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The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

December 18, 2025

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Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Environmental Services to amend an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant (PO# 1091026) to the Town of Walpole, NH (VC# 177271-B001), for the rehabilitation of Walpole Reservoir Dam by reducing the grant limitation by \$300,000 to \$440,400, from \$740,400 and amending the original scope, effective upon Governor and Council approval through July 1, 2026. The original grant was approved by Governor and Executive Council on February 8, 2023, Item #112. This is a grant reduction and scope amendment. 100% Federal Funds.

EXPLANATION

The Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is requesting approval of this amendment to reduce the grant allotment, as the remaining expected costs are significantly less than originally estimated due to a revised project scope. The scope of the project has been modified to focus on permitting and planning activities only, as the original construction phase is no longer feasible within the remaining ARPA grant period.

The Town of Walpole was originally awarded ARPA funding to rehabilitate the Walpole Reservoir Dam, a High Hazard dam currently rated in Poor Condition, which included design, permitting, bidding and construction activities. The revised scope includes completion of dam and wetlands permitting, preparing final design and bid documents based on permit conditions, updates to the Emergency Action Plan (EAP), and other associated eligible project costs. The revised scope ensures the Town will be able to proceed to construction when additional funding becomes available.

To date, \$222,818.61 of the original \$740,400 grant has been spent. The revised project budget is \$440,400. The remaining \$300,000 in unused ARPA funds will be returned to NHDES for reallocation to other eligible projects. This amendment has been approved by the Attorney General's Office as to form, substance and execution.

If federal funds become no longer available, general funds will not be requested to support this program.

We respectfully request your approval of this item.


Robert R. Scott
Commissioner

**AMENDMENT #1
TO
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) GRANT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE
NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
AND
TOWN OF WALPOLE**

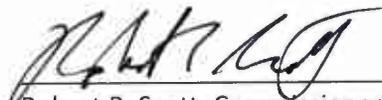
This Agreement (hereinafter called the Amendment) is by and between the State of New Hampshire, acting by and through its Department of Environmental Services (hereinafter referred to as the State), and the Town of Walpole acting by and through its Town Selectboard Chair, Steven Dalessio (hereinafter referred to as the Grantee).

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Agreement (hereinafter called the Agreement) approved by the Governor and Council on February 8, 2023, the Grantee agreed to perform certain services upon the terms and conditions specified in the Agreement and in consideration of payment by the State of certain sums as specified therein; and

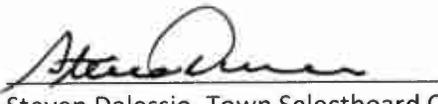
WHEREAS, The Grantee and the State have agreed to amend the Agreement in certain respects;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, and the covenants and conditions contained in the Agreement and set forth herein, the parties hereto do hereby agree as follows:

1. Amendment and Modification of Agreement: The Agreement is hereby amended as follows:
 - (A) The Grant Limitation as set forth in sub-paragraph 1.8 of the Agreement shall be reduced to \$440,400, from \$740,400.
 - (B) The grant award as set forth in the third paragraph of Exhibit C shall be reduced to \$440,400, from \$740,000.
 - (C) Delete Exhibit B and replace with Exhibit B – Amendment 1. Exhibit B – Amendment 1 is attached hereto and incorporated into this amendment and agreement by reference.
2. Effective Date of Amendment: This Amendment shall take effect upon the date of approval of this Amendment by the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire.
3. Continuance of Agreement: Except as specifically amended and modified by the terms and conditions of this Amendment, the Agreement, and the obligations of the parties thereunder, shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth therein.



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner Date
Department of Environmental Services



Steven Dalessio, Town Selectboard Chair Date
Town of Walpole



Assistant Attorney General Date
Department of Justice
(as to form, substance, and execution)

TOWN OF WALPOLE
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) GRANT
EXHIBIT B – AMENDMENT 1
SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Town of Walpole will use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funds for the rehabilitation of the Walpole Reservoir Dam, a High Hazard Dam. The project will be carried out in accordance with current dam safety requirements and regulatory standards. Grant funds will support engineering and permitting activities necessary to advance the project through design and regulatory approval stages.

