from the chairman

It is my pleasure to transmit to their Excellencies, the Governors of the Compact-member States, the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission's Annual Report for fiscal year 1975.

As in the past, the efforts of the Commission have been of extreme value to the State water pollution control agencies and to the States themselves in our regional water pollution control efforts. In addition to offering a forum for review and discussion of mutual problems and water pollution abatement efforts on the interstate waters of the region, the Commission functioned as a focal point in working with the Environmental Protection Agency at both the regional and national levels in implementing the many complex provisions of Public Law 92-500. Through the Commission an annual meeting was initiated between the State water pollution control agency directors and the Congressional Delegation from the Compact-area to discuss specific state problems and establish a closer relationship with our Congressional leaders in the interest of better and more effective programs.

Although progress has not been as rapid as hoped for in the construction of treatment works, the Commission has exerted strong leadership in attempts to resolve the problems causing delays. More work needs to be done in this area.

This report summarizes the many activities and functions performed by the Commission on behalf of and in support of State water pollution control activities. Through the Commission, the Compact-member States have been able to present a strong, unified position on the issue of water pollution abatement which has been most beneficial to the States concerned.

The Commission expresses its appreciation for the assistance rendered by many agencies, organizations and individuals concerned with water pollution control and water quality enhancement. The Commission is particularly grateful for the support it continues to receive from the Governors, the Legislatures, and administrative officials of its member States. Only with this continued support can we be effective in the development and continuation of regional programs in water pollution abatement and control.

William A. Healy
Chairman
NEIWPCC
Annual Report 1975

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New England Interstate
Water Pollution Control Commission

The Officers

VICE CHAIRMAN
Arthur W. Brownell

CHAIRMAN
William A. Healy

TREASURER
George L. Burke

The Commissioners

Connecticut

David R. Brown
Shelton

George L. Burke
Consulting Engineer,
Winsted

Eugene J. Dowling, P.E.
Consulting Engineer,
Middletown

*Douglas M. Castle
Commissioner,
Department of
Environmental
Protection

Maine

Joseph N. Gill
Commissioner,
Department of
Environmental
Protection

Douglas S. Lloyd, M.D.
Commissioner,
Department of
Health

William R. Adams, P.E.
Commissioner,
Department of
Environmental
Protection

Norman K. Ferguson
Hanover

Dean Fisher, M.D.
Commissioner,
Department of
Health and Welfare

Clarence J. Williams
Sanford

*Robert Jalbert
Attorney, Fort Kent

*Not pictured
Massachusetts

William J. Bicknell, M.D.
Commissioner, Department of Public Health

*Joseph Brown
Chairman, Water Resources Commission

Arthur W. Brownell
Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources

Richard A. Buck
Commissioner, Water Supply & Pollution Control Commission

Donald C. Caldenwood
Board of Directors
Pennichuck Water Works
Nashua

William A. Healy, P.E.
Executive Director,
Water Supply & Pollution Control Commission

Robert J. Hill
Commissioner,
Water Supply & Pollution Control Commission

New Hampshire

Louis A. Giarrusso
Lawrence,
Representing the Public

John D. McDonald, P.E.
Consulting Engineer,
Springfield
Representing Industrial Interests

James L. Biggane
Commissioner,
Department of Environmental Conservation

Morris M. Cohn, Sc.D.
Consulting Engineer,
New York City

Milton J. Neubauer
Chemical Engineer,
Mechanicville

Ogden Reid
Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation

Eugene Seebald
Director, Division of Pure Water,
Department of Environmental Conservation

New York

Stanley P. Spisiak
Elma

*Not Pictured
Rhode Island

Wallter C. Anderson
Engineering Consultant,
Cranston

Charles E. Dickerson
Marina Operator,
Warwick

Charles E. Gauthier
Retail Manager,
Manville

Vermont

Carleton A. Maine
Chief Division of Water
Pollution Control

Nelson Marshall, Ph.D.
Professor of
Oceanography,
University of
Rhode Island

Walter J. Shea, P.E.
Providence

William N. Jacobus, Jr.
Engineering
Manager, New
Memory Products,
International
Business Machines

Edward F. Kehoe
Commissioner,
Department of
Fish & Game

Ralph W. Lehman
Town Manager,
Hartford

Gordon R. Pyper, Ph.D.
Commissioner, Department of
Water Resources

Anthony Robbins, M.D.
Commissioner, Department of Health

New England Regional Wastewater Institute

Director
A. A. Baker

Instructor
Robert A. Garrecht

Instructor
Donald P. Johnson

Instructor
Steven A. MacDonald
Nashua River Program

Program Manager
Stephen E. Poole

Administrative Assistant
Sylvia E. Cournoyer
Planning and Public Participation
Judith D. Holloway

Assistant Engineer
Lois Luniewicz

Environmental Scientist
Alexander Woodle

NEIWPCC

Executive Secretary
Alfred E. Peloquin

Supervisor of Secretarial Services
Janet C. Larson

Senior Staff Assistant
Robert S. Prolman

Environmental Engineer
Frederick K. Schauffler

Environmental Biologist
John G. Valentino
By act of Congress on July 31, 1947, the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Compact was established, and the coordinated efforts to control water pollution in New England and the adjacent portions of New York State were underway. The Commission's ever expanding responsibilities now include: water quality management, surveillance, legislation, training programs, public education and information, and special projects.

Commissioners

Thirty-five Commissioners, five from each of the Compact-member States, administer the Compact. These Commissioners, who are either ex officio or appointed by their respective governors, represent the State water pollution control agencies, health departments, fisheries or conservation groups, municipal and industrial interests, and the general public. The tasks of coordination and program development rest with the Executive Secretary, working under the guidance of the full Commission and with the assistance of the Technical Advisory Board.

The Commission elects officers annually and rotates the Chairmanship among the States. For fiscal year 1975, William A. Healy (N.H.) served as Chairman, Arthur W. Brownell (Mass.) as Vice-Chairman, and George L. Burke (Conn.) as Treasurer.

Membership Changes

Changes in agency directors and term expirations resulted in several changes in membership during FY-75.

