MASSACHUSETTS ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

STATE REVOLVING FUND (SRF) FUNDED PROJECTS

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MassDEP's) environmental review

process for Clean Water SRF and Drinking Water SRF projects requires that all projects, at a

minimum, comply with the requirements of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act

("MEPA"), similar to the approach taken under the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA").

The MEPA regulations contain both Environmental Notification Form ("ENF") and Environmental

Impact Report ("EIR") review thresholds which determine the types of projects warranting further

environmental review.

Environmental Review Requirements.

(a) All projects approved by the Department to receive financial assistance from the Massachusetts

Clean Water Trust shall, at a minimum, comply with the requirements of MEPA and 301 CMR

11.00: MEPA Regulations. In addition, a public hearing shall be held on the project if the

Department determines that the project is controversial, or if the Department otherwise determines

that a hearing is in the public interest. The Department may also require the Local Governmental

Unit to consider project alternatives and to provide the public an opportunity to comment on such

alternatives.

(b) CWSRF projects required to be the result of comprehensive wastewater management planning,

as provided in 310 CMR 44.09(2)(a) and (3), shall also comply with the environmental

review and process requirements in the Department's Guide to Water Resource Management

Planning.

MEPA regulations, 301 CMR 11.00