

# MEA Clarification

## July 2023

### Current Version of the MCEA Manual and MEA's Users Guide

MEA is currently preparing a User Guide that will work with the 2023 MCEA Manual and hopes to release this guide in September 2023

Current Version of MCEA Manual was Approved and released by MECP on March 3, 2023

MEA has noted the following typos, project gaps and unusual wording all in Appendix 1 Table B – Water/Wastewater. Although MEA has suggested MECP approved a Minor Amendment to address these issues, there has **not** been an amendment to the March 3, 2023 version.

- A) **4a** Establish, extend or enlarge water distribution system and all necessary works to connect the system to an existing system, where it is required as a condition of approval on a site plan, consent, plan of subdivision or plan of condominium which will come into effect under the *Planning Act* prior to the construction of the extension of the ~~collection~~ **distribution** system
- B) **18** Establish facilities for disposal of ~~proposal~~ **process** wastewater (e.g. construct holding pond, dewatering and hauling operations to disposal sites)
- C) **Heading above clause 19 - SEWAGE SYSTEMS – MAINTENANCE, OPERATION, ~~DISTRIBUTION~~, **COLLECTION**, STORAGE & RETIREMENT**
- D) Previously clause 13 included the **red font**. With the reference to water intake removed there is no construction activity so there will be no impact to archeological resources.  
  
**13** Increase water treatment plant capacity **including new or expanded water intake beyond existing rated capacity** through improvements to operations and maintenance activities only, but without construction of works to expand, modify or retrofit the plant. **Since there is no construction activity with the project there will be no impact to**

archeological resources and the ASP checklist should be completed accordingly.

- E) Clause 3 (below) is not included in the 2015 MCEA. MECP should explain – outfalls are associated with wastewater treatment plants not water treatment. Why would a repair, renovation or replacement in the same location be Schedule B so it could shift to exempt?

**3** Repairs, renovation, and replacement of existing outfall in the same location for a water treatment plant

- F) Reviewing Appendix 1 of the 2023 approved MCEA we note the following related to pumping stations.

Firstly, that pumping stations in Drinking Water Systems are more commonly called booster stations as they involve a pump to boost the pressure within the watermains. Whereas pumping stations in Wastewater Systems involve a wet well with pumps and a forcemain to pump the wastewater up a grade. Wastewater pumping stations have higher maintenance requirements (clean out screens and the wet well) and potential odour. Despite the differences in impact, Appendix 1 of the 2023 approved MCEA classifies pumping stations for Drinking Water and for Wastewater the same,

Secondly, that Wastewater pumping stations are more common and are frequently built within a new subdivision and covered by

<p><b>22a</b> Establish, extend, or enlarge a sewage collection system and all necessary works to connect the system to an existing sewage outlet, where it is required as a condition of approval on a site plan, consent plan of subdivision or plan of condominium which will come into effect under the <i>Planning Act</i> prior to the construction of the collection system</p>	<p>A</p>			
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Finally, there appears to be a gap – What about a New pumping station where the facility is located in or adjacent to an environmentally sensitive natural area, residential or other sensitive land use, or on land with cultural heritage or archaeological potential?

To close this gap, the **green font** text below is recommended

**Drinking Water Systems**

<p><b>5a</b> Increasing pumping station capacity by adding or replacing equipment where new equipment is located within an existing building or structure</p>	<p><b>A+</b></p>			
<p><b>5b</b> Increasing pumping station capacity where new equipment is located in a new building or structure and the new building or structure is located on the existing pumping station site, or located on municipally owned lands adjacent to the existing pumping station site where the lands are not in an environmentally sensitive natural area <i>Refer to “environmentally sensitive natural area” in the Glossary</i></p>		<p><b>ASP</b></p>	<p><b>X</b></p>	
<p><b>5c</b> Increasing pumping station capacity where new equipment is located in a new building or structure and the new building or structure would be located outside the existing pumping station site. <i>This also includes construct a new pumping station where the facility is located in or adjacent to an environmentally sensitive natural area, residential or other sensitive land use, or on land with cultural heritage or archaeological</i></p>			<p><b>X</b></p>	
<p><b>5d</b> Construct a new pumping station where the facility is not located in or adjacent to an environmentally sensitive natural area, residential or other sensitive land use, or on land with cultural heritage or archaeological potential</p>		<p><b>ASP</b></p>	<p><b>X</b></p>	

### Wastewater Systems

<p><b>23a</b> Increase pumping station capacity by adding or replacing equipment and appurtenances, where new equipment is located in an existing building or structure</p>	<p>A+</p>			
<p><b>23b</b> Increase pumping station capacity where new equipment is located in a new building or structure and the new building or structure is located on the existing pumping station site, or located on municipally owned lands adjacent to the existing pumping station site where the lands are not in an environmentally sensitive natural area <i>Refer to “environmentally sensitive natural area” in the Glossary</i></p>		<p>ASP</p>	<p>X</p>	
<p><b>23c</b> Increase pumping station capacity where new equipment is located in a new building or structure and the new building or structure would be located outside the existing pumping station site <i>This also includes construct a new pumping station where the facility is located in or adjacent to an environmentally sensitive natural area, residential or other sensitive land use, or on land with cultural heritage or archaeological</i></p>			<p>X</p>	
<p><b>24d</b> Construct new pumping station where the facility is not located in or adjacent to an environmentally sensitive natural area, residential or other sensitive land use, or on land with cultural heritage or archaeological potential</p>		<p>ASP</p>	<p>X</p>	