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m. The application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

n. *Project Description:* The existing North Hartland Hydroelectric Project consists of: (1) A steel-lined intake structure in the Corps' North Hartland Dam that is equipped with 2-inch trashracks; (2) a 470-foot-long, 12-foot-diameter steel penstock that provides flow to a 4.0-megawatt (MW) adjustable blade, vertical shaft turbine-generator unit located inside of a 59-foot-long, 40-foot-wide concrete powerhouse; (3) a 12-foot-diameter bypass conduit that branches off of the 12-foot-diameter penstock about 100 feet before the powerhouse, and that empties into a 60-foot-long concrete-lined channel through a bypass control gate; (4) a 30-inch-diameter steel penstock that branches off of the 12-foot-diameter bypass conduit about 50 feet upstream of the bypass control gate, and that provides flow to a 0.1375-MW fixed geometry, horizontal pump turbine-generator unit located on a raised platform outside of the southern wall of the powerhouse; (5) a 400-foot-long, 50 to 150-foot-wide tailrace channel; (6) a transmission line that comprises an approximately 600-foot-long, 12.5 kilovolt (kV) underground segment, and a 4,000-foot-long, 12.5-kV overhead segment that connect the generators to Green Mountain Power Corporation's Clay Hill Road Line 66 Transmission Project No. 12766; and (9) appurtenant facilities.

The project is managed to meet daily peak electrical system demand, as needed using the available head and reservoir outflow from Corps' North Hartland dam. The current license requires North Hartland to release a continuous minimum flow of 23 cubic feet per second (cfs) from July 1 through October 31, and 40 cfs during the remainder of the year, or the inflow to the reservoir, whichever is less, for the purpose of protecting and enhancing aquatic resources in the Ottauquechee River. The project has an average annual generation of approximately 13,991,990 kilowatt-hours from 2014 through 2018.

North Hartland proposes to provide the following minimum and maximum flows, respectively: (1) 60 and 700 cfs, from October 1 through March 31; (2) 160 and 835 cfs, from April 1 through April 31; (3) 160 and 550 cfs, from May

1 through May 31; (4) 140 and 450 cfs, from June 1 through June 30; and (5) 60 and 300 cfs, from July 1 through September 30.

o. A copy of the application is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the town of Hartland's library, located at 153 Rt. 5, Hartland, VT.

You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

p. *Procedural schedule and final amendments:* The application will be processed according to the following preliminary schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate. Issue Deficiency Letter (if necessary)—January 2020  
Request Additional Information—January 2020  
Issue Acceptance Letter—April 2020  
Issue Scoping Document 1 for comments—May 2020  
Request Additional Information (if necessary)—July 2020  
Issue Scoping Document 2—August 2020  
Issue Notice of Ready for Environmental Analysis—August 2020  
Commission issues Environmental Assessment—February 2021

Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission no later than 30 days from the issuance date of the notice of ready for environmental analysis.

Dated: December 10, 2019.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2019-27018 Filed 12-13-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-10002-94-Region 3]

### Clean Water Act: Maryland—Chester River Vessel Sewage No-Discharge Zone—Final Affirmative Determination

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of final determination.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved the establishment of a no-discharge zone in the Chester River, Kent and Queen Anne's Counties, Maryland and its tributaries.

**DATES:** Comments must be received in writing to the EPA on or before January 15, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to Matthew A. Konfirst, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—Mid-Atlantic Region, 1650 Arch Street, Mail Code 3WD31, Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029, or emailed to [konfirst.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:konfirst.matthew@epa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Matthew A. Konfirst, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—Mid-Atlantic Region. Telephone: (215) 814-5801; Fax number: (215) 814-2301; email address: [konfirst.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:konfirst.matthew@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On behalf of the State of Maryland, the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources requested that the Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3 approve a no-discharge zone pursuant to section 312(f)(3) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1322(f)(3). After review of Maryland's application, the EPA determined that adequate facilities for the safe and sanitary removal and treatment of sewage from all vessels are reasonably available for the entirety of the Chester River and its tributaries. The State's application is available upon request from the EPA (please contact the person identified in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document) or at [http://dnr.maryland.gov/boating/Documents/FINAL\\_CRA\\_NDZ\\_APPLICATION.pdf](http://dnr.maryland.gov/boating/Documents/FINAL_CRA_NDZ_APPLICATION.pdf).

