

December 20, 2002

TO: INTERESTED PARTIES

RE: City of Cold Spring Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion

Enclosed is the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the proposed city of Cold Spring Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion, Stearns County. The EAW was prepared by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and is being distributed for a 30-day review and comment period pursuant to the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) rules. The comment period will begin the day the EAW availability notice is published in the EQB Monitor, which will likely occur in the December 23, 2002, issue.

Comments received on the EAW will be used by the MPCA in evaluating the potential for significant environmental effects from this project and deciding on the need for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

A final decision on the need for an EIS will be made by the MPCA Commissioner after the end of the comment period. If a request for an EIS is received during the comment period, or if the Commissioner recommends the preparation of an EIS, the MPCA Citizens' Board (Board) will make the final decision. The final EIS need decision will also be made by the Board if so requested by the project proposer, other interested parties or MPCA staff and if this request is agreed to by one or more members of the Board or the MPCA Commissioner. The Board meets once a month, usually the fourth Tuesday of each month, at the MPCA office in St. Paul. Meetings are open to the public and interested persons may offer testimony on Board agenda items. A listing of Board members is available on request by calling (651) 296-7306.

Please note that comment letters submitted to the MPCA do become public documents and will be part of the official public record for this project.

If you have any questions on the EAW, please contact Barbara Conti of my staff at (651) 296-6703.

Sincerely,

Beth G. Lockwood
Supervisor, Environmental Review Unit
Operations and Environmental Review Section
Regional Environmental Management Division

BGL:sjs

Enclosure

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

Note to reviewers: The Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) provides information about a project that may have the potential for significant environmental effects. This EAW was prepared by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), acting as the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU), to determine whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be prepared. The project proposer supplied reasonably accessible data for, but did not complete the final worksheet. Comments on the EAW must be submitted to the MPCA during the 30-day comment period which begins with notice of the availability of the EAW in the *Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Monitor*. Comments on the EAW should address the accuracy and completeness of information, potential impacts that are reasonably expected to occur that warrant further investigation, and the need for an EIS. A copy of the EAW may be obtained from the MPCA by calling (651) 296-7398. An electronic version of the completed EAW is available at the MPCA Web site <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html#open-eaw>.

1. Project Title: <u>City of Cold Spring Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Expansion</u>	
2. Proposer: <u>City of Cold Spring</u>	3. RGU: <u>Minnesota Pollution Control Agency</u>
Contact Person <u>Larry Lahr</u>	Contact Person <u>Barbara Jean Conti</u>
and Title <u>City Administrator</u>	and Title <u>Project Manager</u>
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4. Reason for EAW Preparation:

EIS	Mandatory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Citizen	RGU	Proposer
Scoping	EAW	<input type="checkbox"/>	Petition	Discretion	Volunteered

If EAW or EIS is mandatory give EQB rule category subpart number and name: Minn. R. part 4410.4300, subpart 18B

5a. Project Location (WWTF):	County	<u>Stearns</u>	City/Twp	<u>Cold Spring</u>
<u>SW</u> 1/4 <u>SE</u> 1/4	Section	<u>14</u>	Township	<u>T123N</u>
			Range	<u>R30W</u>
5b. Project Location (outfall):	County	<u>Stearns</u>	City/Twp	<u>Cold Spring</u>
<u>NE</u> 1/4 <u>SE</u> 1/4	Section	<u>14</u>	Township	<u>T123N</u>
			Range	<u>R30W</u>

Note: The expanded service area includes portions of Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 17, 20, 21, 28, and 29 in Rockville (T123N, R29W).

Attachments

1. Exhibit 1. County Area Maps;
2. Exhibit 2. USGS Quad Map;
3. Exhibit 3. WWTF Site Plan;
4. Exhibit 4. Service Area Map;
5. Exhibit 5. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Natural Heritage Database Review Letter and Fish and Wildlife Service letter; and
6. Exhibit 6. Minnesota Historical Society letter.

6. Description:

- a. Provide a project summary of 50 words or less to be published in the *EQB Monitor*.

