

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy

FROM: Pete LaFlamme, VT DEC Watershed Management Division Director

DATE: 3/31/2015

RE: H. 35 Stormwater Follow-Up Questions

The following information is provided in response to questions identified during the committee's discussion on H. 35 on 3/ 26/2015.

Approximately how many properties will the 3-acre permit have jurisdiction over?

Based on preliminary parcel data being developed by a contractor for EPA we believe there are roughly 561 3-acre parcels in the Champlain basin with no existing stormwater permit (the number is likely to go up a bit as the parcel data analysis is completed). We do not have these data for the rest of the state, but for these purposes we conservatively assume there roughly 200 3-acre parcels outside the Champlain basin. In addition, there are roughly 400 3-acre sites with permits issued prior to 2002 Manual, statewide. That means there would be roughly 1,161 sites in total subject to the 3-acre provision. I note that the 1,161 number is likely smaller than the number of sites we will need to permit to manage 25% of developed land per the Champlain TMDL implementation plan.

Approximately how many operational stormwater permits currently exist?

There are approximately 2,461 existing operational stormwater permits.

What is the Department's current capacity to process stormwater permits?

The Stormwater Program processes approximately 300 operational and 300 new construction permits per year.

How many of the 13 proposed positions would be needed to process the 3-acre permit?

Two of the positions are intended to implement our "existing developed land" program. This program would include "3-acre parcels" as well as the permitting and retrofitting of other parcels as needed to implement the Lake Champlain TMDL.