The delineation of the proposed no-discharge zone of the Chester River and its tributaries to the Chesapeake Bay will begin at 39°8'54.48" N, 76°16'37.11" W and extend down to 39°2'23.56" N, 76°18'8.89" W. From there it will continue east throughout any navigable waters including all tributaries and bays. Included within this zone are Lankford Bay, Corsica River, Southeast Creek, and many smaller tributaries.

The application identifies 19 stationary and four mobile cart pumpout stations located at 17 marinas or docks throughout the Chester River. Sixteen of the nineteen stationary units also have a method to empty portable toilets. The pumpout stations were funded through the Clean Vessel Act and Maryland Waterway Improvement Fund with grants administered by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Use of the pumpout stations incurs a fee of no

more than \$5.00 for the first 50 gallons of sewage pumped plus an additional 10 cents per gallon for every gallon above

50. All pumpouts comply with local and state sanitary permitting requirements. A list of the facilities, phone numbers,

locations, and hours of operation can be found below.

LIST OF FACILITIES WITH PUMPOUTS IN THE PROPOSED NO-DISCHARGE ZONE

Pumpout facility	Operating hours in season	Mean low water depth (ft)	Phone No.	Address
Bayside Landing Park .....	24-7 .....	5	410-778-2600	20927 Bayside Avenue, Rock Hall, MD 21661.
Castle Harbor Marina .....	24-7 .....	6	410-643-5599	301 Tackle Cir, Chester, MD 21619.
Chestertown Marina .....	9:00-5:00 daily .....	10	410-778-0500	207 S Water St, Chestertown, MD 21620.
Gratitude Marina .....	9:00-5:00 daily .....	7	410-639-7011	5924 Lawton Ave, Rock Hall, MD 21661.
Haven Harbor Marina .....	8:00-5:00 daily .....	6	410-778-8687	20880 Rock Hall Ave, Rock Hall, MD 21661.
Kennerley Point Marina .....	8:00-5:00 daily .....	3	410-758-2394	223 Marina Ln, Church Hill, MD 21623.
Lankford Bay Marina .....	24-7 .....	7	410-778-1414	23002 McKinleyville Rd, Rock Hall, MD 21661.
Long Cove Marina .....	8:00-5:00 daily .....	6	410-778-6777	22589 Hudson Rd, Rock Hall, MD 21661.
Mears Point Marina .....	8:30-7:00 daily .....	6	410-827-8888	428 Kent Narrow Way N, Grasonville, MD 21638.
North Point Marina .....	9:00-5:00 daily .....	6	410-639-2907	5639 Walnut St, Rock Hall, MD 21661.
Osprey Point Marina .....	24-7 .....	6	410-639-2194	20786 Rock Hall Ave, Rock Hall, MD 21661.
Piney Narrows Yacht Haven .....	8:30-6:30 daily .....	8	410-643-6600	500 Piney Narrows Rd, Chester, MD 21619.
Queenstown Harbor Community Pier .....	24-7 .....	6	301-343-5487	252 Harbor Lane, Queenstown, MD 21658.
Rock Hall Landing Marina .....	9:00-5:00 daily .....	5	410-639-2224	5657 S Hawthorne Ave, Rock Hall, MD 21661.
Sailing Emporium .....	8:00-5:00 daily .....	8	410-778-1342	21144 Green Lane, Rock Hall, MD 21661.
Spring Cove Marina .....	24-7 .....	5	410-639-2110	21035 Spring Cove Rd, Rock Hall, MD 21661.
Swan Creek Marina .....	24-7 .....	7	410-639-7813	6043 Lawton Ave, Rock Hall, MD 21661.