The following became ex officio commissioners of the NEIWPC: Joseph N. Gill, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, succeeding Douglas M. Costle; Joseph Brown, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources, succeeded Arthur W. Brownell; Ogden Reid, Commissioner, New York Department of Environmental Conservation, succeeding James L. Biggane; and Eugene F. Seebold, Director, Division of Pure Waters, New York Department of Environmental Conservation to fill the membership position created by newly adopted State legislation.

The following were appointed Commissioners by their respective Governors: James Varotsis, appointed by Governor Thomson of New Hampshire to succeed Commissioner Richard A. Buck; Commissioner Stanley
Spisiak appointed by Governor Carey of New York to fill the vacancy created by the death of Commissioner Michael F. Petruska; Carleton A. Maine, appointed by Governor Noel of Rhode Island to succeed Commissioner Charles E. Gauthier and Commissioner Peter A. Robinson, appointed by Governor Salmon of Vermont to succeed Commissioner Ralph W. Lehman.

Meetings

The Commissioners meet quarterly to discuss issues and draft policy relative to water pollution control and abatement in the Compact area. The following summarizes the major topics covered at the meetings:

* Review status of special projects and in-house activities.
* Implementation of PL 92-500 via State/EPA Working Group addressing such topics as impounded funds, program plan grants, construction grants, planning, user charge-cost recovery, lakes restoration, NPDES, rules and regulations and possible amendments to PL 92-500.
* Production of film on wastewater treatment
* Direction of Nashua River Program
* Review of status of New England Regional Wastewater Institute
* Investigation of groundwater pollution
* Review of existing technical reports for revision and reprinting as appropriate
* FY-76 Program Plan
* FY-76 budget
* Impact of change in Federal fiscal year
* Review of National Commission on Water Quality study reports
* Status of the proposed pulp mill for the Connecticut River Basin
* Possible NEIWPCC functions under the Safe Drinking Water Act

Discussions, Meetings, and Activities

In addition to the regularly scheduled meetings of the Commission and the Technical Advisory Board, the Commission staff and State water pollution control personnel participated in a wide variety of meetings, conferences, and other activities related to water pollution abatement and control.
As directorate of the Nashua River Program, Commission staff members attended monthly Program Advisory Committee meetings. The NEIWPCC staff also met with the consultants responsible for developing the institutional and financial arrangements plan, and for the water quality management plan for the Nashua River. The staff also met with the Corps of Engineers, Massachusetts and New Hampshire officials, industry representatives, selectmen, mayors, and interested citizens on pollution abatement in the Nashua River Basin, and attended regularly scheduled public participation program workshops.

Commission staff members represented the Compact-member States at many local, State, regional and national meetings on water pollution control matters which affected, or could affect, the pollution abatement programs of the States. Staff members also participated on several Federal Task Forces pertaining to Federal legislation and development of rules and regulations related to the Federal water pollution control law PL 92-500. These efforts often resulted in adoption of a more realistic approach by the Federal agencies in the implementation and administration of the national program and in Federal policies more consistent with State program and legislative mandates.

NEIWPCC representatives met with officials of the National Commission on Water Quality, and sponsored the first of annual breakfast meetings for the Congressional Delegation from the Compact area as a means of advising our legislators on progress and problems in water pollution abatement throughout the Compact area.

In addition, the Commission met with State and Federal officials concerning training and training needs in wastewater treatment plant operations.

NEIWPCC representatives also met with Federal and State personnel on the needs and capabilities existing in terms of establishing a NEIWPCC monitoring and surveillance program. And, as always, Commission staff continued to meet with consultants and manufacturers on new and innovative equipment and technology in wastewater treatment and pollution control.
Soon after the Commission was established, it became apparent that technical guidance was necessary to efficiently administer the water pollution control program. Accordingly, a Technical Advisory Board was established consisting of the directors of the signatory State water pollution control agencies and the departments of health. TAB membership has been revised over the years to include the directors or chief engineers of these State regulatory agencies and the Environmental Protection Agency. In addition, experts from other State departments and representatives from professional and industrial concerns often assist the TAB in advising the Commissioners on technical problems of water pollution abatement in the Compact area.

Two changes in TAB membership occurred during the fiscal year. Hapg Boghosian of Rhode Island succeeded Carleton A. Maine who was appointed a Commissioner by Governor Noel and Ernest F. Trad of New York succeeded Donald B. Stevens who retired.

The TAB members serve on special sub-basin and ad hoc committees to provide guidance for the highly complex problems inherent to water pollution abatement and control. Each year the TAB elects one of its members as Chairman. For 1974-75 Thomas C. McMahon of Massachusetts acted as Chairman.

The Technical Advisory Board meets regularly, corresponding with quarterly meetings of the Commission, and otherwise as necessary.

The following were TAB activities for FY-75:

*Reviewed special projects and technical in-house programs, making recommendations as appropriate.

*Discussed the effect of chlorine residuals on shellfish.

*Reviewed in detail the problem of treating and disposing of septage and its solids. Consensus is that the Commission should support EPA grants for septage treatment facilities, and should develop guidelines for septage handling.

*Reviewed the status of the region's construction grants program and sought means of expediting the processing of grant applications at the State and Federal levels.

*Discussed and recommended the implementation of a Water Quality Index Demonstration Program.

*Under PL 92-500, Section 305(b), recommended a uniform approach for submissions issued by the States to EPA as an inventory of the water quality of all navigable waters.

Reviewed an EPA memorandum on vessel waste management, including marine sanitation devices to determine impact on State responsibilities.

*Discussed the impact and effectiveness of EPA imposed NPDES analytical guidelines in assessing whether member States would seek NPDES authority.

*Reviewed several of the Commission's technical reports, making corrections, and recommending reprinting as appropriate.

*Frequently reviewed status reports of the Dynactor-stormwater overflow treatment project, focusing on operations and potential revisions as an evaluation of evolving technology for the treatment of combined sewer overflows.

*Discussed the various training programs available through the Commission. The TAB noted the increasing demand for trained treatment plant operators, and expressed the need for the CETA program to send more trainees to NERWI.
TAB Membership

CHAIRMAN
Thomas C. McMahon, P.E.

