

Notice of Availability - Draft Environmental Assessment: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Town of Greenville, on behalf of the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC), has completed a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) evaluating the potential environmental impacts of the proposed Spruce Street Infrastructure Improvement Project (the Proposed Action). NEPA requires that federal agencies consider the effects of a proposed action and any reasonable alternatives on the human environment. This Draft EA evaluates the potential impacts that would result from the implementation of the Proposed Action as compared to the No Action alternative.

The Draft EA is available upon request. Please send an email request to nepa@nbrc.gov. The Draft EA will be provided in electronic format unless a hard copy is specifically requested.

Project Title: Spruce Street Infrastructure Improvement Project

Project Proponent: NBRC

Project Location: Greenville, Maine

Purpose of the Proposed Action: The Proposed Action aims to expand public water, sewer, and road infrastructure to address a severe workforce housing shortage in Greenville, Maine. The project will facilitate the development of much-needed housing by providing essential infrastructure to a site that has been identified for workforce housing development for over 15 years. The Town of Greenville, in collaboration with the Northern Forest Center, seeks to eliminate infrastructure barriers and support local employers struggling to attract and retain workers due to the lack of available housing.

Purpose of the Proposed Action: The Proposed Action aims to repurpose the former Great Northern Paper mill site in East Millinocket, Maine, to generate economic revitalization and new employment in a region with high unemployment and a declining population. Key infrastructure improvements include stormwater management upgrades, road improvements, and enhanced perimeter security, which are essential for supporting existing businesses and attracting new enterprises to the area.

Project Description: The Proposed Action involves extending public water and sewer utilities and constructing an 875-foot access road to support future workforce housing development. The project includes installing up to 1,670 feet of water line extensions and 650 to 1,670 feet of sewer line extensions, depending on final site design. Utility lines will be installed within the public right-of-way on Spruce Street and onto the development site. Construction also includes parking areas, sidewalks, and stormwater management systems. Site preparation will involve clearing vegetation from the five-acre lot while maintaining a perimeter buffer. Stormwater treatment, including vegetated underdrained soil filters, will be implemented to manage runoff. Construction is expected to take about six months. The Town of Greenville will own and maintain the new road, while sewer and water infrastructure will be transferred to local utility providers.

Public Comments: NBRC is accepting comments on this Draft EA from March 18, 2025 through the end of the day of April 17, 2025. Comments should be submitted by email to nepa@nbrc.gov or mailed to The Clark Group LLC, 137 Elm Street, Montpelier, VT 05602.

Date of Posting: March 18, 2025