

NEI 101

First

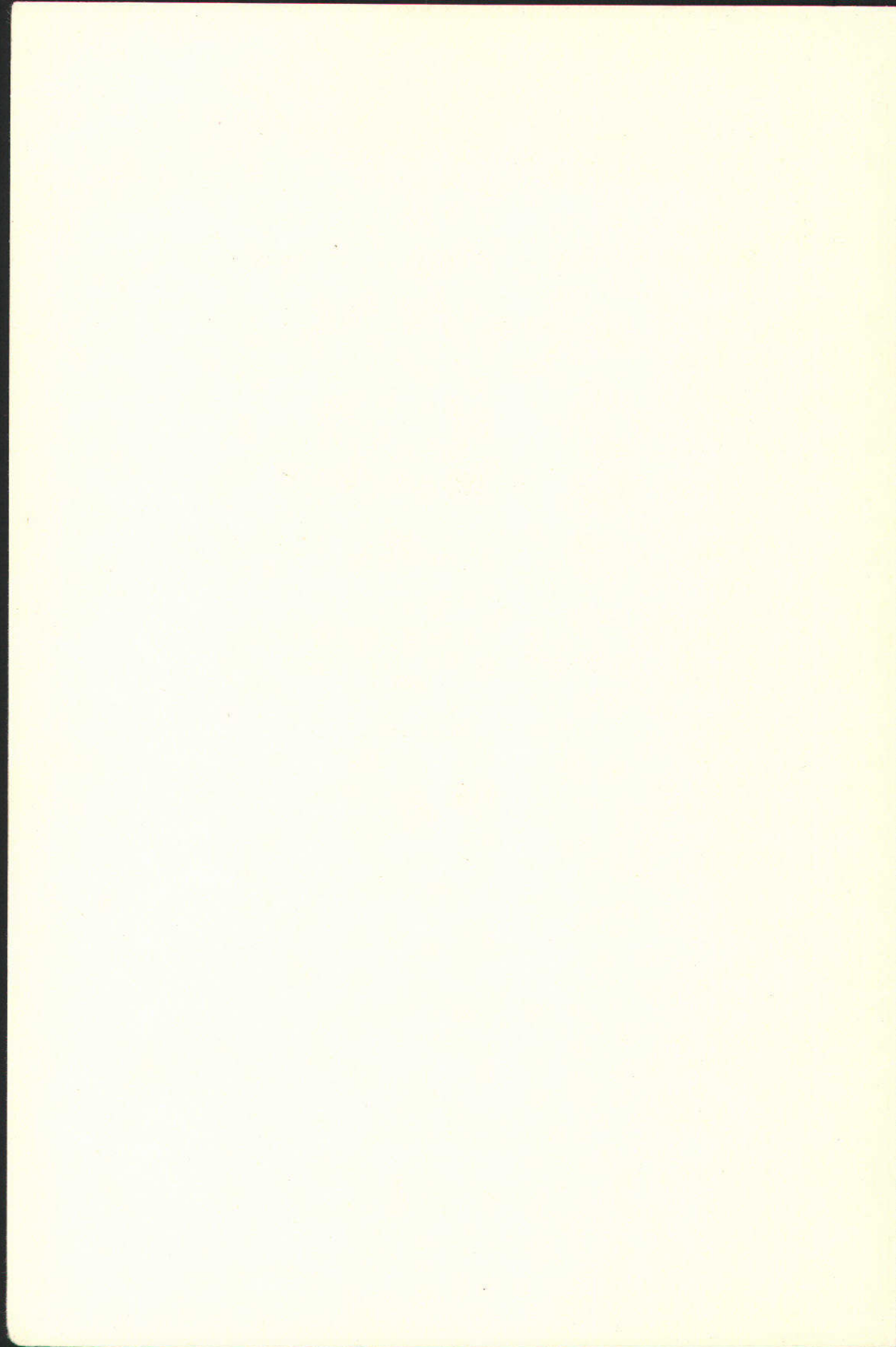
# *Annual Report*

New England  
Interstate Water Pollution  
Control Commission

June 30, 1948







**New England Interstate  
Water Pollution Control Commission**



**FIRST ANNUAL REPORT**

**For the Year Ending**

**June 30, 1948**

---

**335 State Office Building**

**PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**





## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

---

The Honorable James C. Shannon, Governor of Connecticut,  
The Honorable Robert F. Bradford, Governor of Massachusetts,  
The Honorable John O. Pastore, Governor of Rhode Island,  
and Members of the Legislatures.

