



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

## Department of Environmental Protection

Southeast Regional Office • 20 Riverside Drive, Lakeville MA 02347 • 508-946-2700

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April 4, 2022

Mr. Vincent Barletta  
TLA-Holbrook LLC  
40 Shawmut Road  
Canton, Massachusetts 02021

**RE: NOTICE OF TECHNICAL DEFICIENCIES and  
REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**  
Application for: BWP SW 05  
Application for New or Expanded Solid Waste Management Facility:  
Authorization to Construct - Large Handling Facilities  
Application No. 21-SW05-0001-APP

**AT: TLA-Holbrook LLC Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station**  
3 Phillips Road and 6 Phillips Road  
Holbrook, Massachusetts 02343  
Facility No. 558259

Dear Mr. Barletta:

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Solid Waste Management Section (“MassDEP” or “Department”), is in the process of reviewing the Authorization to Construct a Large Handling Facility (“ATC”) application listed above (“Application”) for the proposed 1000 ton-per-day municipal solid waste transfer station at 3 Phillips Road in Holbrook, Massachusetts.

At this time, MassDEP is requesting that you provide additional information to supplement the Application as follows:

1. **Stormwater Analysis:** MassDEP requests a pre-project and post-project stormwater analysis with supporting calculations (e.g., HydroCAD, etc.) that demonstrate that the system is designed to meet the standards of 310 CMR 19.205(1). Provide a site plan with defined stormwater drainage areas to each inlet structure showing paved and grassed areas. Discuss and analyze drainage in each of the proposed snow storage areas depicted on sheet C-7. MassDEP will conduct a full technical review of the stormwater design once the additional information is provided.

2. **Setback Limits:** Indicate limits of site assignment and waste handling area on a plan to demonstrate compliance with all setback requirements. The plan should depict 500 feet around the waste handling area and all sensitive receptors identified in 310 CMR 19.038(2)(b)2.
3. **Riverfront Area:** Sheet C-2 depicts the proposed concrete pad for the MSW compactor in the residential drop off area within the 200-ft Riverfront Area. Revise the drawing to depict the MSW compactor. Revise the location of the concrete pad or state what controls will be in place to ensure that the MSW compactor will not be located within the Riverfront Area.
4. **Existing Conditions:** Sheets EX-1 through EX-4 need to be stamped by a registered land surveyor.
5. **Clarifying Site Plans and Details:** MassDEP requests that you number each detail on sheets D1-D10 and include a call out on the applicable site plan identifying the detail number and sheet number.
6. **Building Framing Plans:** Building framing plans need to be stamped by a registered professional engineer.
7. **Other local, state and federal permits:** Page 18 of the Application narrative address 310 CMR 19.041(3)(f) *other local, state and federal permits, approvals or authorizations that are required for the construction of the facility*. The Application indicates that the project will require approval to conduct excavation in some areas in accordance with the Notice of Activity and Use Limitation (NAUL). Provide additional information regarding the NAUL excavation approval process (e.g., where is the excavation that requires approval; the timeline for submittals and approval; etc.).
8. **Hazardous Waste:** Page 28 of the Operation and Maintenance Plan states *“Policies and procedures have been formulated to manage universal and hazardous wastes.”* Provide additional details regarding the policies and procedures to detect and handle hazardous waste in accordance with 310 CMR 19.207(9).
9. **Trench Drains:** Clarify whether the trench drain detail on sheet D-5 refers to both the outdoor stormwater trench drains and the indoor waste handling building trench drains.
10. **Scales:** Provide specifications, details, and/or manufacturer’s information on the inbound and outbound truck scales and the rail scale. Depict the location of the rail scale on a site plan.