The revised scope of work includes the following key tasks:

- Wetland delineation and classification as necessary for permitting.
- Geotechnical evaluation, including subsurface investigations and stability analyses.
- Hydrology and hydraulics analysis, including breach modeling and updates to meet regulatory requirements.
- Preliminary and design development phases, including engineering design of selected alternatives.
- NHDES wetlands and dam permitting, including a mitigation fee for potential in-lieu mitigation through the Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) Fund.
- Response to NHDES comments on wetlands and dam permitting.
- Preparation of construction plans and specifications.
- Preparation of final construction cost opinion.
- Updates to the Emergency Action Plan to reflect proposed conditions.
- Development of an Operation and Maintenance Manual for the rehabilitated dam.
- Ongoing coordination with the client and NHDES throughout the design and permitting process.

Note: Construction and bid administration are not included in the current scope or cost estimate. Construction administration and contractor costs have been removed from the budget at this stage.

As a condition of ARPA funding, the Town of Walpole is responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations, including those governing dam construction and reconstruction under Chapter Env-Wr 400. The Town must also obtain all necessary permits and approvals for the project.

Additionally, the Town will be required to provide periodic progress updates and submit a final project report upon completion of the funded scope.

This Agreement consists of all documents found in Item 112 approved by the Governor and Council on February 8, 2023, which are all incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein.



CERTIFICATE OF VOTE OF AUTHORIZATION GRANTS ONLY



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

A Certificate of Vote of Authorization is a certificate that states that a grant applicant is willing to enter into a grant agreement with the State of NH Department of Environmental Services and that whoever signs the Grant Agreement (provided under separate cover) has the authority to do so. The Certificate must be signed and notarized on the same date as, or within 30 days of, the Grant Agreement signature. This is a three-person form: Person Completing this Form, Authorized Representative, and a Public Notary.

- Completed and signed by someone other than the person being given authority.
Must be notarized.
Original is required for submittal.

Certificate of Vote of Authorization

Town of Walpole
34 Elm Street, PO Box 729, Walpole, NH 03608

I, Meghan Hansson of the Town of Walpole do hereby certify that at a meeting held on 12/11/2025, the Selectboard voted to enter into a American Rescue Plan Act Fund (ARPA) grant agreement with the New Hampshire Department Environmental Services to fund a Dam improvement project.

The Town of Walpole further authorized Steven Dalessio, Chair of the Selectboard, to execute any documents which may be necessary to effectuate this grant agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand as Town Clerk of the Town of Walpole, the 11th day of December, 2025.

Meghan Hansson Signature: [Handwritten Signature]
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, County of Cheshire

On this 11th day of December 2025, Sarah E. Downing, before me (Notary Public) the undersigned Officer, personally appeared. Meghan Hansson, who acknowledged herself to be the Town Clerk of the Town of Walpole, being authorized so to do, execute the foregoing instrument for the purpose therein contained.

In witness thereof, I have set my hand and official seal.

Notary Public Sarah E Downing My commission expires: September 15, 2026

[Handwritten Signature: Sarah E Downing]



www.des.nh.gov

29 Hazen Drive • PO Box 95 • Concord, NH 03302-0095
(603) 271-3503 • TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964



CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE

The New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange (Primex³) is organized under the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, Chapter 5-B, Pooled Risk Management Programs. In accordance with those statutes, its Trust Agreement and bylaws, Primex³ is authorized to provide pooled risk management programs established for the benefit of political subdivisions in the State of New Hampshire.

Each member of Primex³ is entitled to the categories of coverage set forth below. In addition, Primex³ may extend the same coverage to non-members. However, any coverage extended to a non-member is subject to all of the terms, conditions, exclusions, amendments, rules, policies and procedures that are applicable to the members of Primex³, including but not limited to the final and binding resolution of all claims and coverage disputes before the Primex³ Board of Trustees. The Additional Covered Party's per occurrence limit shall be deemed included in the Member's per occurrence limit, and therefore shall reduce the Member's limit of liability as set forth by the Coverage Documents and Declarations. The limit shown may have been reduced by claims paid on behalf of the member. General Liability coverage is limited to Coverage A (Personal Injury Liability) and Coverage B (Property Damage Liability) only, Coverage's C (Public Officials Errors and Omissions), D (Unfair Employment Practices), E (Employee Benefit Liability) and F (Educator's Legal Liability Claims-Made Coverage) are excluded from this provision of coverage.

The below named entity is a member in good standing of the New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange. The coverage provided may, however, be revised at any time by the actions of Primex³. As of the date this certificate is issued, the information set out below accurately reflects the categories of coverage established for the current coverage year.

This Certificate is issued as a matter of information only and confers no rights upon the certificate holder. This certificate does not amend, extend, or alter the coverage afforded by the coverage categories listed below.