The city of Cold Spring (City) proposes to upgrade and expand its wastewater treatment plant. The average wet weather design flow would increase to 1.79 million gallons per day (MGD) from 0.71 MGD. The upgrades would consist of a new activated waste biosolids (sludge) treatment system and ultraviolet (UV) disinfection systems. A phosphorus limit of 1 milligrams per liter (mg/L) and seasonal ammonia limits of 3 mg/L in summer and 5 mg/L in winter would apply.

- b. Give a complete description of the proposed project and related new construction. Attach additional sheets as necessary. Emphasize construction, operation methods and features that will cause physical manipulation of the environment or will produce wastes. Include modifications to existing equipment or industrial processes and significant demolition, removal or remodeling of existing structures. Indicate the timing and duration of construction activities.

Background:

The existing WWTF was originally constructed in 1963. It was expanded in 1990. The current average wet weather design flow (AWWDF) of the WWTF is 0.71 MGD. The system currently serves the cities of Cold Spring and Rockville. Population forecasts indicate that the current capacity of the existing WWTF could be exceeded in the next two to three years.

The existing WWTF consists of a micro bar screen, aerated grit chamber, two 1.1 million gallon flow equalization basins, two primary settling tanks, one plastic media trickling filter, one coarse bubble aerated solids contact tank (mixes the trickling filter effluent with sludge from the final settling tanks to promote settling characteristics), two final settling tanks, and a chlorine contact chamber for disinfection. The treated wastewater is dechlorinated using sulfur dioxide dechlorination. The treated and dechlorinated wastewater is discharged continuously to the Sauk River downstream of the Horseshoe Chain of Lakes.

Sludge is stabilized in one primary anaerobic digester and one secondary anaerobic digester. The digested material moves to two screw sludge dewatering presses and then is disposed of by land application.

Proposed Project:

The City proposes to increase the WWTF to an AWWDF of 1.79 MGD. The expansion would provide future capacity for expected growth. Additionally, the service area will be expanded to include unsewered sites within the expanded city limits of the City of Rockville. Central collection and treatment of wastewater will replace septic tank systems within Rockville that were formerly the city of Pleasant Lake and parts of Rockville Township, (see Exhibit 4).

The proposed project would add chemical phosphorus removal to the existing WWTF. The project would also add a second activated sludge wing with biological phosphorus removal (with chemical phosphorus removal as back up) and ammonia removal. A new effluent UV disinfection system would provide year-around disinfection. The new activated sludge wastewater treatment system would operate in parallel with the existing treatment system. The two systems would share common pretreatment and disinfection. The proposed construction would be within the property boundaries at the existing WWTF site. No new property acquisition is needed by the City to construct the project. Exhibit 3 shows a site plan with the existing equipment and proposed changes.

The WWTF would continue to produce sludge from the treatment systems. Biosolids would continue to be treated by the existing anaerobic digesters and hauled twice per year to approved land disposal sites in accordance with federal regulations.

The new Grand Lake service area includes 185 existing residences and several small commercial uses. The proposed collection (sewer) system would likely be a combined gravity and pressure system. The gravity system would be along 230th Street and on County Road 8 to the new TH 23 alignment. A pressure system would be around Grand Lake, consisting of individual grinder stations that convey wastewater from the individual residences to the forcemain. The proposed flow to the WWTF from this area would be 46,300 GPD at domestic strength and does not include any significant additional growth.

The new Pleasant Lake service area includes 186 residences and one commercial property. Proposed growth in the Pleasant Lake area over the 20-year planning period is estimated to be 214 additional single-family residences. The total contribution from 400 residences to the WWTF would be 100,000 GPD. The collection system would most likely be a pressure system, similar to the pressure system in the Grand Lake area.

Construction is expected to begin in spring, 2003, and would last approximately 18 months.

- c. Explain the project purpose; if the project will be carried out by a governmental unit, explain the need for the project and identify its beneficiaries.