SIRS:

I have the honor to transmit herewith the First Annual Report of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission for the year ending June 30, 1948.

Since its organization, the Commission has met successively in Boston, Providence, and Hartford, and is making rapid progress toward establishing a comprehensive program based on approved standards and classifications of interstate streams in New England.

Representatives attending the meetings of the Commission from the present non-member states give encouragement to the probability that Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire will soon seek inclusion in the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Compact. The Commission is mindful of the advantages accruing to New England through the full cooperative action of the several states in all matters dealing with the abatement of water pollution within this Region and looks forward to the application of the benefits of the Compact throughout New England.

Respectfully submitted,

VLADO A. GETTING, M.D.

*Chairman*

September 1, 1948.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Foreword . . . . .	5
New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Compact . . . . .	7
New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission	
Membership . . . . .	11
By-Laws . . . . .	12
Technical Advisory Board . . . . .	14
Financial Report . . . . .	14
Standards and Classifications of New England Streams . . . . .	14
Federal Legislation Pertaining to Water Pollution Control . . . . .	17
Summary . . . . .	19

## FOREWORD

Water pollution continues to be a serious national problem. Awareness of its importance has increased with the years. The public works program carried out by the Federal government during the business depression of the Thirties brought about a rapid increase in facilities for abating water pollution, but the advent of war stopped further progress. During the war sewage treatment facilities of the highest military priority only were allowed to be developed.

The return of peacetime demands the vigorous pursuit of a program of pollution abatement to make up for inactivity during war years, to meet the intensified problem resulting from the high level of postwar industrial activity and to provide for an increased population.

In New England, pollution results not only from domestic sewage but from a great variety of industrial wastes. That substantial progress has been made during the past fifteen years in the abatement of pollution caused by domestic sewage in this area is seen in the fact that the proportion of urban population served by treatment plants has increased more rapidly than the total population has increased. More municipal sewage treatment plants are still needed to attain the objective of having all of the accessible population served by purification works where needed.

Progress in controlling pollution caused by industrial waste has been slow and a major problem continues. This can be attributed largely to four factors; viz:

- (1) Inadequate laws for water pollution control.
- (2) Reluctance of municipalities to receive industrial wastes into municipal sewage treatment works.
- (3) Difficulty of treating many types of industrial waste.
- (4) Reluctance of most industries to undertake the financial burden of waste treatment.

A great deal of basic work has been done on this problem and future progress should and must be accelerated.

Responsibility for the abatement of water pollution is primarily local, but most governmental regulation pertaining to water pollution is had under the authority of state statutes. In New England, despite the great differences in the administrative prerogatives granted by the respective state laws, through the assistance rendered by the National Resources Planning Board (since abolished) considerable progress in planning for abatement of water pollution on a cooperative basis has been made.

Prior to the war, the National Resources Planning Board set up a subcommittee on Classification of New England Waters. This subcommittee, which included sanitary engineers of the New England state departments of health and various representatives of conservation and other agencies representing the state and federal governments, formulated a plan for classifying streams according to their present and potential highest use. The classes established were as follows:



Class A—waters used as source of drinking water or for the cultivation of market shellfish.

Class B—waters used for bathing.

Class C—waters used for recreational boating, fishing, culture of seed oysters, or industrial supply after treatment.

Class D—waters used primarily for commercial navigation or transportation of wastes without nuisance.

Tentative chemical and bacteriological standards were also presented in the subcommittee report, as well as recommended minimum treatment of sewage in accordance with the "use" classification.

At the suggestion of the National Resources Planning Board, the governors of five of the six New England states appointed state committees on classification of state streams, and considerable progress was made by the committees in Connecticut and Massachusetts working together. The full benefits of the cooperative venture, however, were denied by the outbreak of the war.