<i>Participating Member:</i>		<i>Member Number:</i>	<i>Company Affording Coverage:</i>		
Town of Walpole 34 Elm Street PO Box 729 Walpole, NH 03608		316	NH Public Risk Management Exchange - Primex ³ PO Box 23 Hooksett, NH 03106-9716		
Type of Coverage		Effective Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Limits - NH Statutory Limits May Apply, If Not:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	General Liability (Occurrence Form)	1/1/2026	1/1/2027	Each Occurrence	\$ 2,000,000
<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional Liability (describe)			General Aggregate	\$ 10,000,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Claims Made <input type="checkbox"/> Occurrence				Fire Damage (Any one fire)	
				Med Exp (Any one person)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Automobile Liability	1/1/2026	1/1/2027	Combined Single Limit (Each Accident)	\$ 2,000,000
Deductible Comp and Coll: \$1,000				Aggregate	\$ 10,000,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Any auto					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Workers' Compensation & Employers' Liability	1/1/2026	1/1/2027	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory	
				Each Accident	\$ 2,000,000
				Disease – Each Employee	\$ 2,000,000
				Disease – Policy Limit	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Property (Special Risk includes Fire and Theft)	1/1/2026	1/1/2027	Blanket Limit, Replacement Cost (unless otherwise stated)	Deductible: \$1,000

Description: Proof of Primex Member coverage only. Pollution and hazardous waste related liabilities, expenses and claims are excluded from coverage in the coverage document.

CERTIFICATE HOLDER:	Additional Covered Party	Loss Payee	Primex³ – NH Public Risk Management Exchange
			By: <i>Mary Beth Purcell</i>
State of NH, Department of Environmental Services 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95 Concord, NH 03302-0095			Date: 12/3/2025 mpurcell@nhprimex.org
			Please direct inquires to: Primex³ Claims/Coverage Services 603-225-2841 phone 603-228-3833 fax



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

January 13, 2023

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

APPROVED G & C

DATE 8 February 2023

ITEM # 112

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Environmental Services to award a grant to the Town of Walpole, NH (VC# 177271-B001) in an amount not to exceed \$740,400 for the rehabilitation of Walpole Reservoir Dam, effective upon Governor & Council approval through July 1, 2026. 100% Federal Funds.

Funding is available in the following account:

03-44-44-440010-2657-072-500574
Dept Environmental Services, ARPA DES Dams, Grants Federal
Activity Code: 00FRF602GS4402B

FY 2023
\$740,400

EXPLANATION

NHDES is requesting approval to enter into a grant agreement using American Rescue Plan Act 2021 (ARPA) funds with the Town of Walpole. The town will use the grant funding to rehabilitate Walpole Reservoir Dam, a dam that is classified as a High Hazard because its failure would likely result in loss of life downstream. The dam is also currently rated in Poor Condition because it does not have sufficient discharge capacity to safely pass the design flood for a High Hazard dam.

ARPA is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill passed by the 117th United States Congress and signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, to speed up the United States' recovery from the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant recession. The Act defines eligible uses of the state and local funding, including responding to public health emergencies, responding to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 emergency, providing revenue relief to states and making investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure. This is an allowable use of ARPA FRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(D) to make necessary investments in general government services.

NHDES established a dam rehabilitation/removal grant program for municipally owned High Hazard dams in Poor or Unsatisfactory condition. The goal of the grant program is to assist municipalities in achieving compliance with current state dam safety standards and reduce or eliminate risk to lives and property within inundated areas downstream of those dams. A portion of the grant award may be used

to fund non-construction related activities including, among others, engineering and design, permitting, bidding/construction contract services, and project management and reporting.

NHDES selected awardees for the dam rehabilitation/removal grants from applicants with municipally owned High Hazard dams that are considered to be in Poor or Unsatisfactory condition. Eligible applications, submitted by municipalities, were reviewed and ranked by a NHDES review committee utilizing evaluation criteria that included the downstream population and infrastructure at risk if the dam were to fail, the benefits of the impoundment that would be lost if the dam were to fail, the current condition of the dam, and the ability of the municipality to obligate and expend the grant funds within the deadlines established under ARPA. NHDES intends to fund all nine of the qualifying applications received. See Attachment A for the list of projects.

In the event federal funds become no longer available, general funds will not be requested to support this program. This grant agreement has been approved by the Attorney General's Office as to form, substance, and execution.

We respectfully request your approval of this item.



Robert R. Scott
Commissioner