The purpose of the project is to provide wastewater treatment service to existing and new development in the City and surrounding areas, and to protect water quality in Pleasant Lake, Grand Lake, the Sauk River, and downstream waters. Failing septic systems would be replaced with central treatment. The project is to be administered, owned, and operated by the City, but would provide service to residents in the newly expanded areas of the city of Rockville (formerly the city of Pleasant Lake and parts of Rockville Township).

- d. Are future stages of this development including development on any outlots planned or likely to happen?

Yes No

If yes, briefly describe future stages, relationship to present project, timeline and plans for environmental review.

e. Is this project a subsequent stage of an earlier project? Yes No
 If yes, briefly describe the past development, timeline and any past environmental review.

7. Project Magnitude Data

Total Project Area (acres) _____ 3* _____ or Length (miles) _____

Number of Residential Units: Unattached _____ Attached _____ maximum units per building _____

Commercial/Industrial/Institutional Building Area (gross floor space): total square feet _____

Indicate area of specific uses (in square feet):

Office	_____ N/A	Manufacturing	_____ N/A
Retail	_____ N/A	Other Industrial	_____ N/A
Warehouse	_____ N/A	Institutional	_____ N/A
Light Industrial	_____ N/A	Agricultural	_____ N/A
Other Commercial (specify)	_____ N/A		

Building height _____ If over 2 stories, compare to heights of nearby buildings _____

*While the total WWTF property is approximately 3 acres, construction is expected only on approximately one acre.

8. Permits and approvals required. List all known local, state and federal permits, approvals and financial assistance for the project. Include modifications of any existing permits, governmental review of plans, and all direct and indirect forms of public financial assistance including bond guarantees, Tax Increment Financing and infrastructure.

Unit of Government	Type of Application	Status
MPCA	Plans and Specifications Approval	Pending
MPCA	Facility Plan Approval	Approved
MPCA	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System (NPDES/SDS) Discharge Permit (WWTF Operating Permit)	Application submitted
MPCA	NPDES Construction Storm Water General Permit	To be applied for, if needed
Public Facilities Authority	Funding	Pending
Mn/DOT	Utility permit to work in State right-of way	To be applied for, if needed
Stearns County	Utility permit to work in road right-of-way	To be applied for, if needed

9. Land use. Describe current and recent past land use and development on the site and on adjacent lands. Discuss project compatibility with adjacent and nearby land uses. Indicate whether any potential conflicts involve environmental matters. Identify any potential environmental hazards due to past site uses, such as soil contamination or abandoned storage tanks, or proximity to nearby hazardous liquid or gas pipelines.

There are no known environmental concerns regarding past land use such as underground or above-ground petroleum storage tanks and unpermitted fill or dumping. There are no currently known environmental contamination issues in the area of proposed construction.

The WWTF expansion is to be constructed on land that is neither wetland or known to have other environmental concerns. The area is prone to high groundwater when the adjacent Sauk River is high, but all construction is to be done above the elevation of normal groundwater.

In its first several years of operation after the upgrade, the plant would serve existing residences and businesses, some of whom are currently connected to the existing system. Approximately 600 residences currently served by on-site septic systems would be connected to the Cold Spring system after the upgrade. Exhibit 4 shows the proposed collection system routes, which would primarily be along existing roadways.

10. Cover Types. Estimate the acreage of the site with each of the following cover types before and after development:

	Before	After		Before	After
Types 1-8 wetlands	<u>N/A</u>	<u> </u>	Lawn/landscaping	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
Wooded/forest	<u>N/A</u>	<u> </u>	Impervious Surfaces	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Brush/grassland	<u>N/A</u>	<u> </u>	Other (See below)	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Cropland	<u>N/A</u>	<u> </u>			
			TOTAL	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

“Other” refers to structures such as open and enclosed tanks.

11. Fish, Wildlife, and Ecologically Sensitive Resources.

- a. Identify fish and wildlife resources and habitats on or near the site and describe how they would be affected by the project. Describe any measures to be taken to minimize or avoid impacts.

No significant or long-term impacts to fish and wildlife resources are expected as a result of the project. The Sauk River is a recreational waterway with recreational value, including fishing. Animals dwell in the flood plain of the river adjacent to the WWTF site. The WWTF site is and would continue to be fenced. The effluent limits of the expanded discharge were established in part to protect aquatic life in the Sauk River from toxicity and/or oxygen depletion, as discussed in Item 18.