Since the war, the sanitary engineers of the state health departments of New England, working together on a program to promote cooperative and coordinated state action, developed a tentative "use" classification of interstate streams which was generally accepted. This preliminary classification scheme formed the basis for a definite program for progressive and cooperative action by the several New England states and gave impetus to a forward step in the direction of the desired objectives.

Action in the implementation of the program was further stimulated by the creation of water pollution boards working with the state departments of health in Maine and New Hampshire. The laws empowering the Massachusetts State Department of Public Health to act in the field of pollution abatement were extended. The Connecticut State Water Commission and the Connecticut State Department of Health actively promoted installations for sewage treatment, and Vermont was committed to an educational and promotional water pollution abatement campaign. The Rhode Island State Department of Health was successful in securing legislative approval of a well-rounded basic purification program which materially strengthened the existing anti-pollution laws and led to the establishment of a sanitary sewer district and the creation of the Blackstone Valley Sewer District Commission, adequately financed.

Pollution cannot be wholly controlled by a single state where interstate waters are involved. Such situations require joint action on a drainage area basis. In keeping with the requirement, the New England Conference of State Sanitary Engineers, in October, 1946, recommended that action be taken by the several New England states to negotiate a compact to control the pollution of interstate streams. As a result, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, with the approval of the Federal government, ratified the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Compact, and the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission was created.

The New England states not now members of the Compact and the state of New York have been represented at the meetings of the Commission as presently constituted, and they are also soon expected to enter the Compact.



## **New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Compact**

*Whereas*, The growth of population and the development of the territory of the New England states has resulted in serious pollution of certain interstate streams, ponds and lakes, and of tidal waters ebbing and flowing past the boundaries of two or more states; and

*Whereas*, Such pollution constitutes a menace to the health, welfare and economic prosperity of the people living in such areas; and

*Whereas*, The abatement of existing pollution and the control of future pollution in the interstate waters of the New England area are of prime importance to the people and can best be accomplished through the cooperation of the New England states in the establishment of an interstate agency to work with the states in the field of pollution abatement;

NOW, THEREFORE, The states of Connecticut and Rhode Island and the commonwealth of Massachusetts (the states of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont when authorized and do join herein) are now bound and do agree as follows:

### **ARTICLE I**

It is agreed between the signatory states that the provisions of this compact shall apply to streams, ponds and lakes which are contiguous to two or more signatory states or which flow through two or more signatory states or which have a tributary contiguous to two or more signatory states or flowing through two or more signatory states, and also shall apply to tidal waters ebbing and flowing past the boundaries of two states.

### **ARTICLE II**

There is hereby created the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (hereinafter referred to as the commission) which shall be a body corporate and politic, having the powers, duties and jurisdiction herein enumerated and such other and additional powers as shall be conferred upon it by the act or acts of a signatory state concurred in by the others.

### **ARTICLE III**

The commission shall consist of five commissioners from each signatory state, each of whom shall be a resident voter of the state from which he is appointed. The commissioners shall be chosen in the manner and for the terms provided by law of the state from which they shall be appointed. For each state there shall be on the commission a member representing the state health department, a member representing the state water pollution control board (if such exists), and, except where a state in its enabling legislation decides that the best interests of the state will be otherwise served, a member representing municipal interests, a member representing industrial interests, and a member representing an agency acting for fisheries or conservation.



#### ARTICLE IV

The commission shall annually elect from its members a chairman and vice-chairman and shall appoint and at its pleasure remove or discharge such officers. It may appoint and employ a secretary who shall be a professional engineer versed in water pollution and may employ such stenographic or clerical employees as shall be necessary, and at its pleasure remove or discharge such employees. It shall adopt a seal and suitable by-laws and shall promulgate rules and regulations for its management and control. It may maintain an office for the transaction of its business and may meet at any time or place within the signatory states. Meetings shall be held at least twice each year. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but no action of the commission imposing any obligation on any signatory state or on any person, firm or corporation therein shall be binding unless a majority of the members from such signatory state shall have voted in favor thereof. Where meetings are planned to discuss matters relevant to problems of water pollution control affecting only certain of the signatory states, the commission may vote to authorize special meetings of the commissioners of the states especially concerned. The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements and shall make an annual report to the governor and the legislature of each signatory state setting forth in detail the operations and transactions conducted by it pursuant to this compact, and shall make recommendations for any legislative action deemed by it advisable, including amendments to the statutes of the signatory states which may be necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this compact. The commission shall not incur any obligations for salaries, office, administrative, traveling or other expenses prior to the allotment of funds by the signatory states adequate to meet the same; nor shall the commission pledge the credit of any of the signatory states. Each signatory state reserves the right to provide hereafter by law for the examination and audit of the accounts of the commission. The commission shall appoint a treasurer who may be a member of the commission, and disbursements by the commission shall be valid only when authorized by the commission and when vouchers therefor have been signed by the secretary and countersigned by the treasurer. The secretary shall be custodian of the records of the commission with authority to attest to and certify such records or copies thereof.