11. The Application must include a written description, construction specifications, cross-sectional details, manufacturer's specifications and/or calculations, as necessary, to define all design features of the transfer station, including:
  - a. Fast closing roll-up doors;
  - b. Air filters and odor scrubbers;
  - c. Leachate sump pump;
  - d. Piping and piping components between trench drains, leachate sump pump and leachate holding tank (including wall penetration detail, specifications, elevations, etc.);
  - e. For the leachate holding tank, provide the tank controls that will prevent overflow (e.g., high level alarm at 90%, etc.). Provide the controls that will prevent liquids from being pumped to the tank when the high-level alarm is activated (e.g., auto shut off valve, administrative controls, etc.). Provide additional details and specifications as necessary. Discuss and provide a detail for the tank offloading system and for the concrete pad. Provide manufacturer information and discuss the inspection and maintenance requirements in the Operation & Maintenance Plan.
  - f. Calculations and final design stamped by a structural engineer for the (3) concrete block retaining walls (sheet D-9 which includes retaining wall details states the details are for reference only and that the final wall design must be prepared by a structural engineer);
  - g. Earthen berm extension (need detail and specifications);
  - h. Noise barrier wall (detail was provided - provide manufacturer's information/specifications);
  - i. On-site electric rail car mover (provide manufacturer's information/specifications)
12. **Gravel Access Road:** The access road to the utility room and leachate holding tank is a gravel access road. Discuss how access to these features of the facility will be maintained during inclement weather. Note that 310 CMR 19.207(3) requires access roads to be paved.

13. **Maximum high groundwater:** The Application states that maximum high groundwater was calculated from groundwater data using the Frimpter Method. Please submit the groundwater data and calculations as part of the supplemental application.
14. **Trench Drains:** The Application states *“any generated liquids from within the waste handling building will be collected in floor trench drains and routed via a sump and pump to an aboveground industrial wastewater holding tank.”* The Application states that the finished floor of the waste handling building will be elevation 136 feet. The floor does not appear to be sloped towards the trench drains located at the building doors. Once outside the building, the pavement slopes to elevation 133 feet at a 5% slope. Describe how liquids within the waste handling building will be directed to the trench drains and prevented from exiting the building. Has TLA Holbrook considered adding additional drains in areas other than the building doors and sloping the floor towards these areas?
15. **Traffic Flows Pattern Plans:** The truck traffic pattern plans (T-1 and T-2) that were prepared for the ZBA special permit should be included in the ATC drawing set (Attachment 12). The traffic pattern plans should be updated to depict the trucks turning and backing into the waste handling building. Additionally, the plans should show traffic flow patterns for the residential drop-off area.
16. **Truck Queuing Plan:** The Application should include a truck queuing plan that depicts the peak-hour on-site truck queue lengths.
17. **Utility Plan:** Sheet C-5 “Utility Plan” included in Attachment 12 includes the note “Utility design to be finalized prior to construction and ATC permit.” Please clarify.
18. **Safety Study:** The Site Assignment issued by the Board of Health required TLA to perform a comprehensive traffic and pedestrian safety study within 6 months of the decision to evaluate and provide recommendations regarding potential on-site and offsite safety improvements regarding pedestrian and vehicular safety including, but not limited to, lighting and sidewalks. Please provide MassDEP with a copy of this plan.
19. **Residential Drop-off Center:** The Application states that the residential drop off center will accept MSW, bulky items, yard waste, white goods, and recyclables. The Waste Ban Compliance Plan states that residential drop off area will be accepting source separated general recyclables and bagged trash. Sheet C-7 depicts, in part, the residential drop-off center and shows the location of the MSW compactor and three containers for “recyclables”, “Yard Waste”, and “Single Source”.
  - a. Please provide additional details regarding the drop off center and clarify by stating what will be accepted at the residential drop off.

