



COMPREHENSIVE  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
INCORPORATED

41 Main Street  
Bolton, MA 01740  
[www.ceiengineers.com](http://www.ceiengineers.com)

August 15, 2019

MassDEP, Drinking Water Program  
Attn: Paula Caron  
8 New Bond Street  
Worcester, MA 01606

**RE: Proposed Manganese Compliance Plan**

Dear Ms. Caron:

On behalf of the Town of Groton Water Department (Town), Comprehensive Environmental Inc. (CEI) is submitting a proposed manganese compliance plan in accordance with a letter issued by MassDEP on February 25, 2019. The letter indicates that manganese test results in Whitney Well #1 and Whitney Well #2 finish water exceeded MassDEP's Office of Research and Standards Guidance Level for manganese and that a draft compliance plan (i.e., corrective action plan) must be submitted by September 1, 2019 to reduce the level of manganese to a level "reliably and consistently" below the 0.30 mg/L Health Advisory Level (HAL) at the entry point to the distribution system and "preferably" below the 0.05 mg/L Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL).

Refer to the attached Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the Town's proposed strategy to address elevated manganese levels at the Whitney Pond Wells. Please contact me should have any questions at 508-281-5177 ([mohl@ceiengineers.com](mailto:mohl@ceiengineers.com)).

Sincerely,

COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. P. Ohi", is written over a faint, larger blue signature.

Michael P. Ohi, P.E.<sup>1</sup>  
Principal, Project Manager  
<sup>1</sup>Licensed in Massachusetts

**Attachments:** Proposed Manganese Corrective Action Plan and Accompanying Figures

**Copies to:** Thomas Orcutt, Groton Water Department

**RESPONSE REQUIRED**

**Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for addressing manganese levels above the ORSG Level of 0.30 mg/L**

CAP Response Due Date: September 1, 2019  
PWS ID#: 2115000  
PWS Name: Groton Water Department

**Instructions:** Please complete, sign, date and return this document by the CAP response due date listed about to: **MassDEP, Drinking Water Program, 8 New Bond St., Worcester, MA 01606**

This plan will provide the basis for further documentation of your actions to address manganese levels over the ORSG Level.

In addition to the required notification of public health officials and consumers, a long term corrective action plan must be submitted to MassDEP. When developing a plan, you must consider and include discussion of the following areas and any actions you plan to take to reduce your manganese levels reliably and consistently below 0.30 mg/L:

- ✓ Education and notification to inform sensitive sub-populations;
- ✓ Monitoring additional parameters. It is generally recommended that you routinely monitor and gather enough information to assess levels in affected sources that may account for fluctuations in concentrations above the SMCL, including pumping rates, blending patterns, periodic/seasonal use, and variations in seasonal water quality;
- ✓ Monitoring in the distribution system;
- ✓ Optimization of existing treatment processes (greensand, ion exchange, softeners etc);
- ✓ Managing the use of the source(s) with elevated manganese levels;
- ✓ Use of another source, (please note: new sources must reduce levels below 0.05 mg/L);
- ✓ Blending the source(s) with elevated manganese levels with other source(s);
- ✓ Connection to another PWS with manganese level reliable and consistently below 0.30 mg/L;
- ✓ Treatment options to remove elevated manganese levels including Point-of-Use (POU) or Point-of-Entry (POE) for clearly separate distribution systems. (Please note: sequestration treatment is not an acceptable option because it masks but does not remove manganese); and
- ✓ Other options.

**Long-Term Plan**

Check one: Preliminary ☒ Final ☐



Please identify if the following items have been included in your Long-Term Corrective Action Plan (CAP):			
Possible Corrective Action Plan Topics	In the CAP		
Education and notification to inform the sensitive sub population.	Yes	No	N/A
Monitoring additional parameters. It is generally recommended that you routinely monitor and gather enough information to assess levels in affected sources that may account for fluctuations in concentrations above the SMCL, including pumping rates, blending patterns, periodic/seasonal use, and variations in seasonal water quality.	Yes	No	N/A
Monitoring in the distribution system.	Yes	No	N/A
Optimization of existing treatment processes (greensand, ion exchange, softeners etc).	Yes	No	N/A
Managing the use of the source(s) with elevated manganese levels.	Yes	No	N/A
Use of another source, (please note: new sources must reduce levels below 0.5 mg/L)	Yes	No	N/A
Blending the source(s) with elevated manganese levels with other source(s).	Yes	No	N/A
Connection to another public Water Supply with Manganese level reliably and consistently below 0.30 mg/L.	Yes	No	N/A
Treatment options to remove elevated manganese levels. (Sequestration treatment is not an acceptable option because it masks but does not remove manganese).	Yes	No	N/A
Other Options.	Yes	No	N/A

