



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Woods Hole Group to Provide Peer Review of the Massachusetts Estuaries Project Report on Pleasant Bay System for Orleans.

Falmouth, MA, April 14, 2009—Woods Hole Group, Inc. an international, environmental, scientific, and engineering consulting organization, has been contracted by the Town of Orleans to conduct a peer review of The Massachusetts Estuaries Project Report on the Pleasant Bay System.

Many estuaries in the Commonwealth, including Pleasant Bay in Orleans, have deteriorating water quality due to a variety of factors, including excess nitrogen loading. The Massachusetts Estuaries Project (MEP), a consortium made up of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Towns themselves and UMass Dartmouth's School of Marine Science and Technology (SMAST), seeks to protect any such estuaries by implementing limits on nutrient loading to estuaries.

Woods Hole Group will be responsible for providing a peer review of the MEP water quality report on Pleasant Bay. As part of its comprehensive wastewater planning process, the Town is seeking to understand the degree of accuracy and certainty that may be derived from the MEP reports, the importance of individual components of the report and its analysis, and the overall efficacy of using the report for watershed-based planning.

“The MEP is a great program that offers benefits to many communities,” states Vice President Robert Hamilton. “Our job is not to nit-pick the details of the research conducted by the qualified scientists who performed the work. Rather, our job is to focus on any areas that might have a material impact on Orleans’ wastewater facilities plans. Given the serious financial commitment required to implement the comprehensive waste water plans, this peer review is a responsible step in the overall scientific process.”

For more information, please contact Bob Hamilton, VP for Business Development, at bhamilton@whgrp.com or (508) 540-8080.

Woods Hole Group is an international, environmental, scientific, and engineering consulting organization founded in 1986 and headquartered in Falmouth, Massachusetts. With its breadth of vision and emphasis on a sustainable future global environmental, Woods Hole Group provides premier integrated solutions to meet the challenge of

environmental problems worldwide. As a leader in environmental sciences and engineering, Woods Hole Group's expertise includes coastal sciences, engineering and planning; environmental impact and risk assessment; and oceanographic measurement systems for real-time operational guidance.

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