- b. Prepare a separate Waste Ban Compliance Plan for the residential drop off center or incorporate the residential drop off center into the proposed WBCP.
  - c. Prepare a site plan that depicts the design of the residential drop off center in detail.
  - d. Clarify how residents will place materials into the containers (e.g., ramp) and depict this on the site plan.
  - e. Clarify what is meant by “single source”.
  - f. State where bulky items and white goods will be accepted and show on the site plan.
  - g. Clarify whether the drop-off will incorporate containers for source separated recyclables.
  - h. Please note that the daily tonnage for the residential drop-off will count towards the Facility’s approved daily capacity of 1,000 tons per day (excluding recyclables). Please discuss how the Facility will monitor and record the daily tonnage accepted at the residential drop-off center.
20. **Saturday Peaking Analysis:** The proposed hours of operation are Monday - Friday from 6:00 AM to 5:30 PM and Saturdays 6:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The proposed maximum daily tonnage is 1,000 tons per day with an annual capacity of 312,000 tons based upon 6 operational days per week and 312 operational days per year. During the site suitability process, TLA Holbrook performed a peaking factor analysis based on 1,000 tons per day and a proposed 12-hour operating day to demonstrate that the waste handling building is appropriately sized to handle 1,000 tons per day. Since the hours of operation for Saturday is reduced by 4.5 hours, submit a peaking factor analysis to demonstrate that the Facility can handle 1,000 tons during the reduced Saturday hours. Note, MassDEP assumes the waste handling capacity of a packer truck to be 9 tons.
21. **Waste Ban Compliance Plan:** MassDEP has reviewed the proposed Waste Ban Compliance Plan (“WBCP”) included within the Application as Attachment 9 and has the following questions and/or comments:
- a. WBCP Attachment 1, WBCP Form Part E, Section 3: Materials Management (“Materials Management Table”), has every box checked. This table is intended to indicate how a facility routinely handles waste ban items on an average day. Each section under “disposal/transfer for disposal” is checked off except for what is blacked out. MassDEP cannot approve a WBCP that indicates a facility will dispose of waste ban materials on an average day. The Materials Management Table should be revised to reflect how the facility will routinely handle waste ban materials on an average day.
  - b. Page 9 of the WBCP states “in order to ensure proper handling and recycling of certain Waste Ban items, TLA-Holbrook will monitor and inspect *all* incoming

loads greater than 5 cubic yards of waste materials.” Can you clarify what is the smallest vehicle that will utilize the transfer station? Will the facility allow pick-up trucks or passenger vehicles to utilize the transfer station?

- c. Page 10 of the WBCP states “Actions will take place if banned items are observed in the percentages found in the definition table presented above.” The WBPC should clarify that all waste ban items are to be removed to the greatest extent possible regardless of the percentage of the incoming load and the action levels only refer to the type of load documentation and communication requirements when a failed load is received at the Facility. Please revise the WBCP accordingly. Note that MassDEP requires that every solid waste management facility must remove and/or divert from disposal all waste ban materials to the greatest extent possible and failure to prevent disposal of waste ban materials to the greatest extent possible may result in enforcement action by MassDEP.
- d. MassDEP requires that any facility with a permitted tonnage of > 50 tons per day shall have a dedicated staff person, in addition to the loader operator on the tip floor, assigned to inspect for waste ban items and respond to failed loads. Revise the section “Equipment and Manpower” to clarify that the facility will have a dedicated staff person as required.
- e. The procedure for conducting a comprehensive load inspection is detailed on page 12 of the WBCP and step 4 states “material is spread out on the tipping floor.” Please revise to state that “material will be spread out in a manner that will allow facility personnel to identify banned material.”
- f. The WBCP should specifically address how a facility will separate clean cardboard observed above action levels for recycling.
- g. Asphalt pavement, brick, concrete, clean gypsum wallboard, metal and wood should be cumulatively estimated as a percentage of the waste load. The Action Level is 20% by volume. The table included on page 6 of the WBCP lists ABC, wood, metal, and clean gypsum separately each with an Action Level of 20%. Revise accordingly.
- h. The interior floor plan included in the WBCP as Figure 1, depicts one (1) 30 c.y. container for waste ban items. Please clarify how many waste ban containers will be required and revise the interior floor plan accordingly. Clarify if each waste ban material will have its own container or whether some materials such as glass, metal, and plastic containers will be comingled.
- i. Attachments 1-5 of the WBCP includes MassDEP’s standard waste ban guidance documents. Some of these documents have been updated and are available here:

<https://www.mass.gov/guides/massdep-waste-disposal-bans#-solid-waste-facility-compliance-assistance->. Please replace with newer versions as appropriate.

- j. As of November 1, 2022, textiles and mattresses will be added as a waste ban material and the threshold for commercial organic material will drop to ½ ton per week. Additionally, the “Guidance for Solid Waste Handling And Disposal Facilities on Compliance With MassDEP’s Waste Bans” was revised in October 2021 and is available here: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/waste-ban-guidance-for-operators-of-solid-waste-facilities-october-2021/download>. TLA Holbrook may choose to update the WBCP now to reflect the new guidance and the new waste ban items that will be effective as of November 1, 2022. Alternatively, MassDEP will require a revised plan as a condition of any ATC permit decision.