#### ARTICLE V

It is recognized, owing to such variable factors as location, size, character and flow and the many varied uses of the waters subject to the terms of this compact, that no single standard of sewage and waste treatment and no single standard of quality of receiving waters is practical and that the degree of treatment of sewage and industrial wastes should take into account the classification of the receiving waters according to present and proposed highest use, such as for drinking water supply, industrial and agricultural uses, bathing and other recreational purposes, maintenance and propagation of fish life, shellfish culture, navigation and disposal of wastes.

The commission shall establish reasonable physical, chemical and bacteriological standards of water quality satisfactory for various classifications of use. It is agreed that each of the signatory states through appropriate agencies will prepare a classification of its interstate waters in entirety or by portions according to present and proposed highest use and for this purpose technical experts employed by state departments of health and state water pollution control agencies are authorized to confer on questions relating to classification of interstate waters affecting two or



more states. Each signatory state agrees to submit its classification of its interstate waters to the commission for approval. It is agreed that after such approval, all signatory states through their appropriate state health departments and water pollution control agencies will work to establish programs of treatment of sewage and industrial wastes which will meet standards established by the commission for classified waters. The commission may from time to time make such changes in definitions of classifications and in standards as may be required by changed conditions or as may be necessary for uniformity.

#### ARTICLE VI

Each of the signatory states pledges to provide for the abatement of existing pollution and for the control of future pollution of interstate inland and tidal waters as described in Article I, and to put and maintain the waters thereof in a satisfactory condition consistent with the highest classified use of each body of water.

#### ARTICLE VII

Nothing in this compact shall be construed to repeal or prevent the enactment of any legislation or prevent the enforcement of any requirement by any signatory state imposing any additional condition or restriction to further lessen the pollution of waters within its jurisdiction. Nothing herein contained shall affect or abate any action now pending brought by any governmental board or body created by or existing under any of the signatory states.

#### ARTICLE VIII

The signatory states agree to appropriate for the salaries, office, administrative, travel and other expenses such sum or sums shall be recommended by the commission. The commonwealth of Massachusetts obligates itself only to the extent of sixty-five hundred dollars in any one year, the state of Connecticut only to the extent of three thousand dollars in any one year, the state of Rhode Island only to the extent of fifteen hundred dollars in any one year, and the states of New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont each only to the extent of one thousand dollars in any one year.

#### ARTICLE IX

Should any of part of this compact be held to be contrary to the constitution of any signatory state or of the United States, all other parts thereof shall continue to be in full force and effect.

#### ARTICLE X

The commission is authorized to discuss with appropriate state agencies in New York state questions of pollution of waters which flow into the New England area from New York state or vice versa and to further the establishment of agreements on pollution abatement to promote the interests of the New York and New England areas.

Whenever the commission by majority vote of the members of each signatory state shall have given its approval and the state of New York shall have taken the necessary action to do so, the state of New York shall be a party to this compact for the purpose of controlling and abating the pollution of waterways common to New



York and the New England states signatory to this compact but excluding the waters under the jurisdiction of the Interstate Sanitation Commission (New York, New Jersey and Connecticut).