David L. Clough
Chief, Water Quality Section, Vermont Dept. of Water Resources

John C. Collins, P.E.
Chief Engineer, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Merwin E. Hupfer, P.E.
Division Engineer, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

Thomas A. LaCava, P.E.
Chief Engineer, New Hampshire Water Supply & Pollution Control Commission

Raeburn W. Macdonald, P.E.
Chief Engineer, Maine Department of Environmental Protection

Carleton A. Maine, P.E.
Chief, Division of Water Pollution Control, Environmental Health Services, Rhode Island Department of Health

Thomas C. McMahon, P.E.
Director, Massachusetts Division of Water Pollution Control

Donald B. Stevens, P.E.
Director, Bureau Water Quality Management, N.Y. State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Ernest F. Trad
Associate Director, Division of Pure Waters, New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Lester Sutton, P.E.
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

David C. Wiggin, P.E.
Director, Environmental Health Services, Connecticut Dept. of Health

Not pictured: Hagop Boghosian, Principle Sanitary Engineer, Division of Water Supply and Pollution Control, Rhode Island Department of Health.
water quality attainment

A major goal of the Commission is to attain high water quality in the inland and coastal waters of the Compact area. To achieve this goal, there must be proper classification of streams, a water quality monitoring program to determine if the approved classifications are being achieved, and, if necessary, enforcement action to correct any violations.

One of the first functions of the NEIWPCC was to develop standards of water quality. Working with technical experts from the New England and New York State water pollution control agencies and Health Departments, the Commission formulated uniform standards based on a series of biological, chemical, and physical parameters and established water use classification.

After State approval, the standards were then used to classify interstate bodies of water according to desired use. But classifications have a bigger purpose than being letters on a stream map. By comparing the current condition of the water to the standards for a classification requirement, the States can easily see improving or deteriorating water quality trends. The trends then assist the States in developing programs to achieve water quality consistent with approved classifications.

A formalized surveillance program is essential to effectively monitor these water quality trends. And in early 1970, the Commission approved a plan submitted by the Technical Advisory Board for a regional water quality surveillance network. After considerable review and revision, the plan was implemented during FY-75.

The primary goal of the plan is to determine whether Commission approved water quality classifications are being achieved, and if so, to consider the feasibility of further upgrading of classifications. An additional goal is to determine the progress of water pollution abatement within the Compact area and to distribute this information to the public.

The source of the data for the program comes from recently established State and EPA trend monitoring programs. This interagency coordination eliminates duplication of effort and supplements the respective programs. The sampling stations, generally located near State boundaries, cover every interstate drainage basin within the Compact area.

The Commission’s role in the program is to gather, average, compare, graph, and analyze the existing data. This year, data was analyzed for 23 interstate rivers and tributaries. A summary shows that a majority of the rivers are meeting their classifications with several showing improvement over previous years. Those rivers considered to be substandard generally show unacceptably high coliform counts and, occasionally, low dissolved oxygen levels. It is anticipated that elimination of direct discharges from municipalities and industry via wastewater collection and treatment systems will dramatically improve water quality.

A report, “Water Quality Trends for Interstate Rivers in New England”, will supply a more detailed description of the data gathered. This publication will be available as a public service late in fiscal year 1976.
INTERSTATE WATERS

Thames River (Conn.-N.H.)

Connecticut River (Conn.-Mass.-N.H.)

Deerfield River Basin (Vt.-Mass.)

Five Mile River (N.Y.-Conn.)

Farmington River Basin (Conn.-Mass.)

Hoosic River Basin (Vt.-Mass.-N.Y.)

Housatonic River (Conn.-Mass.)

Kickamuit River Basin (R.I.-Mass.)

Lake Champlain Basin (N.Y.-Vt.)

Little River Basin (N.Y.-Mass.)

Merrimack River (Mass.)

Mianus River (N.Y.-Conn.)

Millers River Basin (N.H.-Mass.)

Nashua River Basin (Mass.-N.H.)

Palmer-Warren Rivers Basin (Mass.-R.I.)

Pawcatuck River Basin (R.I.-Conn.)

Piscataqua River Basin (Me.-N.H.)

Powow River Basin (N.H.-Mass.)

Quinebaug River Basin (Mass.-Conn.-R.I.)

Rippey River (Vt.-N.Y.)

Ruggins-Barrington Rivers Basin (Mass.-R.I.)

Saco River Basin (N.H.-Me.)

Salmon Brook Basin (Mass.-N.H.)

Scantic River Basin (Mass.-Conn.)

Spicket River Basin (Mass.-N.H.)

Silvermine River (N.Y.-Conn.)

Taunton River-Mount Hope Bay (Mass.-R.I.)

Ten Mile River Basin (Mass.-R.I.)

Westfield River Basin (Conn.-Mass.)

WATER USE CLASSIFICATIONS

COASTAL AND MARINE WATERS

CLASS A
Suitable for all uses including shellfish harvesting for direct human consumption; excellent aesthetic value.

CLASS B
Suitable for bathing, other recreational purposes, industrial cooling and shellfish harvesting for human consumption after depuration; excellent fish and wildlife habitat; good aesthetic value.

CLASS C
Suitable fish, shellfish and wildlife habitat; suitable for recreational boating, and industrial cooling; good aesthetic value.

CLASS D
Suitable for navigation, power, certain industrial processes and cooling uses, and migration of fish; good aesthetic value.
The Nashua River Program (NRP) was established as a demonstration project to evaluate abatement programs within the Nashua River Basin. The Nashua River was selected for this demonstration in water quality management for four reasons: (1) The Nashua is an interstate tributary; (2) The Nashua is grossly polluted; (3) The Nashua Basin is small and manageable; and, (4) The communities and industries of the Nashua recognized the need to solve their common problems.

As part of the demonstration project, the NRP was to work with the basin communities, businesses and industries and existing state and federal agencies to increase communication and assist in problem solving. Public involvement in the Program was dictated by the very reasoning that established the Program. Community and citizen input was sought and incorporated at points during development of Program activities.

