing will be granted if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, by a governmental agency or by an association having at least twenty-five (25) members. A request for an oral hearing must be made within ten (10) days of the publication of this notice.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

Updating the application and approval procedures for connecting to the wastewater treatment system will assist in allowing QDC to properly treat the wastewater produced by customers. The proper treatment of wastewater is critical to protect public health and the environment. Without proper treatment, releasing untreated wastewater into Narraganset Bay can lead to the spread of disease, harm to aquatic life, and damage to habitats.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.