**22. Operation & Maintenance Plan:** MassDEP has reviewed the proposed Operation & Maintenance Plan (“O&M Plan”) included within the Application as Attachment 8 and has the following questions and/or comments:

- a. The table of contents included on page 2 of the O&M Plan has incorrect page references. Please correct.
- b. 310 CMR 19.205(3) requires that all incoming waste loads be weighed. Page 17 of the O&M Plan addresses *Weigh Scales* and states “in the event of a scale malfunction, a qualified individual will estimate the amount of incoming material and properly document the quantities for TLA-Holbrook’s permanent record.” The O&M Plan should state that TLA Holbrook will contact MassDEP the same day. MassDEP may require additional measures such as a temporary scale.
- c. Page 17 of the O&M Plan addressed 19.207(8) *Banned or Restricted Solid Waste*. This section should be revised to include “Other Yard Waste” and “Clean Gypsum Wallboard”. This section should be revised per MassDEP’s comments on the WBCP if necessary.
- d. Page 28 of the O&M Plan addresses 19.207(9) *Hazardous Waste*, and it states that, if found, hazardous waste will be segregated by type and placed in labeled containers for future disposal. State where these containers will be stored on site. State that MassDEP Solid Waste Section and the Holbrook Board of Health will be notified within 24 hours. State that prior to operation, TLA Holbrook will provide a list of contacts for the proper handling/disposal of the hazardous waste and the staff authorized to make the necessary arrangements for the proper disposal of the hazardous waste.

- e. Page 30 of the O&M Plan addresses 19.207(11) *Bulky Waste* and states that TLA Holbrook will accept, handle, and stockpile bulky waste and when a sufficient amount has accumulated, it will be disposed of appropriately. Additionally, it states that “if TLA-Holbrook chooses to separate items classified as bulky wastes these materials should be segregated in a designated roll-off container and be located away from combustibles and not viewable from public areas of the property.”
  - i. For clarity, revise the statement to include “accept, inspect, remove special waste, hazardous waste, and banned or restricted solid waste, and stockpile ...”
  - ii. State where the bulky waste containers will be located on-site. Note that MassDEP will require the containers be located within the waste handling area.
  - iii. Clarify whether TLA Holbrook will accept designated bulky waste loads or only when bulky waste is incidentally mixed in MSW loads.
- f. Page 33 of the O&M Plan addresses 19.207(14) *Dust Control*, and it states that, “Paving will allow TLA-Holbrook to constantly “wet sweep” the pavement during dry periods of the year and as a preventive measure.” Clarify that water shall not be used for dust control in amounts that produce excessive infiltration, ponding, runoff or erosion.
- g. Regarding compliance with 19.207(16) *Control of Wind-blown Litter*, additional details are needed regarding the provisions to ensure routine maintenance and general cleanliness (e.g., how many times per day will the Facility conduct litter inspections, list all areas to be inspected such as along fence line, stormwater basin, how often will the street sweeper be utilized, etc.). Also, clarify whether the Facility will include measures to prevent the scattering of refuse and wind-blown litter (except for litter inspections, street sweeping, and covering containers in windy conditions as discussed in the O&M Plan), such as incorporating litter fencing, natural barriers or other devices to prevent the scattering of solid waste beyond the facility.
- h. Page 39 of the O&M Plan addresses 19.207(18) *Employee Facilities*, and it states that “the operator of the TLA-Holbrook facility will provide proper shelter and facilities that contain sufficient light and heat, a safe drinking water supply, sanitary hand washing and toilet facilities, and an operational two-way radio system.” Provide additional details regarding 19.207(18) Employee Facilities. Discuss where the shelter and facilities will be located and depict on a site plan.