- b. Are any state (endangered or threatened) species, rare plant communities or other sensitive ecological resources such as native prairie habitat, colonial waterbird nesting colonies or regionally rare plant communities on or near the site? Yes No

If yes, describe the resource and how it would be affected by the project. Indicate if a site survey of the resources has been conducted and describe the results. If the DNR Natural Heritage and Nongame Research program has been contacted give the correspondence reference number. ERDB 20030138
Describe measures to minimize or avoid adverse impacts.

The DNR Natural Heritage Database review found 6 occurrences of rare species or natural communities in the area searched (Exhibit 5). These included red-shouldered hawk, prairies, and lowland hardwood forest. The DNR indicated in its letter that it does not believe that the proposed project would affect any known occurrences of rare features, based on the nature and location of the project.

- 12. Physical Impacts on Water Resources.** Will the project involve the physical or hydrologic alteration (dredging, filling, stream diversion, outfall structure, diking, and impoundment) of any surface waters such as a lake, pond, wetland, stream or drainage ditch? Yes No
If yes, identify water resource affected. Describe alternatives considered and proposed mitigation measures to minimize impacts. Give the DNR Protected Waters Inventory (PWI) number(s) if the water resources affected are on the PWI.

No changes are proposed to the outfall structure.

- 13. Water Use.** Will the project involve installation or abandonment of any water wells, connection to or changes in any public water supply or appropriation of any ground or surface water (including dewatering)? Yes No
If yes, as applicable, give location and purpose of any new wells; public supply affected, changes to be made, and water quantities to be used; the source, duration, quantity and purpose of any appropriations; and unique well numbers and DNR appropriation permit numbers, if known. Identify any existing and new wells on the site map. If there are no wells known on site, explain methodology used to determine.

A private well, used exclusively for treatment plant operations, would be abandoned in accordance with public health standards. The site would be served by City water in the future.

The need for temporary or permanent groundwater dewatering is not expected. The depth of the proposed tanks was established on the basis of high groundwater and to avoid construction or permanent dewatering.

- 14. Water-related land use management districts.** Does any part of the project involve a shoreland zoning district, a delineated 100-year flood plain, or a state or federally designated wild or scenic river land use district? Yes No
If yes, identify the district and discuss project compatibility with district land use restrictions.

None identified.

- 15. Water Surface Use.** Will the project change the number or type of watercraft on any water body? Yes No
If yes, indicate the current and projected watercraft usage and discuss any potential overcrowding or conflicts with other uses.

- 16. Erosion and Sedimentation.** Give the acreage to be graded or excavated and the cubic yards of soil to be

moved: 1 acres; 100,000 cubic yards. Describe any steep slopes or highly erodible soils and identify them on the site map. Describe any erosion and sedimentation control measures to be used during and after project construction.

Erosion control will be maintained throughout project construction at the WWTF site and along the collection system routes. Hay bales and silt fences will be employed. After construction is complete, final grading will be controlled to minimize scouring and erosion from runoff. Disturbed areas of the WWTF site will be either seeded or sodded.

Best management practices to control erosion and sedimentation will be employed. Erosion of soils subject to wind erosion will be minimized by watering practices intended to minimize dust during construction. Silt fences and bale checks will minimize water erosion. Re-establishment of disturbed areas will occur upon completion of construction in each segment. Wood fiber blankets will be used on steep slopes to provide a stable substrate for vegetation re-establishment.

17. Water Quality – Surface Water Runoff.

- a. Compare the quantity and quality of site runoff before and after the project. Describe permanent controls to manage or treat runoff. Describe any storm water pollution prevention plans.

All areas disturbed by construction will be returned to pre-construction conditions. Construction site best management practices will be employed for managing and treating site runoff during construction. No significant short-term or long-term impacts are expected. After the construction, there will be no net change in paved surface area on the site as the new tanks will have open tops and would retain rain water.