Long-Term Narrative:
<p>In the long-term, my system plans to undertake the following action to address the issue  <i>[Please include a description of the plans you intend to take below, or attach additional pages as necessary]</i></p>
<p><b>Alternatives Analysis:</b></p> <p>An analysis of potential manganese mitigation alternatives was performed. The most favorable alternative would have the capacity to replace or exceed the approved maximum daily withdrawal of the Whitney Pond Wells (0.576 mgd) while cost effectively providing treated water below the HAL and SMCL. An array of alternatives was considered including use of new sources, treatment, and wholesale water purchase from another PWD. Alternatives were evaluated and scored based on a multi-factor decision matrix that included the following general factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supply/demand balance: Will the selected alternative meet existing and future supply needs?</li> <li>• Manganese reduction efficacy: Will the selected alternative provide a long-term reduction in manganese and iron levels?</li> <li>• Order-of-Magnitude cost: Are capital costs and long-term operation and maintenance costs reasonable?</li> <li>• Permitting considerations: What extent of permitting will be required for approval of the proposed alternative?</li> </ul> <p><b>Alternative Selection:</b></p> <p>The completed decision matrix was presented to the Groton Water Commissioners at a public meeting on July 23, 2019 where the Commissioners voted unanimously in favor of treating the Whitney Pond Wells at the existing Baddacook Pond Water Filtration Plant (Plant). The selected alternative would involve construction of a raw water transmission main to the Plant and expansion of the Plant's capacity to accommodate treatment of raw water from the Whitney Pond Wells.</p> <p>This alternative will enable GWD to maintain current supply capacity and retains the option for development of additional sources in the future if demands increase. This alternative would include the following work (<b>Figure 1</b>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install approximately 6,800 feet of 8-inch raw water distribution main.</li> </ul>

- Install approximately 4,100 feet of 12-inch finished water distribution main.
- Convert approximately 5,500 feet of 12-inch and 1,600 feet of 8-inch water distribution main into finished and raw water distribution main, respectively.
- Expand Baddacook Pond Water Filtration Plant to accommodate Whitney Pond Wells.

It is expected that expansion of the Plant to accommodate the Whitney Pond Wells will result in a long-term reduction of Manganese levels below the HAL and SMCL.

**Conceptual Facility Expansion Layout:**

The Plant currently utilizes Greensand Plus media filtration to treat the Baddacook Pond Well. The plant would be expanded to include two (2) horizontal filters with Greensand Plus media identical to the existing filters, a bulk storage area for potassium hydroxide, a bulk storage area for sodium hypochlorite, a combined chemical feed area with day tanks for both chemicals, and a finish water metering pit. The proposed layout would also include a new control panel configured to control all four filters.

It is expected that raw water from the Whitney Pond Wells and Baddacook Pond Well will be chemically treated using separate metering pumps and day tanks in the chemical feed area, but will be routed to a common header across all four filters which will allow for operational flexibility. A common backwash header will also be utilized. The firm capacity of the expanded treatment facility would be approximately 1,300 gpm which is equivalent to the approximate maximum pumping capacity of Baddacook Pond Well (250 gpm), Shattuck Well #1 (286 gpm), and the Whitney Pond Wells (750 gpm). Shattuck Well #1 will not be treated at this time, but the Plant expansion will retain the ability to route the Shattuck Well #1 water to the Plant for treatment, at a future time. The design media loading rate to meet firm capacity would be 4.3 gpm/sf (1,300 gpm divided by 3 filters with 100 square feet of media surface each). This filter loading rating is conservative and could potentially be operated at 7 gpm/sf or higher pending successful pilot testing. The manufacturer of GreenSand Plus indicates that the media can handle loading rates of up to 12 gpm/sf.