#### ARTICLE XI

This compact shall become effective immediately upon the adoption of the compact by any two contiguous states of New England but only in so far as applies to those states and upon approval by Federal law. Thereafter upon ratification by other contiguous states, it shall also become effective as to those states.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts by the State Planning Board acting in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 278 of the Acts of the year 1936 and Chapter 421 of the Acts of the year 1947.

s/ ELISABETH M. HERLIHY  
Chairman

et al

\* \* \*

APPROVED:

s/ NATHAN B. BIDWELL  
Assistant Attorney General

For the State of Connecticut (As Authorized by Public Act No. 203-1947).

s/ JAMES L. McCANAUGHY  
Governor

\* \* \*

For the State of Rhode Island (As Authorized by Chapters 1938 and 1910—P.L. 1947).

s/ JOHN O. PASTORE  
Governor



# New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission

## MEMBERSHIP

### CONNECTICUT

STANLEY H. OSBORN, M.D.  
Commissioner of Health

MR. RICHARD MARTIN  
Director, State Water Commission

RUSSELL P. HUNTER, PhD.  
Superintendent, State Board of Fisheries  
and Game

MR. DEXTER D. COFFIN  
President, C. H. Dexter & Sons, Inc.,  
Windsor Locks, Connecticut

MR. BENJAMIN L. BARRINGER  
Attorney  
Brookfield, Connecticut

### MASSACHUSETTS

VLADO A. GETTING, M.D.  
Commissioner, Department of Public  
Health

MR. LEWIS R. HOVEY  
Treasurer, Times Publishing Corp.,  
Beverly, Massachusetts

MR. LAWRENCE K. MILLER  
Editor, Berkshire Eagle, Pittsfield,  
Massachusetts

MR. LEO MARCEAU  
Outside Editor for Springfield News-  
papers and Radio Commentator

MR. ROBERT H. RUSSELL  
Treasurer, J. Russell & Company, Inc.  
Holyoke, Massachusetts

### RHODE ISLAND

MR. WALTER J. SHEA  
Chief Sanitary Engineer, State Depart-  
ment of Health

MR. THOMAS E. HARDING  
City Engineer, City of Pawtucket

MR. ALBERT E. MARSHALL  
President, Rumford Chemical Works,  
Rumford, Rhode Island

MR. ALVAH J. WEBSTER  
Director of State Planning, State Plan-  
ning Board

MR. HAROLD N. GIBBS  
Fish and Wildlife Expert  
Barrington, Rhode Island

### OFFICERS

VLADO A. GETTING, M.D.  
Chairman

MR. BENJAMIN L. BARRINGER  
Vice-Chairman

MR. LEO MARCEAU  
Treasurer

MR. WALTER J. SHEA  
Secretary

## BY-LAWS

(As adopted January 27, 1948)

### ARTICLE I

#### SEAL

Section 1. The seal of the commission shall be a design bearing the coats of arms of the signatory states and bearing the words "New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission—Est. 1947."

### ARTICLE II

#### OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the commission shall consist of a chairman, vice-chairman, and a treasurer. Terms of officers elected by the commission shall be for one year starting July 1 following the date of election. The treasurer shall be bonded in the amount of \$1000. All officers shall serve for a term of one year unless re-elected.

Section 2. Duties of the officers:

- a. *The Chairman.* The chairman shall preside at all meetings and have general supervision over the business and affairs of the commission.
- b. *The Vice-Chairman.* The vice-chairman shall perform the duties of the chairman in the event the office of the chairman is vacant, or in the event that the chairman is unable to perform such duties by reason of illness, disability or absence.
- c. *The Treasurer.* The treasurer shall have the custody of all funds of the commission, under the supervision of the commissioners. He shall prepare the financial reports necessary under the terms of the compact.
- d. *The Secretary.* The secretary, as provided for in Article IV of the compact, shall keep the official records and the seal of the commission and shall certify, when required, to copies of records; and shall, from time to time, perform such other duties as shall be assigned to him by the commission. He shall, subject to the foregoing provisions, be generally in administrative charge of the activities of the commission as shall be designated by them, and he shall report thereon to the chairman.

He shall be bonded in the amount of \$1000. He shall prepare the annual report of the commission pursuant to the orders of the chairman, and such report shall be submitted to the commission for action.

### ARTICLE III

#### OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION

Section 1. Pending the establishment of a permanent office, the office of the commission shall be the office of the secretary of the commission.



