

## Public Notice – Environmental Permit

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the modification of an existing permit for the extension of 11.4 miles of Metrorail, construction of 6 new stations, maintenance and storage yard, roadway improvements, parking facilities and support infrastructure in Fairfax and Loudoun Counties, Virginia.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** For 30 days, starting from the day after the notice is in the newspaper: January 9, 2015 to February 9, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

**PERMIT NAME:** Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

**APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER:** Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, 198 Van Buren Street, Suite 300, Herndon, Virginia 20170; VWPP No. 11-0193

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority has applied for modification of the VWP permit for the "Dulles Metrorail Phase 2". The project is located along the Dulles Toll Road/Dulles Greenway (Route 267) from Wiehle Avenue in Fairfax County, west to Dulles Airport and beyond to Ashburn Village Boulevard (Route 772) in Loudoun County, Virginia. The permit currently authorizes the total impact of approximately 7.34 acres of surface waters, consisting of 4.22 acres of permanent impact, 1.84 acres of conversion impacts, and 1.28 acres of temporary impacts. Permanent impacts are to 3.46 acres of palustrine forested wetlands (PFO) of which 0.98 acre is isolated, 0.004 acre of palustrine scrub-shrub wetland, 0.56 acre of palustrine emergent wetlands (PEM) of which 0.07 acre is isolated and 0.20 acre (1,153 linear feet) of stream channel. Conversion impacts are to 1.84 acres of PFO to PEM. Temporary impacts are to 1.28 acres of PFO. The requested modification results in a decrease of 0.47 acre of permanent impacts, a decrease of 1.12 acres of permanent conversion impacts, and an increase of 2.24 acres of temporary impacts. The activities proposed in the permit will affect tributaries to Horsepen Run, Broad Run, Sugarland Run and Difficult Run within the Potomac River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. To compensate for the affected area, the applicant has purchased 8.63 wetland credits and 1,111 stream credits from the Loudoun County Wetland and Stream Bank and will provide 176 stream credits from a DEQ approved mitigation bank and/or from a Virginia Aquatic Resources Trust Fund Bank that is authorized to sell credits to the permitted impact site. DEQ's preliminary decision is to approve the permit modification.

**HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING:** DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) the reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

**CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Margaret Quigley; Northern Regional Office, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, Virginia 22193; Phone: 703-583-3892; E-mail: Margaret.Quigley@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: (703) 583-3821. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed.