

*Conn
NPDES*

SEP 26 1973

Honorable Thomas J. Meskill
Governor of Connecticut
Executive Chambers
Hartford, Connecticut 06115

Dear Governor Meskill:

Your request for approval to conduct a State Permit Program pursuant to the provisions of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) under section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (the "Act") is hereby approved. Accordingly, as of this date I am suspending the issuance of permits by the Environmental Protection Agency under subsection (a) of section 402 of the Act as to all discharges in the State of Connecticut other than those from agencies and instrumentalities of the Federal Government.

The program that you conduct pursuant to this authority must at all times be in accordance with section 402 of the Act, all guidelines promulgated pursuant to section 304(h)(2) of the Act, and the agreement between the Regional Administrator of EPA's Region I and the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, which I have also approved today. Specifically your attention is directed to Article X on page 11 of that agreement which sets as a goal the issuance of NPDES permits to all dischargers in the State of Connecticut by December 31, 1974. Because of the severe consequences that could accrue to facilities discharging without an NPDES permit after that date, we urge that every effort be undertaken to ensure that this important goal is achieved.

During the period of interim authorization, Connecticut indicated a willingness and ability to comply with both the spirit and the letter of the Act. Based upon this performance during the interim period and the description of the program you have submitted, I am pleased to approve Connecticut's Permit Program.

R. Johnson

Connecticut is the first State in New England to receive approval of a permit program under this comprehensive new water pollution law. Connecticut's actions in the past have shown that water quality can be enhanced. Speaking on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency and its staff let me assure you that we are anxious to aid you in continuing this progress towards the elimination of water pollution.

Sincerely yours,

Russell E. Train
Russell E. Train
Administrator

AGW:RAEmmett:mno x 52540 9/20/73

cc: OGC Chron
Reading
AX (2)
Region I (2)