



Groundwater Protection Committee
Memorial Town Building
1 Main Street, North Smithfield, RI 02896

AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Memorial Town Building, Conference Room

PARTICIPATION FOR THIS MEETING WILL BE IN-PERSON ONLY.
ONLINE VIDEO IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME

Item 1: Call to Order

Item 2: Voting Member Roll Call

Item 3: Public Forum

Item 4: New Business

- a) Discussion, Vote or Other Action regarding Rhode Island Department of Health response to North Smithfield Jr Sr High School Public Water System, PFAS Treatment System Project and request for a categorical exclusion

Item 5: Public Forum

Item 6: Adjourn



Center for Drinking Water Quality
Room 209, 3 Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5097
www.health.ri.gov
Phone: (401) 222-6867
Fax: (401) 222-6953 TTY:777

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program

Categorical Exclusion

The Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Drinking Water Quality (RIDOH) has reviewed the proposed PFAS Treatment System project application materials submitted by the North Smithfield Jr Sr High School public water system (PWS # RI1592017), including a request for a categorical exclusion dated February 11, 2026. Based on the information provided it has been determined that the project—subject to the conditions defined below and with any and all proposed mitigation and the required mitigation and conditions in accordance with federal, state, and local permits and comments—meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion under the RIDOH State Environmental Review Process provided in Section 6.11 of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) regulations (216-RICR-50-05-6) (hereinafter, DWSRF Regulations). Thus, in accordance with the DWSRF Regulations, RIDOH issues this Categorical Exclusion for the project.

Project Name(s): North Smithfield Jr/Sr High School PFAS Treatment System

Project Location(s): 412 Greenville Road North Smithfield, RI 02896

Project Description: The Project involves adding a PFAS treatment system to treat groundwater that is in exceedance of the Rhode Island PFAS Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 20 parts per trillion (ppt). The proposed project involves adding three Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filters to the existing infrastructure located within the existing pumphouse located at 412 Greenville Road, North Smithfield, RI. Project improvements also include installation of new equipment including pressure bladder tanks, filters, pH meter instrumentation and controls, installation of interconnecting piping, mechanical specials including flowmeters, sample taps and backflow preventer, and field-mounted instruments. The work shall also include hydro-static testing, flushing and sanitization of the installed equipment, piping and appurtenances. The primary purpose of this project is to address PFAS. PFAS is an emerging contaminant.

Specific Conditions/Requirements:

- 1) The applicant is responsible for applying for and obtaining any necessary permits or approvals from any federal, state, or municipal agency with authority over the project area prior to construction.
- 2) Water used for testing and disinfection shall be dechlorinated prior to discharge into the stormwater drainage system.
- 3) Should artifacts or remains be encountered during project construction, representatives of the Narragansett Tribe and the RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission shall be contacted prior to further work in the impacted area.
- 4) Wastes and washout from cement and concrete work (including thrust blocks) shall be

properly disposed, and appropriate methods shall be employed to ensure such wastes do not enter storm drain infrastructure, sewers, waterways, or wetlands.

- 5) Erosion and sedimentation controls shall be utilized as applicable to protect storm drainage infrastructure, waterways, and any wetlands in the area of project impact. Restore permanent site ground cover to prevent soil erosion.
- 6) Asbestos-cement pipes: Employ proper handling, removal, and disposal and/or filling of asbestos-concrete piping. Obtain necessary approvals, as may be required, including approval by the RIDOH Asbestos Control Program of a site-specific asbestos abatement plan prepared by a RIDOH-licensed Project Designer.

Please be advised that RIDOH may revoke this Categorical Exclusion and require a full environmental review if, subsequent to the granting of this Categorical Exclusion, the proposed project no longer meets the requirements for a categorical exclusion due to changes in the proposed project or serious local or environmental issues exist or federal, state, or local laws are being or may be violated.

This Categorical Exclusion expires five years from the date provided below. If project work is not commenced within five years of this Categorical Exclusion, the environmental review must be reevaluated.

Amy Parmenter, Chief Administrator
Center for Drinking Water Quality

Date