

## Impact Statement for Eversource Energy Gravel Parking Lot

### Part 1:

This project involves constructing a gravel parking lot for Eversource Energy (the applicant) located on the west side of their property at 5 Doty Street, Wareham, MA 02576. The purpose of the gravel parking lot is to provide additional vehicle storage area so Eversource Energy can increase their fleet to meet the energy demands intensified by recent and future storm events.

The project area is approximately 0.83 acres with about 0.42 acres being disturbed by the activities of this project. In addition to the construction of a gravel parking lot, an infiltration basin will be installed north of the proposed lot. Demolition work includes tree removal and clearing and grubbing a wooded area. To the east of the project is a residential property, to the north are undeveloped wetland and wooded areas and the Blue Star memorial Highway, to the south is Doty Street and a residential property, and to the west is Eversource Energy's existing facilities and North Carver Road. The site and surrounding properties are zoned Commercial Strip.

Because this project does not include utility, commercial, or residential construction, there are no anticipated impacts to Town services such as schools, utilities, or fire and police departments. This is because a gravel parking lot does not increase the area's population and therefore does not increase demand on utilities and government services.

There is not an anticipated impact to the roads in the immediate vicinity of the project because the parking lot's intent is to provide additional storage for vehicles. The peak and average daily counts should remain reasonably similar to what the site is experiencing now.

While this project is proposing to remove existing trees, based on recent site photos, the tree area is in shabby conditions and is not densely compacted. New trees and plantings are proposed to ensure proper screening remains between the road and neighbors of the project area. Additionally, the proposed grading closely follows existing grades which minimizes the disturbance limits. The infiltration basin is appropriately sized to retain stormwater runoff from the parking lot and infiltrate it back into the ground. This protects the downstream features by not increasing the amount of runoff they are experiencing today. It also protects the existing groundwater conditions by allowing the stormwater to infiltrate and recharge the groundwater quantity to similar volumes it experiences today. Because of the proposed landscape screening and stormwater management, there are no anticipated significant off-site impacts.

### Part 2:

There are no anticipated impacts from Part 1 because of the factors considered during the project's design phase. The proposed grading is similar to existing grades and slopes, which minimizes the disturbance footprint as much as possible. The stormwater management system was designed to prevent negative impacts downstream of the project. This is accomplished by having an infiltration basin that is appropriately sized to detain the increase in stormwater runoff from the proposed gravel parking lot. Additionally, the infiltration basin allows the increased runoff to seep back into the ground to maintain the existing recharge volume. Plantings are proposed to act as a natural screen between the parking lot and the road and an adjacent neighbor. This will help maintain the existing natural appearance of the project area. The above actions were taken to ensure impacts from the project's development have minimal impact on Town services, nearby roadways, and surrounding ecology.