## ARTICLE IV

### FISCAL AND OPERATING YEAR

Section 1. The fiscal and operating year of the commission shall end June 30. The annual report shall be submitted to the governors and legislative bodies of the signatory states September 1.

## ARTICLE V

### MEETINGS

Section 1. The annual meeting of the commission for the purpose of electing officers shall be held between April 1 and June 30.

Section 2. Regular meetings of the commission shall be held at times and places to be determined by the commission.

Section 3. The chairman, or in his absence the vice-chairman, may call special meetings of the commission and must do so when requested in writing by any three commissioners.

## ARTICLE VI

### TECHNICAL ADVISORY BOARD

Section 1. There shall be a Technical Advisory Board consisting of the heads of the technical division of the water pollution control agencies of the signatory states, and such other persons as may be appointed by the commission to serve at its will and pleasure.

## ARTICLE VII

### COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES

Section 1. The compensation and expenses of the commission and of the technical advisory board in attending meetings of the commission shall be the responsibility of their respective signatory states.

## ARTICLE VIII

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended at any meeting provided that written notice is given all members of the commission at least five days in advance of such meeting.

## Technical Advisory Board

At the organization meeting of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission held in Boston on November 23, 1947, a technical advisory board was formed pursuant to the provisions of the by-laws.

This board is composed of the following members:

Walter J. Shea, <i>Chairman</i>	Chief, Division of Sanitary Engineering, Rhode Island State Department of Health.
Warren J. Scott	Director, Bureau of Sanitary Engineering, Connecticut State Department of Health.
Arthur D. Weston	Chief Engineer, Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
William S. Wise	Chief Engineer, Connecticut State Water Commission.

---

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### Year Ending June 30, 1948

#### APPROPRIATIONS RECEIVED:

Connecticut .....	\$ 681.82	
Massachusetts .....	1,477.27	
Rhode Island .....	340.91	
	<hr/>	\$2,500.00

#### EXPENDITURES:

None .....		.00
------------	--	-----

BALANCE, June 30, 1948 .....		<hr/> \$2,500.00
------------------------------	--	------------------



## **Standards and Classifications of New England Interstate Streams**

In addition to other assignments, the Technical Advisory Board was directed to prepare standards for water classification and to present classifications of interstate streams coming within the provisions of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Compact.

In carrying out the first step of this assignment, several meetings of the Advisory Board were held and considerable correspondence was conducted among the members of the Board, representatives of the non-member New England states, representatives of the state of New York and experts on fish life, following which the Technical Advisory Board submitted a proposal for water standards at the meeting of the Commission held in Hartford on April 20, 1948.

The standards proposed were formulated in general terms to permit adherence to higher bacteriological requirements possible in and desired by the non-member New England states. In particular application, these standards accord to the several state health departments responsible supervision over the bacteriological content of waters within each state. The Advisory Board is expected to develop an appendix to the standards to define in detail compliance with them.

Standards for the quality of sewage or waste treatment plant effluents have not been adopted because it is recognized in the compact that the required quality of effluents will be determined by the classification given receiving streams. The requirements for the maintenance of a given classification will, in turn, depend upon quantity of wastes discharged, stream flow, and other stream characteristics.

After careful consideration, the Commission tentatively approved the standards as submitted. These standards are shown on the following page.

The New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission directed the Technical Advisory Board to proceed further with studies leading to the classification of interstate streams within the area of its jurisdiction, and a report on this phase of the Board's investigations is awaited.



# **NEW ENGLAND INTERSTATE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL COMMISSION** **Tentative Standards for Water Classification** **(Approved April 20, 1948)**