- b. Identify routes and receiving water bodies for runoff from the site; include major downstream water bodies as well as the immediate receiving waters. Estimate impact runoff on the quality of receiving waters.

No significant impacts to surface waters due to runoff are anticipated as a result of the proposed project. The volume of runoff and rate of runoff would be slightly reduced from current levels as the new tanks will have open tops and would retain rain water. At the WWTF site, runoff would be diverted to the Sauk River. The Sauk River drains into the Mississippi River at St Cloud.

Enabled Development:

Some growth and development would be enabled within the service area that could cause increases in impervious surfaces. Increases in impervious surfaces result in an increase in the amount of precipitation that will run off into surface waters. Storm water runoff can transport a host of pollutants to surface water, causing degradation of water quality and aquatic habitats. In addition, an increase in impervious surfaces can also decrease the amount of precipitation infiltrating into the soil and ultimately recharging the area aquifers.

18. Water Quality – Wastewater.

- a. Describe sources, composition and quantities of all sanitary, municipal and industrial wastewater produced or treated at the site.

The proposed expanded and upgraded WWTF would have an AWWDF of 1.79 MGD when operating at full capacity. The wastewater would be a combination of industrial, commercial, and residential wastewaters. It is estimated that $\frac{3}{4}$ of the total flow would be from residential sources. The City has approximately 3,000 people and Rockville has approximately 700 residents. Clusters of populations are around area lakes, many of which currently have on-site septic systems.

There are no significant industrial dischargers of high-strength wastes or toxic materials to the City's WWTF. The expanded WWTF would accept only sanitary, non-process wastewater from Gold-n-Plump Foods. Gold-n-Plump will continue to treat its own process wastewater separately. Gluek Brewery also discharges to the City's WWTF. The combined wastewaters would be similar in strength and other respects to typical residential wastewater.

The WWTF will continue to discharge to the Sauk River downstream from the Horseshoe Chain of Lakes. The Sauk River is not a listed water in Minn. R. 7050.0470, subpart 4 (the list of classified waters in the Upper Mississippi River drainage basin). Under Minn. R. 7050.0430, such "unlisted" waters are classified as 2B (Aquatic Life and Recreation), 3B (Industrial Consumption), 4A (Crop Irrigation), 4B (Livestock and Wildlife Watering), 5 (Aesthetic Enjoyment and Navigation), and 6 (Other Uses) waters. The quality of such a water should permit the propagation and maintenance of a healthy community of cool or warm water fish and their related habitat. These waters should also be safe for direct body contact. However, this reach of the Sauk River is listed on the 1998 303(d) list of non-attainment waters for mercury based on fish consumption advice. The Sauk River discharges to the Mississippi River at St. Cloud. The Mississippi River below St. Cloud is a designated Outstanding Resource Value Water.

The wastewater would be treated to quality levels appropriate for protection of the Sauk River and downstream water bodies. Treated wastewater would be discharged on a continuous basis. The proposed discharge limits established by the MPCA according to its Non-degradation Review are listed below. The MPCA requires a nondegradation review whenever a WWTF expansion exceeds 200,000 gallons per day and results in an increase in pollutant loadings to surface water, compared to the pollutant loading allowed as of January 1, 1988. A nondegradation review was completed for conventional pollutants since there would be an increase in loadings of some pollutants as a result of the expansion.

Because of the proximity of the proposed expanded City discharge to the existing Gold-n-Plump Poultry discharge, the two discharges were treated as one in determining an ammonia-nitrogen toxicity and dissolved oxygen impacts.

The proposed permit limits for the expanded WWTF are as follows:

- Five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand: 15 mg/L;
- Total suspended solids (TSS): 30 mg/L;
- Fecal coliform organisms: 200 organisms per 100 milliliters year around;
- Ammonia-nitrogen:
 - 3 mg/L (June-September)
 - 14 mg/L (October-November)
 - 5 mg/L ammonia (December-March);
- pH: range of 6.0 to 9.0;

- Phosphorus: 1.0 mg/L as a 12-month running average;
- Minimum Dissolved Oxygen: 6.0 mg/L (June-March);
- Maximum total residual chlorine: 0.038 mg/L if the effluent is chlorinated;
- Phosphorus Management Plan – Plan B; and
- Whole Effluent Toxicity monitoring to begin after construction is complete.