To bring this idea to reality and to test its concepts, the New England Regional Commission conceived and funded (from beginning to end) the Nashua River Program. Established in 1971, the Program was structured in three parts: (1) Management Group consisting of the Director of the N.H. Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission, the Director of the Mass. Division of Water Pollution Control, and the Executive Secretary of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (lead agency); (2) A Program Advisory Committee consisting of state, federal and local agencies and groups; and (3) A full-time staff. This structure allowed the staff to function with direction from the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee, in turn, would act on staff recommendations and pass them to the Management Group for final action.

One of the most significant parts of the Nashua River Program was the availability of $2,955,000 for supplementing the State and Federal construction and planning grant programs. The Program founders realized that funds would be needed to activate shelved projects that were of critical importance to the clean-up of the Nashua River, and developing a comprehensive water quality management plan for the Basin.

Nashua, N.H. and Fitchburg, Mass. were the only basin communities with projects ready for construction. As a top priority project, the NRP provided $1,721,000 over a two-year period to the City of Nashua. Fitchburg received $811,200 for two projects.

At the local level, the NRP funded preliminary engineering studies in Ashburnham, Clinton, Lunenburg, and Westminster. These studies investigated the possible alternatives (including detailed costs) that each community had in relation to the collection and treatment of their sewage. In addition to these local plans, three regional plans were completed within the basin.

In order to tie all the previously mentioned plans and other existing plans together, the NRP contracted for a Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) for the entire Nashua River Basin. The purpose of this plan was to evaluate all existing plans from both an economic and water quality point of view.

One of the original concepts of the NRP was the development of citizen interest and participation in the clean-up of the river. This was to be accomplished through a Public Relations Program involving the public in projects of local concern. In addition, the NRP encouraged citizen groups who were active in environmental affairs.

One of the major factors of a successful project is good public relations. Working in conjunction with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission, the NRP worked to develop a program of public awareness in the basin. The first step in this process was to develop a brochure that would explain the program. Another aspect of the Public Relations Program was a contest among basin schools to
develop a logo for the Program. A newsletter was the final part of the Public Relations effort.

The Public Participation Program, as part of the development of the WQMP for the Nashua River Basin, was the most involved of all the NRP’s efforts. This program attempted to gather individuals from all areas of the basin, as well as from all walks of life, and derive from this group what they wanted from the Nashua River of the future. Through numerous meetings and mailings, different opinions were received and reviewed by the NRP staff. The input received here was a major factor in some of the decisions made in the WQMP.

Although the NRP office closed on June 30, 1975, the NRP did not cease to exist. Activity in the basin is maintained by the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission through special projects including the “Dynactor” and the Water Quality Index. The PAC has committed itself to quarterly meetings to enable members to discuss problems and progress within the basin area. Altogether, considerable interest in the Nashua River still exists.

Over forty industrial firms are located on the banks of the Nashua River in the Fitchburg area. Through NRP efforts the problem of industrial pollution abatement has taken a gigantic step forward. The Nashua River Program provided funds for the construction of two wastewater collection systems in addition to developing a public awareness program.

One of the most notable NRP projects was the Combined Sewer Overflow Treatment Plant. Better known as the “dynactor”, the test facility was designed to reduce harmful bacteria, remove solids, and return oxygen to overflowing stormwater before discharge into the river.
The dam at Clinton, Massachusetts — gateway to Wachusett Reservoir.
public information and education

Over the past five years, the problems of water pollution control and abatement have become public interest issues. To meet the increasing demand for public information, NEIWPC opened a comprehensive public information program in 1974. Working with the Boston University School of Public Communication, the Commission has employed graduate students from the Division of Public Relations on a full-time semester basis. Serving as public information coordinators, these individuals had the opportunity to work in all areas of the NEI public relations program.

The Commission publishes a quarterly newsletter, AQUA NEWS, which supplies information on water quality problems and projects throughout the Compact region. The NEIWPC also distributes pamphlets, books, and technical reports to meet the specific needs.

Publications are only one portion of the NEIWPC public relations program. The Commission also maintains a semi-portable audio-visual display and a lending library of slide series and films. In addition, staff members are available to speak to special interest groups. This year, the NEIWPC participated in Earth Day activities, career expositions, water pollution control seminars, and science fairs. Staff members also appeared on two television programs to present an overview of the region's water quality problems and the local approach to water pollution control. The NEIWPC assists conservation and environmental groups in their local information projects. The Commission was able to financially assist the State of New Hampshire in designing and producing a portable audio-visual unit. Technical assistance was also provided to the public participation workshops held for the Blackstone River Watershed.

A publication entitled "What's New" gives a complete listing of available films, slides, and booklets.

Requested throughout New England for environmental education, the Commission's semi-portable audio-visual display has become a popular educational vehicle with school and community groups.

Public affairs encompasses more than filling requests and developing educational programs — Public Affairs Resident Lea Nemanich takes advantage of a Commission meeting break to photograph TAB members for the forthcoming annual report.
PL 92-500, a comprehensive water pollution control bill, was enacted in 1972. A major segment of this bill is a multi-billion dollar program to construct wastewater treatment facilities as a means of pollution abatement. But construction in itself is insufficient. Regardless of capital investment, no facility can function efficiently without skilled individuals trained in the sophisticated technology of wastewater treatment. The NEIWPCC recognized these needs, and developed ongoing training and education programs.

NERWI

In 1969 the NEIWPCC founded the New England Regional Wastewater Institute (NERWI) on the campus of Southern Maine Vocational Technical Institute in South Portland, Maine. NERWI provides academic and technical training in the wastewater treatment field through three programs: nine-month, in-residence program; in-residence short courses; mobile training facility.

The nine-month program offers one full academic year of concentrated study in wastewater treatment technology. Additional elements of this program include supervised operation of an activated sludge package treatment plant on campus, and four weeks of on-the-job training in full-scale treatment plants in the Portland area. This program is oriented toward new entrants to the field and includes job placement assistance to its graduates.

Thirty-four students were enrolled in the Class of '75, receiving instruction from NERWI's resident staff as well as specialists from the SMVTI faculty.