	CLASS A	CLASS B	CLASS C	CLASS D
	Suitable for public water supply and all other uses. Character uniformly excellent.	Suitable for bathing and recreation; irrigation and agricultural uses; good fish habitat; good aesthetic value. Acceptable for public water supply with filtration and disinfection.	Suitable for recreational boating, irrigation of crops not used for consumption without cooking; habitat for shad and other hardy fish. Acceptable for public water supply only with the highest degree of treatment.	Suitable for transportation of sewage and industrial wastes without nuisance, and for power, navigation and other industrial uses.
Dissolved oxygen	Not less than 75% sat.	Not less than 75% sat.	Not less than 5 p. p. m.	Present at all times
Oil and grease	None	No appreciable amount	Not objectionable	Not objectionable
Odor, scum, floating solids, or debris, except from natural sources	None	None	None	Not objectionable
Sludge deposits	None	None	None	None
Color and turbidity, except from natural sources	None	Not objectionable	Not objectionable	Not objectionable
Taste producing substances	None	None	None	
Substances potentially toxic	None	None	None	
Free acids or alkalies	None	None	None	Not in toxic concentrations or combinations
Coliform bacteria	*Within limits approved by State Department of Health for uses involved.	Bacterial content of bathing waters shall meet limits approved by State Department of Health and acceptability will depend on sanitary survey.	Not in toxic concentrations or combinations	Not in objectionable amounts

\*Sea waters used for the taking of market shellfish shall not have a median coliform content in excess of 70 per 100 ml.  
 NOTE: Waters falling below these descriptions are considered as unsatisfactory and as Class E.



## Federal Legislation Pertaining to Water Pollution Control

Until the enactment of public law 845 by the 80th Congress the Federal government participated in water pollution control only insofar as it regulated pollution of coastal waters by oil and the pollution of navigable waters by substances that impede navigation. But from the fact that there have been water pollution control measures before all but six Congresses since 1897, it will be seen that federal authorities have long since been active in seeking to control pollution at the national level. The enactment of Federal legislation came very close several times in recent years, failing only because of disagreements between the Houses of Congress or by presidential veto because of administrative provisions.

Within the past two years, Congressional interest in pollution control legislation has been especially pronounced, and several bills dealing with the subject have been under consideration by both branches of Congress. During that time numerous meetings were held by various state and interstate agencies, national engineering and health associations in efforts to reach agreement on the type of federal legislation desired to assist in controlling water pollution; and concurrent with the activities of state authorities and other interested agencies, hearings were also held on the several bills before Congress.

The main controversy has been between those who wanted federal action to abate pollution and those who desired water pollution control to remain exclusively under state jurisdiction but favored federal technical and financial assistance. These conflicting views have been compromised in large measure by a water pollution control bill (S-418) which was passed by Congress on June 19 and signed by the President on June 30, 1948.

For convenient reference the following abstract of the federal pollution control act (now Public Law 845, 80th Congress, Chapter 758, 2nd Session) is given below.

### Abstract of Public Law 845

#### WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT

(Passed by Congress June 19, 1948)

(Signed by the President June 30, 1948)

#### *Preamble*

This act declares it to be the policy of Congress to recognize, preserve, and protect the primary rights and responsibilities of the states in controlling water pollution.

#### *General Authority*

The Surgeon General, after careful investigation and in cooperation with state agencies, interstate agencies, and with municipalities and industries, shall prepare or adopt comprehensive programs for eliminating or reducing the pollution of interstate waters and tributaries, and improving the sanitary condition of surface and underground waters. The Surgeon General is authorized to make joint investigations of any waters or sewage discharges with states.

The Surgeon General shall encourage cooperative activities by the states—compacts must be approved by Congress to be binding. He shall support and aid technical research to devise and perfect methods of treatment of industrial wastes not susceptible to known effective methods.



### *Enforcement*

The pollution of interstate waters which endangers the health or welfare of persons in a state other than that in which the discharge originates is declared a public nuisance and is subject to abatement.

The Surgeon General shall give notification to persons responsible for such public nuisance and may outline recommended remedial measures and specify time to obtain abatement. If abatement is not accomplished in time allotted, a second notification is made. If within a reasonable time after the second notification, no action is initiated and the state or interstate agency fails to initiate a suit to secure abatement, the Federal Security Administrator is authorized to call a public hearing before a board of five or more, one of whom shall be a representative of the water pollution agency of the state where the discharge originates. Board to make recommendations to Federal Security Administrator to secure abatement.

After affording the person reasonable opportunity to comply with recommendations of the board, the Federal Security Administrator may with the consent of the water pollution agency of the state in which the matter is discharged, request the Attorney General of the United States to bring suit to secure abatement. Any person alleged to be a contributor to such pollution may be joined as a defendant.