The City volunteered for a total phosphorus effluent limit of 1 mg/L in an October 8, 2002 letter from the City's consulting engineer. The letter indicates that the TSS loading associated with the phosphorus limit will be maintained at current levels. A wastewater treatment plant that nitrifies (ammonia limit) and is designed to remove phosphorus, removes more solids than a treatment plant that is not designed to remove phosphorus. TSS loading is directly related to mercury loading, and if TSS is held to existing levels, then the mercury load is not increased. Nondegradation requirements are not triggered and mercury effluent limits are not justified. The determination of the need for future mercury effluent limits will be completed after monitoring data has been collected in the reissued permit.

- b. Describe waste treatment methods or pollution prevention efforts and give estimates of composition after treatment. Identify receiving waters, including major downstream water bodies, and estimate the discharge impact on the quality of receiving waters. If the project involves on-site sewage systems, discuss the suitability of site conditions for such systems.

The downstream water bodies into which the Sauk River drains would benefit from reduced phosphorus loadings. The WWTF would remove phosphorus down to a level of 1.0 mg/L (12-month running average). The phosphorus-reduction process for the new wastewater treatment system is biological with chemical addition as back up. The phosphorus-reduction process for the existing equipment will be with chemical addition.

The WWTF would disinfect effluent with UV light on a year around basis to protect water quality in the Mississippi River where the city of St. Cloud draws its water for public supply. The plant currently disinfects year round with chlorine. UV light is to be used in the future for reasons of cost, safety, and water quality concerns about chlorine residuals.

- c. If wastes will be discharged into a publicly owned treatment facility, identify the facility, describe any pretreatment provisions and discuss the facility's ability to handle the volume and composition of wastes, identifying any improvements necessary.

The WWTF would receive and treat wastewater.

- d. If the project requires disposal of liquid animal manure, describe disposal technique and location and discuss capacity to handle the volume and composition of manure. Identify any improvements necessary. Describe any required setbacks for land disposal systems.

N/A

19. Geologic hazards and soil conditions.

- a. Approximate depth (in feet) to Ground water: 8 to 10 minimum; 15 average.
Bedrock: 15 minimum; 30 average.

Describe any of the following geologic site hazards to ground water and also identify them on the site map: sinkholes, shallow limestone formations or karst conditions. Describe measures to avoid or minimize environmental problems due to any of these hazards.

None identified.

- b. Describe the soils on the site, giving SCS classifications, if known. Discuss soil granularity and potential for groundwater contamination from wastes or chemicals spread or spilled onto the soils. Discuss any mitigation measures to prevent such contamination.

The following soil types are in the project area.

SP/SW Sand, with gravel, medium grained

SP/SM Sand, with gravel, fine grained

SW/SM Sand with silt

SC Clayey sand

The potential for groundwater contamination from the proposed new WWTF equipment is low. The proposed new treatment tanks would be made of concrete or have a concrete floor. The new tanks are to be tested with clean water prior to being placed into service. The clean water levels are monitored over a length of time to insure there are no leaks. Tanks are to be reinforced concrete with internal coatings.

20. Solid Wastes, Hazardous Wastes, Storage Tanks.

- a. Describe types, amounts and compositions of solid or hazardous wastes, including solid animal manure, sludge and ash, produced during construction and operation. Identify method and location of disposal. For projects generating municipal solid waste, indicate if there is a source separation plan; describe how the project will be modified for recycling. If hazardous waste is generated, indicate if there is a hazardous waste minimization plan and routine hazardous waste reduction assessments.

Wastewater sludge generated at the WWTF would be treated on-site to meet Federal and State regulatory requirements for quality and handling. The wastewater treatment process includes settling the sludge. Sludge is stabilized in one primary anaerobic digester and one secondary anaerobic digester. The digested material moves to two screw sludge dewatering presses and then is disposed of by land application.