In addition to the regular nine-month program, NERWI offers summer short-course programs at the South Portland campus. These courses, one-week long, are condensed learning sessions in specialized topics on the proper operation and maintenance of treatment facilities.

This fiscal year, approximately 40 treatment plant operators attended Course #4, "Activated Sludge Process Control", or Course #5, "Laboratory Analysis".

The third training program offered is a mobile training facility (MTF) which uses the NERWI campus as its home base. The MTF, a 25-foot van, is manned by two instructors.
Upon request, they will travel to a training site to conduct a 3-day training session on special areas of treatment plant operations. The van itself contains a well-equipped laboratory, audio-visual aids, a technical library, and selected pieces of demonstration equipment, and can provide specific technical assistance, if necessary. These services are provided without cost to municipalities in the Compact area.

Special Programs

From time to time, the NEIWPCC receives training grants from the Environmental Protection Agency to administer special, short-term training programs. The latest grant received totalled $35,144 and allowed the NEIWPCC to sponsor 23 classes of trainees enrolled in the EPA field study course on wastewater treatment plant operations. The program was designed to offer both financial and resource support for selected instructors of treatment plant operations. The goal of the program is to provide training which will upgrade the skills of operators and thereby improve plant efficiency and reduce operating costs.

Top Photo — As part of the classroom curriculum, NERWI Director, A.A. Baker explains proper safety procedures for plant operators.

Bottom Photo — All NERWI students gain valuable field experience before entering the profession through exposure to the package secondary treatment facility on the SMVTI campus.
research & special projects

Over the past 28 years, the Commission has supported and sponsored many research and special projects dealing with the treatment of municipal and industrial wastewaters and with water quality management. The results of 18 of these studies have been printed through the years as technical reports. Passage of time has rendered some of the reports obsolete. Consequently several are no longer available in print. Those currently available are listed elsewhere in this section.

During the early years of the Commission when textiles and tanning industries were predominant in the Compact-area, the Commission supported much pioneer work in the treatment of these wastes and in the joint treatment of industrial and municipal wastes. In recent years, with emphasis changing to water quality management, the Commission redirected its support to areas of nutrient removal, metals, pesticides and new treatment technology.

In fiscal year 1975, the Commission continued studies on nutrients and new treatment technology and final reports were being prepared on the following studies:

- Use of Duckweed in Harvesting Nutrients from Raw Sewage Stabilization Pond Wastewater
- Nutrient Removal Effectiveness of a Septic Tank Leaching Field
- Mercury and Heavy Metal in the Environment
- Pesticides in Various Watersheds in the State of Vermont
- Effects of Destratification upon Temperature and other Habitat Requirements of Salmonoid Fishes
- Effect of Mixing on Water Quality and Algae Nuisance in a Shallow, Unstratified Lake.

In addition, the Commission, through contract services provided special assistance to the Massachusetts Division of Water Pollution Control in the prosecution of its planning activities under requirements of Sections 208 and 303(e) of PL 92-500. Similar assistance was granted the State of Rhode Island in developing waste load allocations for some of its inland waters. Both of these States, as well as the State of Vermont received assistance in connection with the 1974 Needs Survey accomplished under requirements of PL 93-243.

The Commission will continue to adjust its research and special project efforts, as necessary, to respond to current needs of the Compact member States and to explore new approaches to water pollution abatement and control.

Excessive nutrients in the water have resulted in polluting this stream through algae and duckweed growth. Both are being dealt with through special Commission reports.
Technical Reports Published & Currently Available

TR- 9, A Study of Small Complete Mixing, Extended Aeration, Activated Sludge Plants in Massachusetts (Massachusetts Health Research Institute, Inc. — 1961)

TR-12, White Water Wastes from Paper and Paperboard Mills — Pollution Sources and Methods of Treatment (Wesleyan University — 1963)

TR-13, The Effect of Industrial Wastes on Sewage Treatment (Wesleyan University — 1965)

TR-15, Controlling the Effects of Industrial Wastes on Sewage Treatment (Wesleyan University — 1970)

TR-16, Guides for the Design of Wastewater Treatment Works (Technical Advisory Board of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission — 1971)

TR-17, Uniform Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Oil Spills and for Oil Terminal and Vessel Handling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products (Technical Advisory Board of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission — 1971)

TR-18, Uniform Guidelines for the Control of Wastes and Harmful Effects Attributable to Watercraft and Floating Structures on Inland Fresh Waters (Technical Advisory Board of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission — 1973)

Top Photo — Executive Secretary Alfred E. Peloaquin gives Special Projects status summary to NEI Commissioners at the quarterly meeting.

Bottom photo — Here is a glimpse of what aeration is all about. Oxygen is mixed with wastewater, thus aiding bacteria in the breakdown of organic compounds.
Federal Legislation

More than twenty-five pieces of legislation dealing specifically with the national water pollution abatement program were introduced into the Senate or House of Representatives by their respective members during FY-75. The majority of these bills were aimed at making changes in the program established in 1972 by P.L. 92-500. Suggestions for changes in the Clean Water Act were also forthcoming from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other national groups including the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators and the National Utility Contractors Association. The proposed amendments addressed numerous issues, including user charge fees based on ad valorem taxes, the 1977 deadline for secondary treatment, state certification of construction grants projects, reduction in the federal share of the cost of construction, and the allocation formula for construction grants.

The House Public Works Subcommittee on Investigations and Review held hearings in May on proposed changes to P.L. 92-500. The following month the EPA also held a series of nationwide hearings regarding five areas covered by possible administration proposals to amend the Act.

In spite of all this activity, the fiscal year ended with no new water pollution control legislation having been enacted. However, some of the bills for FY-75 (most notably the Cleveland-Wright bill to allow for state certification) are still under consideration, and with the report of the National Commission on Water Quality due during FY-76, the new year promises to be another busy year for consideration of changes to P.L. 92-500.

Connecticut Legislation

Environmental legislation by the State of Connecticut during fiscal year 1975 was diverse, with bills passed relative to 208 planning, grants for water pollution abatement projects, assessment of user charges by local and regional sewer authorities and licensing of subsurface disposal installers and cleaners. The new 208 legislation requires the Governor to designate planning areas and agencies to facilitate the development of areawide waste treatment management plans. Another statute allows local and regional sewer authorities to assess industrial, commercial and domestic user charges, as required by P.L. 92-500. New grant legislation allows the state to provide 30% of the cost of pollution abatement facilities for publicly owned treatment works. The combined State and Federal grants will remain at 90% of the total eligible cost.