- i. Regarding 19.207(20) *Fire Protection*, state where the hot load area will be located on site.
- j. Regarding 19.207(22) *Records for Operational and Plan Execution*, state how the Facility will track the amount of MSW on the tipping floor to maintain the storage restrictions imposed by the Holbrook Board of Health. Additionally, clarify whether the Facility will maintain inspection, maintenance, and repair records.
- k. The O&M Plan states that “TLA-Holbrook shall make best efforts to clean the tipping floor at the end of each day.” Discuss the means and methods for cleaning the tipping floor.
- l. Regarding 19.207(16) *Control of Wind-blown Litter* and 19.207(23) *Screening and/or Fencing*, has TLA Holbrook considered incorporating a litter fence atop the eastern retaining wall (i.e., “Wall A”) to control litter & prevent windblown litter from reaching the Cochato River? MassDEP notes that the Application states that TLA will maintain the existing fence associated with the superfund site, but the waste handling building is approximately 12 feet higher in elevation than the existing fence.

**23. Construction vs. Operation:** Note that many of the comments above are related to operation and not construction, and therefore the response could possibly be written into a condition of an approval with additional information due for MassDEP approval prior to operation. Please discuss with MassDEP.

In response to this request, please submit a supplemental application along with a cover sheet that responds to each comment and/or identifies where the response to each question can be found.

Should there be any questions, please contact MassDEP at the letterhead address or telephone me at (508) 946-2847 or Alison Cochrane at (508) 946-2778.

Very truly yours,

This final document copy is being provided to you electronically by the Department of Environmental Protection. A signed copy of this document is on file at the DEP office listed on the letterhead.

Mark Dakers, Chief  
Solid Waste Management Section

cc: Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
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**Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection**  
**One Winter Street, Boston MA 02108 • Phone: 617-292-5751**  
**Communication for Non-English Speaking Parties** - 310 CMR 1.03(5)(a)



**1 English:**

This document is important and should be translated immediately. If you need this document translated, please contact MassDEP's Diversity Director at the telephone numbers listed below.



**2 Español (Spanish):**

Este documento es importante y debe ser traducido inmediatamente. Si necesita este documento traducido, comuníquese con el Director de Diversidad de MassDEP a los números de teléfono que aparecen más abajo.



**3 Português (Portuguese):**

Este documento é importante e deve ser traduzido imediatamente. Se você precisa deste documento traduzido, entre em contato com Diretor de Diversidade da MassDEP para os números de telefone listados abaixo.



**4(a) 中國 (傳統) (Chinese (Traditional)):**

本文件非常重要，應立即翻譯。如果您需要翻譯這份文件，請用下面列出的電話號碼與 MassDEP 的多元化總監聯繫。



**4(b) 中国 (简体中文) (Chinese (Simplified)):**

本文件非常重要，应立即翻译。如果您需要翻译这份文件，请用下面列出的电话号码与 MassDEP 的多元化总监联系。



**5 Ayisyen (franse kreyòl) (Haitian) (French Creole):**

Dokiman sa-a se yon bagay enpòtan epi yo ta dwe tradui imedyatman. Si ou bezwen dokiman sa a tradui, tanpri kontakte Divèsite Direktè MassDEP a nan nimewo telefòn ki nan lis pi ba a.



**6 Việt (Vietnamese):**

Tài liệu này rất quan trọng và cần được dịch ngay lập tức. Nếu bạn cần dịch tài liệu này, xin vui lòng liên hệ với Giám đốc Đa dạng của MassDEP theo các số điện thoại được liệt kê dưới đây.



**7 ប្រទេសកម្ពុជា (Kmer (Cambodian)):**

ឯកសារនេះគឺមានសារៈសំខាន់ខ្ពស់ក្នុងការបកប្រែភាសា។ ប្រសិនបើអ្នកត្រូវបានបកប្រែឯកសារនេះសូមទំនាក់ទំនងនឹងអ្នកជាតំណាង MassDEP នៅលេខទូរស័ព្ទដែលបានរាយនាមក្រោម។



**8 Kriolu Kabuverdianu (Cape Verdean):**

*Es documento é importante e deve ser traduzido imidiatamente. Se bo precisa des documento traduzido, por favor contacta Director de Diversidade na MassDEP's pa es numero indicode li d'boche.*



**9 Русский язык (Russian):**

Это важный документ и он должен быть безотлагательно переведен. Если вам нужен перевод данного документа, пожалуйста, свяжитесь с директором по разнообразию компании MassDEP по телефону указанному ниже