The on-land disposal would meet quality limits for pathogens and vector attraction. A Class B biosolid would be produced, which complies with Federal and State regulations. The WWTF would use an anaerobic digestion process to meet these quality limits. Also, the WWTF would include a 6-month storage tank so that on-land sludge disposal can be limited to periods of the year where soil incorporation is possible.

Grit and screenings from the pretreatment of influent would be washed, dried, and hauled to an approved sanitary landfill.

- b. Identify any toxic or hazardous materials to be used or present at the site and identify measures to be

used to prevent them from contaminating groundwater. If the use of toxic or hazardous materials will lead to a regulated waste, discharge or emission, discuss any alternatives considered to minimize or eliminate the waste, discharge or emission.

Fuel oils, generally associated with construction equipment, would be present on site. Routine inspections of the construction equipment and of any storage areas would verify that petroleum product leakage does not occur.

The proposed project would allow the WWTF to discontinue the use of chlorine.

- c. Indicate the number, location, size and use of any above or below ground tanks to store petroleum products or other materials, except water. Describe any emergency response containment plans.

A new 900,000 gallon sludge storage tank is to be constructed on site. The tank is above-grade and constructed of glass-lined steel walls and a reinforced concrete floor. The tank is tested for watertightness before put in use.

The treatment process tanks and structures are to be constructed of reinforced concrete and/or concrete masonry block. Many of the structures would be built below-grade, requiring several site excavations. Average excavation depth would be 5 to 10 feet.

- 21. Traffic.** Parking spaces added: 0 Existing spaces (if project involves expansion): 6
Estimated total average daily traffic generated: 7 Estimated maximum peak hour traffic generated (if known) and its timing: 4 Provide an estimate of the impact on traffic congestion affected roads and describe any traffic improvements necessary. If the project is within the Twin Cities metropolitan area, discuss its impact on the regional transportation system.

Temporary impacts from installing the collection system in the road rights-of-way may disrupt the flow of traffic. Conditions are expected to return to normal once construction is completed.

No permanent significant changes or impacts on traffic are expected. The treatment plant has 2 entrances. The driveway on the site will be moved slightly; however, the road to the plant site is unaffected by the project.

- 22. Vehicle-related Air Emissions.** Estimate the effect of the project's traffic generation on air quality, including carbon monoxide levels. Discuss the effect of traffic improvements or other mitigation measures on air quality impacts. Note: If the project involves 500 or more parking spaces, consult *EAW Guidelines* about whether a detailed air quality analysis is needed.

This project does not involve vehicle-related emissions, other than temporary emissions during construction.

- 23. Stationary Source Air Emissions.** Describe the type, sources, quantities and compositions of any emissions from stationary sources of air emissions such as boilers, exhaust stacks or fugitive dust sources. Include any hazardous air pollutants (consult *EAW Guidelines* for a listing), any greenhouse gases (such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxides), and ozone-depleting chemicals (chlorofluorocarbons, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons or sulfur hexafluoride). Also describe any proposed pollution prevention techniques and proposed air pollution control devices. Describe the impacts on air quality.

N/A

24. Odors, noise and dust. Will the project generate odors, noise or dust during construction or during operation? Yes No
If yes, describe sources, characteristics, duration, quantities or intensity and any proposed measures to mitigate adverse impacts. Also identify locations of nearby sensitive receptors and estimate impacts on them. Discuss potential impacts on human health or quality of life. (Note: fugitive dust generated by operations may be discussed at item 23 instead of here.)

Dust and noise would be generated during construction at both the WWTF site and for sewer construction. Dust and noise would be controlled to the extent possible. Water would be used as a dust suppressant. Noise would be limited to normal working hours. Weekend and holiday work would be discouraged.

Odors from the existing WWTF facility have not been reported to the MPCA. Significant odors are not expected from the expansion.

