



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY  
LANSING



LIESL EICHLER CLARK  
DIRECTOR

December 28, 2022

VIA EMAIL

Michael Carroll  
City of Portage  
7900 South Westnedge Avenue  
Portage, Michigan 49002

Dear Michael Carroll:

After reviewing the enclosed Environmental Permit Panel's Meeting Summary and Recommendations regarding the Petition for Permit Application Review received on October 21, 2022, I agree with the Panel's recommendations. I have directed Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE) Water Resources Division staff to start work on the resolution per the recommendations.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Aaron B. Keatley, Chief Deputy Director, at 517-284-6709 or [KeatleyA@Michigan.gov](mailto:KeatleyA@Michigan.gov).

Sincerely,

Liesl Eichler Clark  
Director  
517-284-6700

Enclosure

cc/enc: Matthew Eugster  
Emily Cord-DuThinh, Environmental Permit Review Commission  
Evan Pratt, Environmental Permit Review Commission  
Bradley Venman, Environmental Permit Review Commission  
Aaron B. Keatley, Chief Deputy Director, EGLE  
James Clift, Deputy Director, EGLE  
Teresa Seidel, EGLE  
Brad Pagratis, EGLE  
Stephanie Becsey, EGLE  
Aimee Crouch, EGLE  
Dale Shaw, EGLE

**ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT PANEL**  
 Petition for Permit Application Review  
 Meeting Summary and Recommendations

*This information is required by Section 1315 of Part 13 (Permits) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended*

<b>1. MEETING DATE</b>	
December 2, 2022	
<b>2. MEETING LOCATION</b>	
Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Constitution Hall, Lee Walker Conference Room, Lansing.	
<b>3. PETITIONERS</b>	
City of Portage – Mike Carroll, Matthew Eugster, Dan Fredricks	
<b>4. ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT PANEL MEMBERS</b>	
Emily Cord-DuThinh Evan Pratt Bradley Venman	
<b>5. EGLE STAFF</b>	
<u>Water Resources Division (WRD)</u> Chris Conn Kyle Alexander Derek Haroldson	
<u>Panel Staff:</u> Aimee Crouch Dale Shaw Stephanie Fredline Meredith Prince	
<b>6. DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE PANEL</b>	
Submitter	Description
Petitioner	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Petition – City of Portage</li> <li>2. 10-25-2022 Hampton Creek Bog Permit Application</li> <li>3. 1A-LRE Memo – Hampton Creek Bog-Project + H&amp;H Summary 4-11-22</li> <li>4. 1B-Hampton Creek Bog – Control Structure Operation</li> <li>5. 1C – Hampton Creek Bog – Alternative Analysis</li> <li>6. 2 – Fishbeck Wetland Report</li> <li>7. 20180516 7630 W St Andrews Circle</li> <li>8. 20190619 7748 St Andrews Circle</li> </ol>

<p>WRD</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. 20190619 Tree btwn 16 &amp; 17</li> <li>10. 20190701 7630 W St Andrews Circle</li> <li>11. 2022 10 14 PM-EGLE Letter re Hampton Bog and Gourdneck State Game Area (with attachments)</li> <li>12. 3 – TechMemo2_ HamptonCreek Wetland_ Portage_ 2020_ 1027_ FNL</li> <li>13. 4 – TM3_ PortageCreekGeomorph_ 2020_ 1027_ FNL</li> <li>14. 5 – Natural Features Assessment of Hampton Creek Wetlands</li> <li>15. 6- Botanical Report FINAL REPORT 10-26-2020</li> <li>16. 7 - Herpetological Assessment FINAL REPORT 10-26-2020</li> <li>17. 8 – 085070.00+021221+GER</li> <li>18. 9-Memo_ PropertyOwnerReports</li> <li>19. DNR Diana Kalamazoo County Public Notice for EGLE Submission # HPG-EB33-2VPQ0 and Site Name 39-3750 W Centre Avenue</li> <li>20. DNR Poppie Kalamazoo County Public Notice for EGLE Submission # HPG-EB33-2VPQ0 and Site Name 39-3750 W Centre Avenue</li> <li>21. IMG_7587</li> <li>22. IMG_7598</li> <li>23. IMG_7605</li> <li>24. IMG_7616</li> <li>25. IMG_7618</li> <li>26. IMG_7620</li> <li>27. LRE Memo – HC Bog 11-21-22</li> <li>28. LRE Response Hampton Creek Bog Public Comment Memo 2022-10-12</li> <li>29. MI_Schoolcraft_471002_62500_geo</li> <li>30. X-Phase I Hydrogeologic Evaluation</li> </ol> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. City of Portage HGP-EB33-2VPQ0_20221109</li> <li>2. FW Kalamazoo County Public Notice for EGLE submission # HPG- EB33-2VPQ0 and Site Name 39-3750 W Centre Avenue-Portage</li> <li>3. WRD statement on City of Portage EPRC Petition</li> </ol>
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**7. SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION**

Managing stormwater in the era of climate change is becoming more challenging and will continue to worsen. The City’s efforts to pump floodwaters are a temporary solution and a permanent solution is needed. EPA’s concerns need to be addressed and resolved before EGLE can grant any permit.

Solutions need to include consideration of alternatives to manage upstream stormwater, reduce surface runoff, and increase infiltration. Alternatives need to consider Best Management Practices that address means to increase infiltration and minimize stormwater inputs into Hampton Bog. Programs to construct bioswales and encourage and help homeowners to construct rain gardens have proven to be popular and effective.

Alternatives should be considered that don't mix waters from two different bogs, such as constructing only a modified infiltration/retention basin (the Panel was informed during the hearing this system is currently designed to manage flow from up to a 100-year precipitation event).

**8. PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS TO RESOLVE PERMIT APPLICATION CONCERNS**

EGLE's position is consistent with the statute.

Petitioner may continue to work with EPA, DNR and EGLE to address specific regulatory concerns that have been identified and provide a permanent storm water management solution. Petitioner may consider alternatives such as incorporating best management practices that would reduce storm water inputs to Hampton Creek bog, and/or to modify portions of the proposed conveyance and infiltration structures, e.g., to not connect Hampton Creek bog and Greenspire bog.

**9. ADDITIONAL PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS** *(Not required)*