See **Figure 2** and **Figure 3** for a conceptual site plan and facility layout, including preliminary facility sizing calculations.

**Additional CAP Actions:**

- The Town will continue to provide manganese health advisory information in annual Consumer Confidence Reports, including notification of new customers and billing units.
- The Town will continue ongoing water quality monitoring and data submittals.

Planned action and date of completion: <i>[Please include a timeline for the actions outlined above]</i>	
Action	To be completed by date:
See <b>Figure 4</b> for a proposed milestone-based schedule.	

I certify under the penalty of law that I am the person authorized to fill out this form and the information contained herein is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name: Tom Orcutt

Title: Superintendent

Signature: 

Date: August 15, 2019

Phone: (978) 448-1122

Email: [torcutt@townofgroton.org](mailto:torcutt@townofgroton.org)



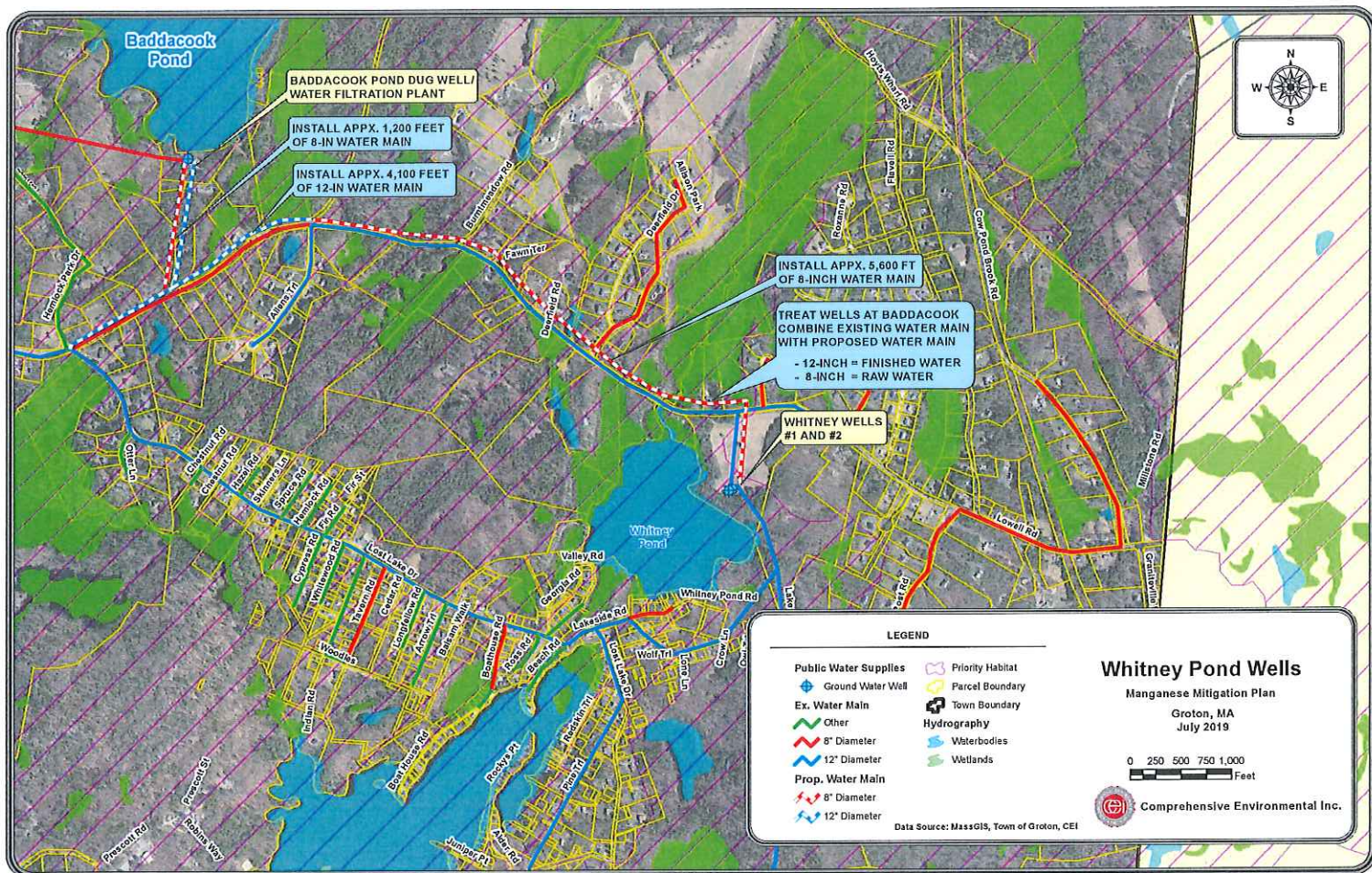
**Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for addressing manganese levels above the ORSG Level of 0.30 mg/L**  
**Technical Assistance Requested:** *(Please fill in your contact information if requesting assistance)*