The State of Maryland provided documentation demonstrating that the total resident and transient vessel population using the proposed waters is estimated to be between 2,705 and 4,700 boats. Using the higher of those estimates, the State identified approximately 3,196 as recreational vessels, 1,151 as commercial vessels, and 353 as "Other." Commercial vessels in the Chester River include crabbing and fishing boats, charter fishing boats, and passenger vessels. The estimated vessel population is based on length: The most conservative estimates provided by the State of Maryland suggest that there are no vessels less than 16 feet in length, 15 vessels between 16 feet and 25 feet in length, 3,034 vessels between 25 feet and 40 feet in length, and 1,651 vessels greater than 40 feet in length. Based on the number and size of vessels and EPA guidance (*Protecting Coastal Waters from Vessel and Marina Discharges: A Guide for State and Local Officials*, August 1994), the estimated number of vessels requiring pumpout facilities in the Chester River during peak occupancy is 1,207.

In the application, Maryland certified that the Chester River and its tributaries need greater environmental protection to improve water quality and protect important resources. Both the Chester River and the Chesapeake Bay into which it drains, are classified as impaired for not meeting applicable State water quality standards. The entirety of the Chester River is considered impaired by nutrients,

sediment, bacteria or a combination thereof. The two counties that surround the Chester River, Kent County and Queen Anne's County, rank as the top two Maryland waterfront counties in terms of beach closures by percentage of beaches. All beach closures were the result of elevated bacteria as evidenced by high levels of enterococci.

The Chester River is an important economic driver for the region, providing jobs and revenue through tourism, commercial and recreational fishing for fish and shellfish, boating, and more. Many people use the Chester River for hunting, cruising, nature observation, sightseeing, waterskiing, tubing, racing, and swimming. Based on a study by the Sage Policy Group in 2012, cited in the application, the Chester River supports \$86 million in annual local economic activity, 900 jobs, and \$26.7 million in annual labor income.

The EPA determined that the costs associated with designating the Chester River as a vessel sewage NDZ are reasonable. Sufficient pumpout stations exist to service the resident vessel population and the fee is capped at \$5.00 per pumpout of 50 gallons or less. The commercial vessels operating in Chester River include crabbing, fishing, and charter vessels. These vessels have drafts less than 10 feet and can therefore access the facilities described previously in this document. Neither the recreational vessels, nor most of the commercial vessels, are expected to require pumpouts in excess of 50 gallons. As identified in the application, two larger passenger vessels that may

generate greater volumes of sewage are already operating holding tanks, and therefore would not experience any incremental costs associated with designation of a NDZ.

Following publication of the Receipt of Petition in the **Federal Register** at 82 FR 15357, March 28, 2017, a 30-day public comment period was opened. The EPA received comments from 64 unique individuals regarding establishment of a no-discharge zone (NDZ) in the Chester River and its tributaries. Of those, 57 supported and 7 contested the effort. Comments critical of establishing a NDZ focused on five primary issues: *Issue 1*: The volume of discharge targeted by the establishment of a NDZ in the Chester River is minimal. *Response*: These comments go beyond the scope of the EPA's authority in this action. Because the EPA's authority is limited to determining whether adequate pumpout facilities exist, it is not appropriate to base its determination on whether vessel sewage is comparable in quantity or impact to other sources of pollution. *Issue 2*: Effective enforcement of the regulation will be difficult. *Response*: Both the US Coast Guard and Maryland Department of the Environment have the authority to enforce NDZ requirements; however, initial efforts to achieve compliance are expected to focus on boater education. *Issue 3*: The data used to determine boat populations is outdated and the formula used to calculate pumpout availability does not accurately represent on-the-ground conditions. *Response*: Calculations indicate that a minimum of

10 pumpout facilities are required to service the Chester River boating population. There are currently 23 facilities with the capacity to support 6,900 boats; the upper estimate of boats is 4,700. Therefore, even if there is an increase in the number of boats, there is adequate capacity for pumpout service. *Issue 4:* Pumpout facilities are concentrated in certain areas of the river and are not available on a year-round basis. *Response:* There is a concentration of pumpout facilities at Rock Hall near the northern end of the Chester River's mouth, but facilities are distributed along the river as far upstream as Chestertown. Ten of the 23 pumpout facilities are open year-round and are distributed throughout the Chester River NDZ. *Issue 5:* Establishing a NDZ would negate boaters' ability to operate certain flow-through marine sanitation devices that are currently Coast Guard-approved, thereby limiting boaters' options for handling sewage. *Response:* The NDZ only applies to the Chester River and its tributaries, not to the entirety of the Chesapeake Bay.

