



**STATE OF MINNESOTA
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
MAJORS AND REMEDIATION**

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM
(NPDES) AND
STATE DISPOSAL SYSTEM (SDS) PERMIT MN 0024538**

Public Comment Period Begins: February 9, 2004

Public Comment Period Ends: March 10, 2004

Current SDS Permit Issued: August 19, 1994

Current SDS Permit Expiration Date: June 31(sic), 1999

Name and Address of Permittee:

The City of Princeton
City Hall
705 Second Street North
Princeton, Mille Lacs & Sherburne Counties,
Minnesota 55371-1550

Facility Name and Location:

Princeton Municipal Wastewater Treatment
Facility
100 Pond Road
Princeton and Baldwin Township, Sherburne
County, Minnesota

**Proposed Receiving Waters: Rum River, Outstanding Resource Value Water Restricted
Reach, Class 2B, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5 & 6 waters**

Description of Permitted Facility

The city of Princeton currently operates a municipal Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) designed to treat an average wet weather flow of 635,000 gallons per day. The existing treatment system is an activated sludge plant designed for operation in an extended aeration mode. The plant has a dual oxidation ditch system which provides twenty-four hours of detention time. The entire system consists of three fine static screens, a splitter box, two oxidation ditches, a diversion structure, two final clarifiers, and two sludge storage tanks. The treated effluent is discharged to the city's old two-cell stabilization pond system which was reclassified as Rapid Infiltration Basins (RIBs). The first cell is 46 acres and the second cell is approximately 20 acres. The current permitted system does not have a point source discharge to waters of the state. Biosolids are land applied.

The city of Princeton is proposing major changes for the wastewater treatment process, including an increase to design capacity and a surface water discharge location. The proposed facility upgrade/expansion will be designed to treat an average wet weather flow of 1.905 million gallons per day (MGD) with a 5-day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅) concentration of 293 milligrams per liter (mg/L), a Total Suspended Solids (TSS) concentration of 307 mg/L, a Total Phosphorus concentration of 8 mg/L and an Ammonia Nitrogen concentration of 25 mg/L. The proposed system will consist of an upgraded pump station, a third and fourth oxidation ditch with biological phosphorus removal capability, and UV disinfection equipment.

Upon completion of construction of the upgraded/expanded facility, the Permittee proposes a continuous discharge (SD001) to the Rum River (Classes 2B, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 waters). This reach of the Rum River was designated an Outstanding Resource Value Water – Restricted (ORVW) on November 5, 1984. In accordance with MPCA rules regarding nondegradation for ORVWs, the discharge shall be restricted to the extent necessary to preserve the existing high quality, or to the extent possible, preserve the scenic characteristics that make the water an outstanding resource value water.

Preliminary Determination on the Draft Permit

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has made a preliminary determination to issue this NPDES/SDS permit.

A draft permit and Statement of Basis which provides the rationale and legal considerations for permit conditions and effluent limitations are available for review at the MPCA office at the St. Paul address listed below, and at the MPCA regional office located at 1800 College Road South, Baxter, Minnesota, 56425, (218) 828-2492, and may be copied between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. A copy of the draft permit will be mailed to you if the MPCA receives your written or oral request at either of these offices. If you have questions on this draft permit or the MPCA's preliminary determination, please contact Deborah Schumann at (651) 297-5791.

Written Comments

You may submit written comments on the conditions of the draft permit or on the MPCA's preliminary determination.

Written comments must include the following:

1. A statement of your interest in the permit application or the draft permit;
2. A statement of the action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to sections of the draft permit that you believe should be changed; and
3. The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of your position.

Petition for Public Informational Meeting

You also may request that the MPCA hold a public informational meeting. A public informational meeting is an informal meeting that the MPCA may hold to solicit public comment and statements on matters before the MPCA, and to help clarify and resolve issues.

A petition requesting a public informational meeting must include the following information:

1. A statement identifying the matter of concern;
2. The information required under items 1 through 3 of "Written Comments," identified above;
3. A statement of the reasons the MPCA should hold a public informational meeting; and
4. The issues that you would like the MPCA to address at the public informational meeting.

Petition for Contested Case Hearing

You also may submit a petition for a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a formal evidentiary hearing before an administrative law judge. In accordance with Minn. R. 7000.1900, the MPCA will grant a petition to hold a contested case hearing if it finds that: (1) there is a material issue of fact in dispute concerning the application or draft permit; (2) the MPCA has the jurisdiction to make a determination on the disputed material issue of fact; and (3) there is a reasonable basis underlying the disputed material issue of fact or facts such that the holding of the contested case hearing would allow the introduction of information that would aid the MPCA in resolving the disputed facts in making a final decision on the draft permit. A material issue of fact means a fact question, as distinguished from a policy question, whose resolution could have a direct bearing on a final MPCA decision.

A petition for a contested case hearing must include the following information:

1. A statement of reasons or proposed findings supporting the MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing according to the criteria in Minn. R. 7000.1900, as discussed above; and
2. A statement of the issues proposed to be addressed by a contested case hearing and the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter.

In addition and to the extent known, a petition for a contested case hearing should also include the following information:

1. A proposed list of prospective witnesses to be called, including experts, with a brief description of proposed testimony or summary of evidence to be presented at a contested case hearing;
2. A proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced and relied upon at a contested case hearing; and
3. An estimate of time required for you to present the matter at a contested case hearing.

MPCA Decision

You may submit a petition requesting that the MPCA Citizens' Board consider the permit issuance. To be considered timely, the petition must be received by the MPCA by 4:30 p.m. on the date the public comment period ends, identified on page 1 of this notice. Under the provisions of Minn. Stat. §. 116.02, subd 6(4), the decision whether to issue the permit and, if so, under what terms will be presented to the Board for decision if: (1) the MPCA grants the petition requesting the matter be presented to the Board; (2) one or more Board members request to hear the matter before the time the MPCA makes a final decision on the permit; or (3) a timely request for a contested case hearing is pending. You may participate in the activities of the MPCA Board as provided in Minn. R. 7000.0650.

PLEASE NOTE: Presently, any request for the Board to decide permit issuance or permit terms will automatically be granted by the Commissioner. Because of her prior employment with an NPDES permit holder, the federal Clean Water Act requires the Commissioner to abstain from being the final decision-maker on NPDES permits for a two-year period. Consequently, the Board will be the final decision-maker regarding NPDES permits until January 6, 2005.

The written comments, requests, and petitions received on or before 4:30 p.m. the last day of the public comment period will be considered in the final decision on this permit. If the MPCA does not receive written comments, requests, or petitions during the public comment period, the MPCA will make the final decision on the draft permit.

Comments, petitions, and/or requests must be received in writing on or before 4:30 p.m. on the end date of the public comment period identified on page 1 of this notice to:

Deborah A. Schumann,
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194

Facility and Proposed Discharge Locations



PROPOSED DISCHARGE
SD 001