PWS ID#: 2115000	PWS Name: Groton Water Department	
Contact Name: Tom Orcutt	Phone: (978) 448-1122	Email: <a href="mailto:forcutt@townofgroton.org">forcutt@townofgroton.org</a>

- ☒ I would like to schedule a meeting with a MassDEP staff person to discuss my system's plans.
- ☐ I would like to receive a visit from a technical assistance (TA) provider to discuss my system's plans.

## FIGURES

- **Figure 1:** Conceptual water main layout of selected alternative.
- **Figure 2:** Conceptual site plan of selective alternative.
- **Figure 3:** Conceptual facility layout of selected alternative
- **Figure 4:** Proposed milestone-based schedule









EX. 6" HDPE ALIGNMENT  
RAW WATER FROM  
BADCOCK WELL TO WTP

PROP. EXPANSION  
FOOTPRINT

BULK STORAGE AREA  
WITH CONTAINMENT  
(POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE)

METER PIT  
(FINISH WATER)

CONTROL PANEL  
(ALL 4 FILTERS)

EX. PAVEMENT

BULK STORAGE AREA  
WITH CONTAINMENT  
(SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE)

#### PRELIMINARY FACILITY SIZING

DESIGN FLOW	
POTENTIAL FLOW FROM BADCOCK / SHATTUCK WELLS (GPM)	550
POTENTIAL FLOW FROM WHITNEY WELLS (GPM)	750
FACILITY DESIGN FLOW (GPM)	1,300

NOTES:

1. ASSUMES MAX. PUMPING OF BADCOCK (250 GPM) & SHATTUCK (200 GPM)
2. REGISTERED / AUTHORIZED MAXIMUM DAY WITHDRAWAL:
  - BADCOCK: 0.217 MGD (150 GPM)
  - SHATTUCK: 0.324 MGD (225 GPM)
  - WHITNEY: 0.576 MGD (400 GPM)

SCENARIO	FILTER CAPACITY	
	LOADING RATE	
	4 GPM/ SF	7 GPM/ SF
WTP MAX. CAPACITY WITH FOUR (4) FILTERS ONLINE (GPM)	1,600	2,800
WTP MAX. CAPACITY WITH THREE (3) FILTERS ONLINE (GPM)	1,200	2,100
WTP MAX. CAPACITY WITH TWO (2) FILTERS ONLINE (GPM)	800	1,400

NOTES:

1. ASSUMES EACH FILTER HAS APPX. MEDIA SURFACE AREA OF 100 SF (2, 50 SF CELLS)

DAY TANKS AND  
CHEMICAL FEED AREA  
(KOH & NaOCL)

General Notes

1. BASE INFORMATION FROM RECORD  
DRAWINGS ENTITLED "CONTRACT NO. 4  
WATER FILTRATION PLANT", DATED APRIL  
2006.



CONCEPTUAL  
EXPANSION  
LAYOUT

TOWN OF GROTON  
WATER DEPARTMENT

Project No. 200-10  
Date: 04/04/08  
Drawn By: RLB  
Checked By: JAC  
Scale: AS SHOWN

Sheet  
C-2

Groton Water Department  
Proposed Manganese Corrective Action Schedule (based upon Construction of WTP for Whitney Wells)  
PROJECT SCHEDULE  
June 25, 2019