



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

February 26, 2026

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH
KEN LINCHY, PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
1 JUNKINS AVE
PORTSMOUTH NH 03801

Re: Received Shoreland Permit Application (RSA 483-B)
NHDES File Number: 2026-00434
Subject Property: 50 Clough Dr, Portsmouth, Tax Map/Block/Lot(s): 206/no block/20

Dear Applicant:

On February 26, 2026, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Shoreland Program received the above-referenced Shoreland Permit Application (Application). This application shall be reviewed in accordance with the timeframes established under RSA 483-B:5-b, V. The language of RSA 483-B:5-b, V has been provided on the reverse of this document for your reference. The status of the Application is available on OneStop at <https://www4.des.state.nh.us/lrmonestop/>.

If you have any questions, please contact the Shoreland Program at (603) 271-2147.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Punsalang-Cloutier
PROGRAM ASSISTANT I, Shoreland Program
Wetlands Bureau, Land Resources Management
Water Division

Copied: Property Owner
Agent
Municipal Clerk

RSA 483-B:5-b, V

- (a) Within 30 days of receipt of an application for a permit or 30 days of receipt of an application for a permit that will require a waiver of the minimum standards of RSA 483-B:9, the department shall request any additional information reasonably required to complete its evaluation of the application, and provide the applicant with any written technical comments the department deems necessary. Any request for additional information shall specify that the applicant submit such information as soon as practicable and notify the applicant that if all of the requested information is not received within 60 days of the request, the department shall deny the application.
- (b) When the department requests additional information pursuant to subparagraph (a), the department shall, within 30 days of the department's receipt of the information:
 - (1) Approve the application and issue a permit; or
 - (2) Deny the application, and issue written findings in support of the denial; or
 - (3) Extend the time for rendering a decision on the application for good cause and with the written agreement of the applicant.
- (c) Where no request for additional information is made, the department shall, within 30 days of receipt of the application for a permit or 30 days of receipt of an application for a permit that will require a waiver of the minimum standards of RSA 483-B:9, approve or deny the application with written findings in support of the decision.
- (d) Within 5 business days of receipt of a permit by notification filing, the department shall issue a written notice to the property owner or agent stating that the notification has either been accepted or rejected. If the department does not respond within the 5-day period, the property owner or agent may submit to the department a written request for a response. A request submitted electronically by the applicant shall constitute a written request provided that the applicant has previously agreed to accept electronic communication. If the department fails to respond to the written request within an additional 5 days the property owner or agent shall be deemed to have a permit by notification and may proceed with the project as presented in the notification filing. The authorization provided by this subparagraph shall not relieve the applicant of complying with all requirements applicable to the project, including but not limited to requirements established in or under this chapter and RSA 485-A relative to water quality.
- (e) (1) The time limits prescribed by this paragraph shall supersede any time limits provided in any other provision of law. If the department fails to act within the applicable time frame established in subparagraphs (b) and (c), the applicant may ask the department to issue the permit by submitting a written request. If the applicant has previously agreed to accept communications from the department by electronic means, a request submitted electronically by the applicant shall constitute a written request.
 - (2) Within 14 days of the date of receipt of a written request from the applicant to issue the permit, the department shall:
 - (A) Approve the application, in whole or in part, and issue a permit; or
 - (B) Deny the application and issue written findings in support of the denial.
 - (3) If the department does not issue either a permit or a written denial within the 14-day period, the applicant shall be deemed to have a permit by default and may proceed with the project as presented in the application. The authorization provided by this subparagraph shall not relieve the applicant of complying with all requirements applicable to the project, including but not limited to requirements established in or under this chapter and RSA 485-A relating to water quality.
 - (4) Upon receipt of a written request from an applicant, the department shall issue written confirmation that the applicant has a permit by default pursuant to subparagraph (e)(3), which authorizes the applicant to proceed with the project as presented in the application and requires the work to comply with all requirements applicable to the project, including but not limited to requirements established in or under this chapter and RSA 485-A relating to water quality.
- (f) All applications filed in accordance with the rules adopted by the department under RSA 483-B:17 and which meet the minimum standards of this chapter shall be approved and a permit shall be issued.
- (g) The department may extend the time for rendering a decision under subparagraphs (b)(3) and (c)(3), without the applicant's agreement, on an application from an applicant who previously has been determined, after the exhaustion of available appellate remedies, to have failed to comply with this chapter or any rule adopted or permit or approval issued under this chapter, or to have misrepresented any material fact made in connection with any activity regulated or prohibited by this chapter, pursuant to an action initiated under RSA 483-B:18. The length of such an extension shall be no longer than reasonably necessary to complete the review of the application, and shall not exceed 30 days unless the applicant agrees to a longer extension. The department shall notify the applicant of the length of the extension.
- (h) The department may suspend review of an application for a proposed project on a property with respect to which the department has commenced an enforcement action against the applicant for any violation of this chapter, RSA 482-A, RSA 485-A:17, or RSA 485-A:29-44, or of any rule adopted or permit or approval issued pursuant to this chapter, RSA 482-A, RSA 485-A:17, or RSA 485-A:29-44. Any such suspension shall expire upon conclusion of the enforcement action and completion of any remedial actions the department may require to address the violation; provided, however, that the department may resume its review of the application sooner if doing so will facilitate resolution of the violation. The department shall resume its review of the application at the point the review was suspended, except that the department may extend any of the time limits under this paragraph and its rules up to a total of 30 days for all such extensions. For purposes of this subparagraph, "enforcement action" means an action initiated under RSA 482-A:13, RSA 482-A:14, RSA 482-A:14-b, RSA 483-B:18, RSA 485-A:22, RSA 485-A:42, or RSA 485-A:43.