Based on the information above, the EPA hereby makes a final affirmative determination that adequate facilities for the safe and sanitary removal and treatment of sewage from all vessels are reasonably available for the Chester River and its tributaries such that the State of Maryland may establish a vessel sewage no-discharge zone.

Dated: November 18, 2019.

**Cosmo Servidio,**

*Regional Administrator, Mid-Atlantic Region.*

[FR Doc. 2019-27065 Filed 12-13-19; 8:45 am]

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**FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request (OMB No. 3064-0026; -00079; -0122 and -0139)**

**AGENCY:** Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

**ACTION:** Agency information collection activities: Submission for OMB review; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The FDIC, as part of its obligations under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the renewal of the existing information collections described below. On September 30, 2019, the FDIC requested comment for 60 days on a proposal to renew these information collections. No comments were received. The FDIC hereby gives notice of its plan to submit to OMB a request to approve the renewal of these information collections, and again invites comment on their renewal.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before January 15, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written comments to the FDIC by any of the following methods:

- <https://www.FDIC.gov/regulations/laws/federal>.
- *Email:* [comments@fdic.gov](mailto:comments@fdic.gov). Include the name and number of the collection in the subject line of the message.
- *Mail:* Manny Cabeza (202-898-3767), Regulatory Counsel, MB-3128,

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20429.

- *Hand Delivery:* Comments may be hand-delivered to the guard station at the rear of the 17th Street Building (located on F Street), on business days between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

All comments should refer to the relevant OMB control number. A copy of the comments may also be submitted to the OMB desk officer for the FDIC: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Manny Cabeza, Regulatory Counsel, 202-898-3767, [mcabeza@fdic.gov](mailto:mcabeza@fdic.gov), MB-3128, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20429.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Proposal to renew the following currently approved collection of information:*

1. *Title:* Transfer Agent Registration and Amendment Form.

*OMB Number:* 3064-0026.

*Form:* Transfer Agent Registration and Amendment Form (Form TA-1).

*Affected Public:* Private Sector, insured state nonmember banks and state savings associations.

*Burden Estimate:*

**SUMMARY OF ANNUAL BURDEN**

Information collection (IC) description	Type of burden	Obligation to respond	Estimated number of respondents	Estimated number of responses	Estimated time per response (hours)	Frequency of response	Total estimated annual burden (hours)
Transfer Agent Registration and Amendment Form.	Reporting .....	Mandatory .....	12	1	.39	On Occasion ..	4.73
Total Estimated Annual Burden Hours	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.73

*General Description of Collection:* Section 17A(c) of the Security Exchange Act of 1934 (the Act) requires all transfer agents for securities registered under section 12 of the Act or, if the security would be required to be registered except for the exemption from registration provided by Section 12(g)(2)(B) or Section 12(g)(2)(G), to "fil[e] with the appropriate regulatory agency . . . an application for registration in such form and containing such information and documents . . . as

such appropriate regulatory agency may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of this section." In general, an entity performing transfer agent functions for a security is required to register with its appropriate regulatory agency ("ARA") if the security is registered on a national securities exchange or if the issuer of the security has total assets exceeding \$10 million and a class of equity security held of record by 2,000 persons or, for an issuer that is not a bank, BHC,

or SLHC, by 500 persons who are not accredited investors. The Board's Regulation H (12 CFR 208.31(a)) and Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.4(d)), the OCC's 12 CFR 9.20, and the FDIC's 12 CFR part 341 implement these provisions of the Act. To accomplish the registration of transfer agents, Form TA-1 was developed in 1975 as an interagency effort by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the agencies. The agencies primarily use the data collected on Form TA-1 to