

April 30, 2004

Mr. Glenn Haas, Director
Division of Watershed Management
Department of Environmental Protection
1 Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

Ms. Linda Murphy, Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Water Technical Unit "SEW"
P.O. Box 8127
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, Permit Number MA0103284
Part I.7 Quarterly Ambient Monitoring Report

Dear Mr. Haas and Ms. Murphy:

I am pleased to submit MWRA's quarterly report on ambient monitoring results.¹ No new reports are available for submission this quarter; we anticipate that a number of interpretive reports based on our monitoring in 2003 will be finalized in the next quarter and submitted at the end of July.

Additionally, as called for in the revised Ambient Monitoring Plan², MWRA submitted a study design earlier this quarter detailing the steps that are being undertaken to further investigate the blind side ulcers observed on winter flounder during the 2003 flounder study³. The study design is not included in this mailing.

MWRA will provide raw monitoring data upon request. Please let me know if any of MWRA's staff can give you additional assistance regarding these reports.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Hornbrook
Chief Operating Officer

¹ Part I.7.c.iv of the permit requires "The results of all monitoring required by the ambient monitoring plan or the eutrophication model shall be reported to EPA, MADEP, OMSAP and NMFS, on a quarterly basis."

² Section 5.3 of the Ambient Monitoring Plan (MWRA 2004) states (in part) "MWRA will submit a complete study design to OMSAP and regulators at least 30 days prior to the April 2004 flounder sampling." MWRA. 2004. Massachusetts Water Resources Authority effluent outfall ambient monitoring plan Revision 1, March 2004. Boston: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. Report ms-092. 65 p.

³ Moore MJ. 2003. Winter flounder ulcer final report for fish and shellfish monitoring. Boston: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. Report ms-088. 16 p.

cc:

**Environmental Protection Agency, Region I
(EPA)**

Matthew Liebman

Janet Labonte-Deshais

Eric Hall

Roger Janson (cover letter only)

**Massachusetts Department of Environmental
Protection (DEP)**

Cathy Coniaris

Outfall Monitoring Science Advisory Panel

Andrew Solow

Robert Beardsley

Norb Jaworski

Scott Nixon

Judy Pederson

Michael Shiaris

James Shine

Juanita Urban-Rich

Robert Kenney

National Marine Fisheries Service

Chris Mantzaris

Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary

Craig MacDonald

EOEA

Karl Honkonen

Hyannis Library

Ann-Louise Harries

MWRA Library

Mary Lydon

Public Interest Advisory Committee

Patty Foley (cover letter only)

Cape Cod Commission

Steve Tucker (cover letter only)