### *Investigation by request*

The Surgeon General may upon request of any state water pollution agency or interstate agency, conduct investigations and research and make surveys concerning any specific problem of water pollution confronting any state, interstate agency, community, municipality, or industrial plant, with a view to recommending a solution of such problem.

### *Loans for construction*

Federal Works Administrator is authorized to make loans to any state, municipality, or interstate agency for the construction of treatment works on interstate waters, and for the preparation of engineering plans.

(a) No loan shall be made unless project is approved by state water pollution agency and by the Surgeon General, and unless such project is included in a comprehensive program developed pursuant to this act.

(b) No loan shall exceed  $33\frac{1}{3}$  per cent of the estimated reasonable cost or in an amount exceeding \$250,000.00, whichever is smaller; every loan shall bear interest at 2 per cent per year, payable semi-annually.

Sum of \$22,500,000.00 is appropriated annually to June 30, 1953, for loans under this act. On population basis, the proportional shares would apply annually:

Connecticut .....	\$274,950
Massachusetts .....	735,975
Rhode Island .....	121,725

### *Grants to states for studies*

There is allotted annually \$1,000,000.00 to state water pollution agencies and interstate agencies for expenditures by them for investigations, research, surveys, and studies related to the prevention and control of pollution caused by industrial wastes. On population basis, the proportional shares would apply annually:

Connecticut .....	\$12,220
Massachusetts .....	32,710
Rhode Island .....	5,410



#### *Federal research facilities*

The sum of \$800,000.00 is appropriated annually for five years to enable the Federal Works Administration to erect, furnish, and equip such buildings at Cincinnati, Ohio, as may be necessary for the use of the Public Health Service in connection with the research and study of water pollution and training of personnel.

#### *Grants for plans of treatment plants*

The sum of \$1,000,000.00 annually is appropriated to the Federal Works Agency to make grants to states, municipalities or interstate agencies to aid in financing engineering studies, plans, etc., preliminary to the construction of projects approved by state water pollution agencies and Surgeon General. Connecticut's share on population basis is \$12,220 annually; Massachusetts' share \$32,710 annually; and Rhode Island's share \$5,410 annually. Grants shall not exceed \$20,000.00 or 33⅓ per cent of cost of engineering, whichever is smaller. (Apparently this applies to pollution abatement on any waters.)

#### *Appropriation for Federal Security Agency and Federal Works Agency*

Federal Security Agency is given \$2,000,000.00 annually to carry out its functions. Federal Works Agency is given \$500,000.00 annually to carry out its functions.

#### *Definition of interstate waters*

The term "interstate waters" means all rivers, lakes, and other waters that flow across, or form a part of, state boundaries.

Unfortunately at the time of the writing of this report no monies were appropriated by the 80th Congress to carry out this act.

## **Summary**

The foregoing describes the activities of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission since the time of its first meeting November 25, 1947, a period of approximately seven months. During this time all the organizational work has been completed, tentative standards of water classification have been adopted, and a beginning made on the classification of interstate waters.

The problem of classifying interstate streams is a knotty one and a large amount of study and discussion between representatives of the states involved will be needed before satisfactory classifications will be developed. When this work is completed, the Commission will be in a position to exert its influence to bring about the improvements necessary to meet the stream classifications adopted.

In view of the new federal legislation just enacted which gives the federal government increased powers in the pollution abatement field and provides for cooperation with interstate agencies, it appears fortunate that New England has inaugurated this regional pollution abatement compact, and it is to be hoped that the remaining three New England states not yet signatory to the compact will shortly become members and that New York state may also participate. These steps will enable New England to unite in a cooperative program with the federal government rather than attempt to work out solutions between individual states and the federal government.

The Commission has operated without a permanent office or staff during this period, utilizing the services of personnel of agencies of the signatory states to perform the detailed work. This procedure was felt to be advisable until the ground work was completed and the Commission was prepared to pursue its objectives on a broad basis. It appears likely that before the beginning of the fiscal year 1949-1950 the Commission will find it necessary to establish a permanent office and staff to manage the many technical and business matters involved in its work.

The temporary office of the Commission is the office of the Secretary, at 335 State Office Building, Providence, Rhode Island.