In non-federal related legislation, the state is requiring sub-surface disposal system installers and cleaners to be licensed. While existing installers may qualify under a “grandfather clause”, any new people in the field must be certified by the state.

In related legislation, the state is now providing up to 50% (33.500 limit) of the cost of a farm waste management system. Other environmental related legislation calls for new standards for public drinking water supplies and for the continued protection of water company lands by restricting the sale/or use of these lands.

Maine Legislation

Oil spills on the Maine coastline resulted in prompt legislative action to protect the state’s coastal shores, tidal flats and beaches from further pollution. Under the new legislation, the Department of Environmental Protection is required to establish controls for the anchorage of idle tankers. The proposed regulations state that any individual
planning to anchor a tanker in Maine for more than seven days must file an application through the Division of Oil Conveyance Services and receive approval before anchorage begins. Included in the regulations will be provisions for the maintenance and monitoring of clean and gas-free conditions in cargo tanks and adjacent areas. Acceptable plans for the disposal of sewage and solid waste will be required, in addition to precautionary safety plans for the crew. The storage of tankers will be allowed only in emergency or under temporary conditions.

Other water resource legislation that was considered during the 1975 fiscal year included the protection of the wetlands, Great Ponds, and the need for time variances for municipalities involved in the construction of wastewater treatment facilities.

Massachusetts Legislation

Fiscal year 1975 was another prolific year for environmental legislation in Massachusetts. Over 30 bills relating to water resources were passed by the state legislature. Although many of the bills were budgetary in nature, a significant number were directly related to water pollution control.

Two important bills receiving approval were Chapters 806 and 238. Chapter 806 is a reorganization bill which provides for the establishment of an Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. Chapter 238 extended the time during which certain appropriations will be available for expenditure as financial assistance to cities, towns and districts for water pollution purposes. The new deadline is June 30, 1985.

Among other environmental areas of interest receiving approval was legislation providing for the protection of the wetlands, an act regulating the disposal of hazardous waste materials in state waters, and Chapter 822 — an act delineating the activities that can be carried out in three ocean sanctuaries. Included in Chapter 822 were restrictions on waste disposal, commercial advertising and construction.

New Hampshire Legislation

Highlighting the passage of water pollution control legislation for FY-75 was the adoption of a New Hampshire-Vermont Interstate Sewage and Waste Disposal Facilities Compact. Known as Chapter 252-B, the act provides for a uniform system of charges for industrial uses of joint sewage and waste disposal facilities; the establishment of joint uniform pretreatment standards, a system for the arbitration and settlement of disputes, and regulations for the maintenance, use and operation of joint facilities.

Five other bills relating to water resources also received approval. Chapter 237 of HB 98 provided for an increase in the state’s guarantee of water pollution control projects. Other bills that became law did not directly concern water pollution control.

New York Legislation

Most significant of the state water pollution control legislation passed during the past fiscal year was the State Environmental Quality Review Act. Covering all aspects of the environment, public hearings on the rules and regulations of the Act will be held throughout the state during FY-76. All regulations pertaining to the Environmental Quality Review Act are subject to implementation no later than June of 1976.

The passage of other legislation related to water pollution abatement included: an act to establish qualifications for sewage treatment plant operators; the regulation of commercial use of cleansing products containing phosphates; and legislation to extend the Bridges-Barkley Act — a limited aid program for sewage collection systems.

Rhode Island Legislation

During fiscal year 1975, the Rhode Island legislature did not pass any bills directly related to water pollution control. It should be noted, however, that three bills pertaining to water pollution abatement are being drafted into their final form and will be presented to the state legislature during the 1976 legislative session.

Vermont Legislation

To deal with cases wherein joint sewage and waste disposal facilities are erected and maintained, the Vermont and New Hampshire legislatures passed the New Hampshire-Vermont Interstate Sewage and Waste Facilities Compact. In addition to approval of the Interstate Compact, the Vermont legislature passed an amendment to the Vermont Planning Advance Law. The new amendment allows for a 30% advance for wastewater treatment facility plans up from 25% under the old legislation.
Owned by the Greater Lawrence Sanitary District, construction moves ahead on a 94 mgd pumping station designed to serve the new 52 mgd activated sludge plant. Photo courtesy of Camp, Dresser & McKee.
conclusion activities

<table>
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<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>STEP 1 (Facilities Plan)</th>
<th>STEP 2 (Design &amp; Specification)</th>
<th>STEP 3 (Construction)</th>
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Overview

More costly than the national space or interstate highway program, the construction grants program is the largest single federal program in existence.

In 1972, Congress voted 18 billion dollars to fund the construction of wastewater treatment facilities. The money was to be allocated over a three-year period, with five billion for FY-73, six billion for FY-74 and 7 billion for FY-75. In November of 1972, the administration impounded 3 billion from each of the 1973 and 1974 allotments — money that was not released until a Supreme Court ruling in February of 1975. The release of the impounded funds brought the total remaining in the construction coffers to a staggering 14 billion. New England's share of the total comes close to 1.8 billion with approximately 900 million still left unobligated.

The problems facing the construction grants program are numerous. Although the municipalities are eager to begin the construction of wastewater treatment facilities, there remains a labyrinth of red-tape to wade through before any project passes the initial planning stage. The average grant application is said to require 55 people for processing, one ton of paper, and a minimum of 2-4 years between project initiation and the beginning of construction. Despite these problems, the New England states have an impressive record.

Region I EPA reports an obligation level of approximately 40% as compared with 23% for the national average. In 1974, 25 New England projects received federal grants. During the past fiscal year, over 50 projects received federal grants. As the processing of applications and grant awards increases, the New England states feel confident that they will be able to obligate all their remaining monies before the September 1977 deadline.

