Commonwealth of Virginia

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Travis A. Voyles
Acting Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources

Michael S. Rolband, PE, PWD, PWS Emeritus
Director
(804) 698-4020

March 7, 2023

RE: Local Government Notification of Proposed Draft Groundwater Withdrawal Permit GW0032502

Dear Local Official:

The Department of Environmental Quality has received an application to withdraw groundwater in the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area. Part V of the Groundwater Withdrawal Regulations requires that the Department of Environmental Quality send a notice of every draft permit to the board of each local governing body located within the groundwater management area where the proposed withdrawal will occur prior to the date of public notice.

In accordance with section 9VAC25-610-250 B, please find the attached notice that will be advertised in the *Smithfield Times* on March 8, 2023. The notice will be available on the DEQ website by the start of the Public Notice period. Additional information on the permit application may be obtained by contacting me.

The Department will accept comments concerning the proposed issuance of this draft permit for thirty days. All comments must be received by April 7, 2023.

Sincerely,

Nicole Reungoat
Water Withdrawal Permitting Program

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the withdrawal of ground water in Isle of Wight County, Virginia.
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: March 8, 2023 to April 7, 2023
PERMIT NAME: Ground Water Withdrawal Permit issued by DEQ pursuant to applicable water laws and regulations
APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: Isle of Wight County; P.O. Box 108, Isle of Wight, VA 23397; GW0032502
NAME AND LOCATION OF WATER WITHDRAWAL: Rushmere Water System; 5481 Old Stage Highway, Smithfield, VA 23430
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Isle of Wight County has applied for a reissuance of a permit for the community of Rushmere. The permit would authorize the applicant to withdraw a maximum of 7,000,000 gallons per year and 802,000 gallons per month from the Potomac aquifer. The ground water withdrawal will support residents and businesses of the Rushmere community. The proposed withdrawal will utilize the Potomac aquifer at a depth between 410 feet to 475 feet below the land surface at the withdrawal site. An aquifer is a body of rock or layer of sediment in the ground in which ground water is stored and transported. DEQ has made a tentative decision to issue the permit.
AFFECTED AREA: Computer modeling predicts that the aquifer will not experience one foot of drawdown due to the withdrawal.
HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by hand-delivery, e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses or email addresses of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requestor, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.
CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Nicole Reungoat; DEQ Central Office, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA, 23218; Phone: 804-698-4192; E-mail: nicole.reungoat@deq.virginia.gov; FAX: 804-698-4178. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.