25. Nearby resources. Are any of the following resources on or in proximity to the site?

- a. Archaeological, historical, or architectural resources? Yes No
- b. Prime or unique farmlands or land within an agricultural preserve? Yes No
- c. Designated parks, recreation areas, or trails? Yes No
- d. Scenic views and vistas? Yes No
- e. Other unique resources? Yes No

If yes, describe the resource and identify any project-related impacts on the resources. Describe any measures to minimize or avoid adverse impacts.

26. Visual impacts. Will the project create adverse visual impacts during construction or operation? Such as glare from intense lights, lights visible in wilderness areas and large visible plumes from cooling towers or exhaust stacks? Yes No
If yes, explain.

27. Compatibility with plans and land use regulations. Is the project subject to an adopted local comprehensive plan, land use plan or regulation, or other applicable land use, water, or resource management plan of a local, regional, state or federal agency? Yes No
If yes, describe the plan, discuss its compatibility with the project and explain how any conflicts will be resolved. If no, explain.

The plan is consistent with the City's comprehensive plan. There are no known conflicts.

28. Impact on infrastructure and public services. Will new or expanded utilities, roads, other infrastructure or public services be required to serve the project? Yes No
If yes, describe the new or additional infrastructure or services needed. (Note: any infrastructure that is a connected action with respect to the project must be assessed in the EAW; see *EAW Guidelines* for details.)

The facilities constructed in this project are to serve existing and new development and to protect water quality in the Sauk River. New development would be in accordance with current zoning and land use requirements. Other utilities and infrastructure not part of this project would be required to serve any new development, such as streets, electric, natural gas, and water. These utilities would be constructed in conjunction with the developments they serve in accordance with State and local codes and ordinances, including ordinances addressing runoff and storm water management.

29. Cumulative impacts. Minn. R. 4410.1700, subp. 7, item B requires that the RGU consider the “cumulative potential effects of related or anticipated future projects” when determining the need for an environmental impact statement. Identify any past, present or reasonably foreseeable future projects that may interact with the project described in this EAW in such a way as to cause cumulative impacts. Describe the nature of the cumulative impacts and summarize any other available information relevant to determining whether there is potential for significant environmental effects due to cumulative impacts (or discuss each cumulative impact under appropriate item(s) elsewhere on this form).

As noted in Item 18, cumulative impacts with the Gold-n-Plump Poultry discharge were considered in establishing proposed permit limits.

The City will install a collection sewer to serve the homes in the service area that currently have septic systems.

30. Other Potential Environmental Impacts. If the project may cause any adverse environmental impacts not addressed by items 1 to 28, identify and discuss them here, along with any proposed mitigation.

No additional items.

31. Summary of issues. List any impacts and issues identified above that may require further investigation before the project is begun. Discuss any alternatives or mitigative measures that have been or may be considered for these impacts and issues, including those that have been or may be ordered as permit conditions.

Disposal and treatment alternatives considered for the proposed project but that were not selected are listed below. The project proposer is not required to evaluate alternatives in the EAW.

Treatment Alternative:

- Trickling filters only – Less effective for biological phosphorus removal.

Disposal Alternatives:

- Zero or low impact disposal – The need to recycle treated wastewater to alleviate water shortages was not present.
- On-land or sub-surface discharge – Economically unfeasible to acquire large discharge areas and associated piping.
- On-land intermittent discharge – Economically unfeasible to build a large storage volume.
- Surface water intermittent discharge – Construction of a stabilization pond would require the City to acquire a large site.

RGU CERTIFICATION.

I hereby certify that:

- The information contained in this document is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- The city of Cold Spring Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion EAW describes the complete project; there are no other projects, stages or components other than those described in this document, which are related to the project as connected actions or phased actions, as defined at Minn. R. 4410.0200, subps. 9b and 60, respectively.
- Copies of this EAW are being sent to the entire EQB distribution list.

Name and Title of Signer:

**Beth G. Lockwood, District Planning Supervisor
Operations and Planning Section; North, South, and Metro Districts**

Date:

The format of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet was prepared by the staff of the Environmental Quality Board at Minnesota Planning. For additional information, worksheets or for *EAW Guidelines*, contact: Environmental Quality Board, 658 Cedar St., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-296-8253, or at their Web site <http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us>.