

**TOWN OF MARSHFIELD
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

Village of Marshfield
P.O. Box 244 Marshfield, VT 05658

CONDITIONAL USE / SITE PLAN APPROVAL

The Village of Marshfield, through its trustees (hereafter "Applicants"), seeks Conditional Use and Site Plan approval to install and operate a water filtration system at the location of their water supply facility on Folsom Hill Road. Public hearing was held by the Marshfield Development Review Board (hereafter "DRB"), after due notice, on January 18, 2007. The Applicants were represented at hearing by trustees Arthur Gilman and Bruce Hayden, and by Kevin Camara and Wayne Elliott of the engineering firm of Forcier Aldrich & Associates. Also attending and being heard were Zoning Administrator Robert Light, Gordon Durkee, and Tim Booth

Proposal Details

The system the Applicants wish to install is for the purpose of filtering uranium from the Village water supply, bringing its levels below both the Federal and State limits for uranium in drinking water. A small addition will be constructed on the existing utility building. All water from the well at this location will be directed through filters housed in this addition. Periodically, the filtering medium must be flushed, and the accumulated uranium, suspended in the water used for flushing, is eventually directed to a new leach field on the site. Details of this system are given on site plan drawings prepared by Forcier Aldrich, dated September 2006.

By the testimony of the Applicants, high levels of uranium in drinking water poses a threat of organ failure in those who are exposed for many years. This is a result of uranium's status as a heavy metal, and is not a direct result of its natural radioactivity. According to the Applicants, and the engineers in their employ, the ongoing leaching of uranium contaminated water into the ground does not pose a threat for increased levels of radioactivity over time, and there are no governmental enforcement standards for the control of radioactivity in the use of this type of filtration system.

Approval and Conditions

The Marshfield Development Review Board recognizes that being able to bring potable water to the residents of Marshfield Village is a pressing concern for our Town, and hereby grants Site Plan and Conditional Use approval for the project as presented at Public Hearing and in the application materials submitted. Beyond the environmental considerations (see below), this proposal calls for no change to the lighting, traffic circulation, or any other aspect of the operation of this facility as it exists now. There are no further conditions placed upon this approval, beyond those zoning regulations that apply to any development in the Agricultural and Rural Residential zoning district.

There has been no information presented that gives us reason to believe there will be any environmental consequences to the operation of this facility. This assurance notwithstanding, we believe that it will be in the direct interest of the Town of Marshfield, through its representatives, to periodically evaluate this operation in the years to come, to be certain that there is, in fact, no significant increase in levels of radioactivity resulting from the disposal of uranium at the site.

The foregoing Approval is the unanimous decision of the Development Review Board.

Dated Marshfield, Vermont, this 23rd day of January, 2007.

For the Marshfield Development Review Board:

Thomas T. Daley