Connecticut

The Constitution State moved closer to its water quality goals in FY-75 with the completion of five municipal wastewater treatment plants located in Norwalk, Ridgefield, Westport, Naugatuck, and the Rocky Hill MDC plant. A somewhat unique situation exists at the Naugatuck facility where domestic and industrial wastewaters from the community are treated separately until they reach the chlorination and sludge handling stages.

In total, 66 water pollution control projects were in the construction phase during the fiscal year, representing an overall investment of $373,334,954. Additionally, of the 13 EPA grants awarded to Connecticut's projects during the year, 8 were for the planning or construction of new pollution abatement facilities, while the remaining 5 grants were made
Lake Winnisquam will reap the benefits of a 2.1 million dollar addition to the existing treatment facility. Currently 75% complete, the New Hampshire plant will provide advanced treatment for the surrounding area.

Photo courtesy of C.E. Maguire

An advanced treatment plant was dedicated by the town of Rangeley, Maine during the summer of 1975. The AWT system was added to an existing secondary treatment process to further protect the area’s valuable lakes system. Following aeration and clarification, phosphorus removal is provided by flocculation, settling, and dual-media filtration. Plant capacity is 150,000 gallons per day. Photo courtesy of Edward C. Jordan, Inc.

to cover increases in cost of on-going projects. The largest single grant for construction was made to the City of New Haven in the amount of $37,276,087. The funds will be used to build a conventional activated sludge secondary treatment plant and sludge incinerator, as well as a 54” interceptor sewer to convey wastewaters to the plant. Other projects receiving EPA grant awards include construction of interceptor sewers, a pumping station and force main for Darien and a flood control dike, stormwater pumping station and outfall for Stratford.

Several projects that received state approval during FY-75 were still awaiting EPA approval for grant award at the close of the fiscal year. One of these projects will provide for improvements to the existing municipal sewage treatment plant in Vernon. Completion of this project will result in marked improvement in the water quality of the Hockanum River.

Maine

The Department of Environmental Protection processed thirteen Step 3 grants during FY-75. Seven of the thirteen were for new projects while the remaining six were incremental grants. Projects ranged from interceptor sewers in the Manchester and Mexico Sewer Districts to the addition of tertiary treatment facilities to the existing Rangeley plant. The total dollar value of these plants is $28,461,406. This is approximately a 70% increase in project dollar value over FY-74.

Water quality in Rockland harbor will improve as a result of a $5.47 million grant from EPA. A 2.9 mgd secondary wastewater facility, three pumping stations, 2960 feet of force main and 12,840 feet of interceptor will be constructed to handle the untreated domestic wastewater which is presently discharged via gravity sewers, into the harbor.

The Portland-South Portland area received the largest grant ($12,075,000) for the construction of secondary treatment facilities, pump stations, force mains and interceptors. The smallest projects were the Mexico Sewer District Interceptor ($40,312) and the Berwick Sewer District secondary treatment facility for industrial wastes ($112,176). Both of these projects were incremental grants.

Massachusetts

In a major effort to speed up the pollution abatement
program, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts allocated nearly 100 million dollars for facility construction projects in FY-75. The total dollar value of projects was $99,755,177, with twenty-six of the twenty-eight grants going to Step 3 projects. This was a significant step toward eliminating the backlog of projects.

The largest FY-75 grant went to the City of Lowell ($37,116,760) for a 32 MGD regional treatment plant, interceptors and a diversion structure. This facility will eliminate the discharge of raw and combined sewerage to the Merrimack River. Surrounding communities will also be tying in their domestic wastewaters in the near future. The second largest grant ($18,900,000) was to the Metropolitan District Commission for construction of treatment facilities for combined sewer overflows. This project is part of an overall program to eliminate sewer overflows to streams in the Metropolitan Boston area. A total of 12 incremental and 16 new grants were awarded for a variety of projects ranging from interceptors and pump stations to upgrading of existing plants to secondary and advanced treatment.

During FY-75, two new type facilities came on line in Massachusetts. One, located in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, was a physical-chemical treatment facility designed to serve the city’s paper mills and industrial section as well as domestic waste from surrounding communities. The plant utilizes chemical addition, coagulation, settling and activated carbon filtration to meet water quality standards. The Great Barrington treatment facility was designed and constructed with a high degree of automation. Treating a combination of domestic and industrial wastewater, this facility is capable of operation with a minimum staff.

**New Hampshire**

Statistics show that FY-75 was an excellent year for the New Hampshire Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission. A total of fifty-two projects (Step 1 — 16, Step 2 — 4, and Step 3 — 32), were awarded to various communities and sewer districts throughout the state. The dollar value of these projects was $39,701,970, a dramatic increase over previous years. While the greater part of these funds were expended for new facility planning and construction, a substantial amount of upgrading of existing plants also occurred.

Construction on secondary treatment plants was
Construction crews place the 96-inch diameter interceptor to the new activated sludge plant in Lawrence, Massachusetts. Photo courtesy of Camp, Dresser & McKee.

Evidence of successful projects throughout the state, including the communities of Pembroke, Allenstown, Wolfeboro, Greenville, Farmington, Henniker, Lebanon, and Manchester.

The two largest projects in the Granite State were Manchester ($6,637,000) for pumping stations and interceptor sewers and Dover ($5,175,000) for sanitary interceptor and storm sewers. The smallest construction grant was an incremental grant for a new sewer, pump station and force main sewer in Meredith. The large number of Step 1 grants (16) indicates that the state is developing a balanced program that will utilize its federal allotment under Title II of P.L. 92-500.

New York

That portion of the state of New York located in the Compact-region includes only the Lake Champlain Basin, the Batten Kill, the Hoosic and Housatonic River Basins.

At Plattsburgh, New York, the construction of a wastewater treatment plant for the Champlain Park Sewer District is over 30% complete. Total eligible cost for the project is $815,946.

The Moriah Sewer Districts 1 and 2, together with the Village of Port Henry submitted a Step 1 application for EPA approval.

Treatment plants for the communities of Whitehall, Bloomingdale, Ticonderoga and Dannemora are on the state priority list, however construction is not expected to begin before the next fiscal year.

