



# MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY

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January 12, 2021

Todd Borci  
EPA Region 1  
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100  
Mail Code ECAD4-4  
Boston MA, 02109-3912

Ms. Catherine Vakalopoulos  
Department of Environmental Protection  
1 Winter Street  
Boston, MA 02108

RE: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority  
Permit Number MA 0103284  
Quarterly Ambient Monitoring Results and Contingency Plan Reporting

Dear Mr. Borci and Ms. Vakalopoulos:

In fulfillment of Part I.7.c.iv of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's ("MWRA") Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Plant permit, "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," I am pleased to submit the MWRA's quarterly report on ambient monitoring results. These reports are also available on MWRA's website at <http://www.mwra.state.ma.us/harbor/enquad/trlist.html>.

Three reports were completed this quarter. The first report summarizes water column monitoring in Massachusetts and Cape Cod Bays for 2019. The second report summarizes MWRA's continuous biological monitoring in Massachusetts Bay from the past year (July 2019 - June 2020), with emphasis on marine algae through chlorophyll measurements. The third is MWRA's Contingency Plan Report for the fourth quarter of 2020 for Ambient Monitoring.

As has been observed since outfall start-up in September 2000, findings in these reports continue to indicate that the Deer Island Treatment Plant outfall discharge is not adversely impacting the environment.

MWRA will provide raw monitoring data upon request. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please email Betsy Reilley at [betsy.reilley@mwra.com](mailto:betsy.reilley@mwra.com).

Sincerely,

Carolyn M. Fiore  
Deputy Chief Operating Officer

**Enclosures:** Three Ambient Monitoring reports. These reports are available online. To request a hard copy, please email [web.enquad@mwra.state.ma.us](mailto:web.enquad@mwra.state.ma.us) or email Betsy Reilley at [betsy.reilley@mwra.com](mailto:betsy.reilley@mwra.com).

**Reports:**

Libby PS, Borkman DG, Geyer WR, Turner JT, Costa AS, Taylor DI, Wang J, Codiga D. 2020. [2019 Water Column Monitoring Results](#). Boston: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. Report 2020-08. 60p.

Roesler CS. 2020. [Continuous observations of chlorophyll fluorescence and related parameters in Massachusetts Bay, 2005 – 2019](#). Boston: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. Report 2020-09. 27 p.

MWRA. [2020 Contingency Plan Report, Fourth Quarter 2020: Ambient Monitoring](#). 10 p.

**Cc:**

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**National Marine Fisheries Service**  
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