

owned treatment works (POTWs). EPA did not authorize the state to regulate cooling water intake structures under CWA section 316(b) (33 U.S.C. 1326(b)). 66 FR 12792.

2003 Partial Approval of the Program in Indian Territories

On October 31, 2003, EPA approved the State of Maine's application to administer the NPDES program in the Indian territories of the Penobscot Indian Nation and the Passamaquoddy Tribe, with the exception of any discharges that qualified as "internal tribal matters" under MICSA and MIA. 68 FR 65052 (Nov. 18, 2003). This action generally authorized the state to administer the NPDES program in the territories of the two largest Indian tribes in the state, finding that the combination of MICSA and MIA created a unique jurisdictional arrangement that granted the state authority to issue permits to dischargers. EPA did not approve the state's program to regulate two small tribally-owned and operated POTWs. EPA determined that these POTWs qualified as internal tribal matters and, therefore, fell within an enumerated exception to the grant of jurisdiction to the state in MICSA and MIA. EPA did not take action on the state's application as it applied to the territories of the two smaller federally-recognized tribes in the state, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and the Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians. These two tribes are subject to jurisdictional provisions separate from those that apply to the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy tribes. EPA's 2003 action addressed all the Indian territories that included existing point source dischargers covered by the NPDES program.

Appeal and Decision in *Maine v. Johnson*

Several parties petitioned for judicial review of EPA's 2003 decision partially approving Maine's NPDES program in the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Indian territories. The Penobscot Nation and Passamaquoddy Tribe challenged EPA's decision to generally approve the state to administer the program in their territories. The State of Maine and a coalition of public and private NPDES permit holders challenged EPA's decision to disapprove the state's program as to the two small tribal POTWs based on the finding that permitting those discharges qualified as an internal tribal matter.

On August 8, 2007, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit issued its opinion in *Maine v. Johnson*. 498 F.3d 37. The court held that EPA had

correctly determined that MICSA and MIA granted the state sufficient authority to administer the NPDES permit program in the territories of these two tribes. The court disagreed with EPA's finding, however, that permitting the two small tribal POTWs qualified as an internal tribal matter. It found that "[d]ischarging pollutants into navigable waters is not of the same character as tribal elections, tribal membership or other exemplars [of internal tribal matters] that relate to the structure of Indian government or the distribution of tribal property." *Id.* at 46. The court affirmed EPA's approval of Maine's NPDES program, but vacated EPA's decision to withhold program approval with respect to issuing NPDES permits to the two tribal POTWs and remanded the matter back to EPA to amend the program approval consistent with its opinion. *Id.* at 48–49. The court's mandate was issued on October 2, 2007.

Program Approval To Address the Court's Remand

EPA proposed to implement the court's order by modifying its approval of Maine's NPDES program to authorize the State to issue NPDES permits for all discharges within the Indian territories of the Penobscot Nation and Passamaquoddy Tribe. 76 FR 29747 (May 23, 2011). Additionally, the notice stated that EPA does not plan to undertake a case-by-case analysis of any new discharges to determine whether they qualify as internal tribal matters under MICSA and MIA. EPA received no public comments on the record in response to the May 23, 2011 proposal. As a result, the state will assume responsibility from EPA for issuing and administering the permits for the Penobscot Nation Indian Island treatment works (EPA NPDES Permit No. ME 0101311 and MEPDES License No. 2672) and the Passamaquoddy Tribal Council treatment works (EPA NPDES Permit No. 1011773 and MEPDES License No. 2561). Neither tribe has applied to EPA to implement the NPDES permit program, so this action does not address the question of either tribe's authority to implement the program.

The finalization of this action does not modify the types of activities covered by Maine's base program as EPA approved it in 2001. Thus, the state's program does not include regulation of cooling water intake structures under CWA section 316(b). Nor is EPA taking action on Maine's application to implement the NPDES permit program in the territories of the

Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and the Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians.

Authority: This action is taken under the authority of Section 402 of the Clean Water Act as amended, 42 U.S.C. 1342.

Dated: March 28, 2012.

H. Curtis Spalding,

Regional Administrator, Region 1.

[FR Doc. 2012–9450 Filed 4–18–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY: Federal Election Commission.

DATE AND TIME: *Tuesday, April 24, 2012 at 10 a.m.*

PLACE: 999 E Street NW., Washington, DC.

STATUS: This meeting will be closed to the public.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Compliance matters pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437g.

Audits conducted pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437g, 438(b), and Title 26, U.S.C.

Matters concerning participation in civil actions or proceedings or arbitration.

Internal personnel rules and procedures or matters affecting a particular employee.

Investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes, or information which if written would be contained in such records.

Information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to have a considerable adverse effect on the implementation of a proposed Commission action.

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PERSON TO CONTACT FOR INFORMATION:

Judith Ingram, Press Officer. Telephone: (202) 694–1220.

Shawn Woodhead Werth,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2012–9615 Filed 4–17–12; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 6715–01–P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or