Rhode Island

“Successful” best describes FY-75 for the Rhode Island Division of Water Pollution Control. Three Step 1 and five Step 3 grants were awarded to pollution abatement projects for a combined grant total of $21,108,050.

During 1975, three projects started construction that were awarded grants in Calendar year 1974. These projects have a total eligible and project cost of $27,238,031, and are as follows: City of Woonsocket, Construction of Wastewater Treatment Works and Interceptor Sewers; Town of Narragansett, construction of Ouida Street pumping station; and Town of South Kingston, construction of pumping stations, interceptor sewers and an outfall sewer. An additional seven projects were under construction that had received grants and were initiated in previous years.
Following a year's delay for the preparation of an environmental impact statement, EPA recently granted permission to begin construction of a wastewater treatment plant and interceptor sewers in New Shoreham. Estimated project cost is $3,719,420.

Currently there are eight projects which have been approved by the Rhode Island office and forwarded to EPA for its approval. These projects have an estimated total project cost of $11,588,500 and a total eligible cost of $9,599,000.

Communities to benefit from the new projects include Barrington, Warren, Jamestown, Bristol, Narragansett, Middletown, Newport and Central Falls.

Vermont

A total of 15 EPA grants amounting to $5,076,105 were awarded to projects in the Green Mountain State during FY-75. Included in the total were three grants to cover increased costs on previously approved projects. The largest single grant, $2,899,187, was made to the Town of Lyndon for the construction of a secondary wastewater treatment plant, pumping stations, and sewers. The Towns of Putney, Sheldon and Brighton also received separate grants for the construction of wastewater treatment plants.

A wide variety of on-going projects were completed during the fiscal year. In Barre Town, a metering system including two Parshall flumes became operational during May. The metering system will measure the wastewater flow going from Barre Town to the Barre City treatment plant and will thereby serve as the basis for establishing a user charge fee for the residents of Barre Town.

Construction was also completed on a $160,000 tertiary treatment facility for the Otter Valley Union High School. This project, which provides chemical clarification followed by an aerated lagoon and a gravity sand filter, was funded entirely with non-federal monies. In Cavendish, a 0.1 mgd secondary treatment plant that was washed out by floods in 1973 was...
rebuilt with the aid of funds from the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration. This facility was designed and rebuilt within one year.

Other treatment works that went on-line during FY-75 include a no-discharge facility in Rochester consisting of three septic tanks and leach fields, and a $542,000 project in Chelsea for an oxidation ditch treatment plant and 1,175 feet of gravity sewer. Finally, a stormwater collection and treatment system was completed in Essex Junction. This $40,000 facility will provide sedimentation and chlorination of the stormwater with the sludge being fed back into a nearby treatment plant during periods of lower flow.

Extensive upgrading of the East Hartford, Connecticut wastewater treatment plant began in FY-75 and will continue into FY-76. The new secondary treatment facility was designed by C.E. Maguire.
Construction recently began on one of the first regional facilities to serve two states. The Woonsocket wastewater treatment plant will serve residents in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Total project cost is $14,150,515. Photo courtesy of C.E. Maguire.
Intercepting sewers and seven pumping stations collect domestic and industrial wastewater from Lisbon Village, Lisbon Center and Lisbon Falls, Maine. This newly constructed 1.5 mgd activated sludge plant provides secondary treatment prior to discharge to Little River. Photo courtesy of Edward C. Jordan, Inc.

Aerial view of the Medfield, Massachusetts advanced wastewater treatment facility. Completion of the project culminates a six year effort by community leaders. The plant's effluent is discharged into the Charles River and surpasses the standards required by the Massachusetts Division of Water Pollution Control and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Photo courtesy of Weston & Sampson Engineers.

The "inside" story at Medfield — a glimpse of the effluent polishing filter.
Construction is well underway at the South Kingston, Rhode Island wastewater treatment facility. The project consists of a complete sewage collection and treatment system including an ocean outfall. The treatment works will employ sludge processing using chemical oxidation by means of chlorination at high concentration and pressure followed by conditioning and dewatering. Designed for a population of 40,000, the total cost of the 4.1 mgd facility is $20,000,000. Photo courtesy of C.E. Maguire.
Pictured above are the reinforcing rods for the settling basins at the Norwich wastewater treatment facility. The 9 million dollar Connecticut facility is over 50% complete. Photo courtesy of C.E. Maguire.

Expansion of the Rocky Hill, Connecticut primary plant included upgrading to secondary treatment featuring activated sludge processing. Total project cost was $6,200,000. Photo courtesy of C.E. Maguire.
Existing sewage treatment and pumping station facilities at Webster, Massachusetts were expanded to provide activated sludge treatment to the 6.33 mgd flow from the community and two major wet industries. The nearly complete 4 million dollar facilities began discharging treatment effluent to the French River in November, 1975. Photo courtesy of Fay, Spefford and Thorndike.

Construction workers lay the framework for the aeration basins at the Bondi Island construction site. The 64 mgd Springfield, Massachusetts facility was designed by Camp, Dresser & McKee.
NEIWPCC Financial Report Fiscal Year 1975

The books and records of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission were audited by Richard C. Gove, Certified Public Accountant, and by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. An audit on federal grants was completed, spanning the years 1971 through 1975.

CASH BALANCE JULY 1, 1974 $197,067.88

CASH RECEIPTS

Signatory State Contributions
- Connecticut 14,895.00
- Maine 3,605.00
- Massachusetts 21,610.00
- New Hampshire 3,480.00
- New York 4,920.00
- Rhode Island 3,605.00
- Vermont 52,115.00

Environmental Protection Agency Grants 157,531.00
(Balance of FY-74 Program plan amendments and base allotment for FY-75)

Rhode Island Special Projects
Reimbursement 3,706.50
Interest Income 4,162.50 217,514.72

TOTAL OF CASH RECEIPTS 414,582.60

CASH DISBURSEMENTS
Personnel Expenses 84,626.14
Administrative Expenses 24,065.75
Meetings 10,091.72
Public Information and Education 22,863.43
Special Projects 135,031.07
Training 65,340.00 342,018.11

TOTAL CASH DISBURSEMENTS

CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 1975 $72,564.49