



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency**Municipal Division****State Disposal System (SDS) Permit MN0065960**

PERMITTEE: NSU IM MN LLC
FACILITY NAME: Rivercrest Farms Wastewater Treatment Facility

CITY : Big Lake **COUNTY:** Sherburne
ISSUANCE DATE: **EXPIRATION DATE:**

The state of Minnesota, on behalf of its citizens through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), authorizes the Permittee to operate a disposal system at the facility named above, in accordance with the requirements of this permit.

The goal of this permit is to reduce pollutant levels in point source discharges and protect water quality in accordance with Minnesota and US statutes and rules, including Minn. Stat. chs. 115 and 116, Minn. R. chs. 7001, 7050, 7053, 7060, and the US Clean Water Act.

This permit is effective on the issuance date identified above, and supersedes the previous permit that was issued for this facility on March 30, 2007. This permit expires at midnight on the expiration date identified above.

Signature: _____
 Ronald R. Swenson *for* The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
 Supervisor, North Central Regional and SSTS C&E Unit
 Brainerd Office
 Municipal Division

Submit DMRs to:

Attention: Discharge Monitoring Reports
 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
 520 Lafayette Rd N
 St Paul, MN 55155-4194

Submit Other WQ Reports to:

Attention: WQ Submittals Center
 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
 520 Lafayette Rd N
 St Paul, MN 55155

Questions on this permit?

- For DMR and other permit reporting issues, contact:
Jennifer Satnik, 651-757-2692.
- For specific permit requirements or permit compliance status, contact:
Kaitlin Boutelle, 651-757-2306.
- General permit or NPDES program questions, contact:
MPCA, 651-282-6143 or 1-800-657-3938.

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Facility Description

The Rivercrest Farms Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility) is located in the SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 33 North, Range 27 West, Big Lake, Sherburne County, Minnesota. This is a Class D Facility.

Major components of the Facility include:

- 2 Septic Tanks (Existing)
- 2 Pumping (Lift) Stations (Existing)
- 2 Subsurface Mounds (Existing)

The application and plans indicate that the proposed project will be to construct a wastewater treatment system for a 91 single family residential home development located in Big Lake Township, Sherburne County. The existing treatment system consist of a lift station, two raw sewage manholes, two 13,000-gallon septic tanks, two 6,000-gallon dosing tanks each with dual pumps, and two pressure drainfield areas that each have three distribution zones. The drainfields cover a total of 38,500 square feet for final effluent disposal. Three monitoring wells are installed to measure local groundwater levels and sample the groundwater. The installed average wet weather design capacity of the system is 23,000 gpd which includes the flow for 46 homes. The treatment system was approved to be completed in multiple phases with a final installed capacity of 45,000 gpd. Due to elevated nitrogen in the groundwater monitoring well additional phases of this project must address nitrogen before construction can begin.

The treatment system is also designed to treat an average influent five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) strength of 215 milligrams per Liter (mg/L) and a total suspended solids (TSS) concentration of 240 mg/L, measured at the average wet weather flow.

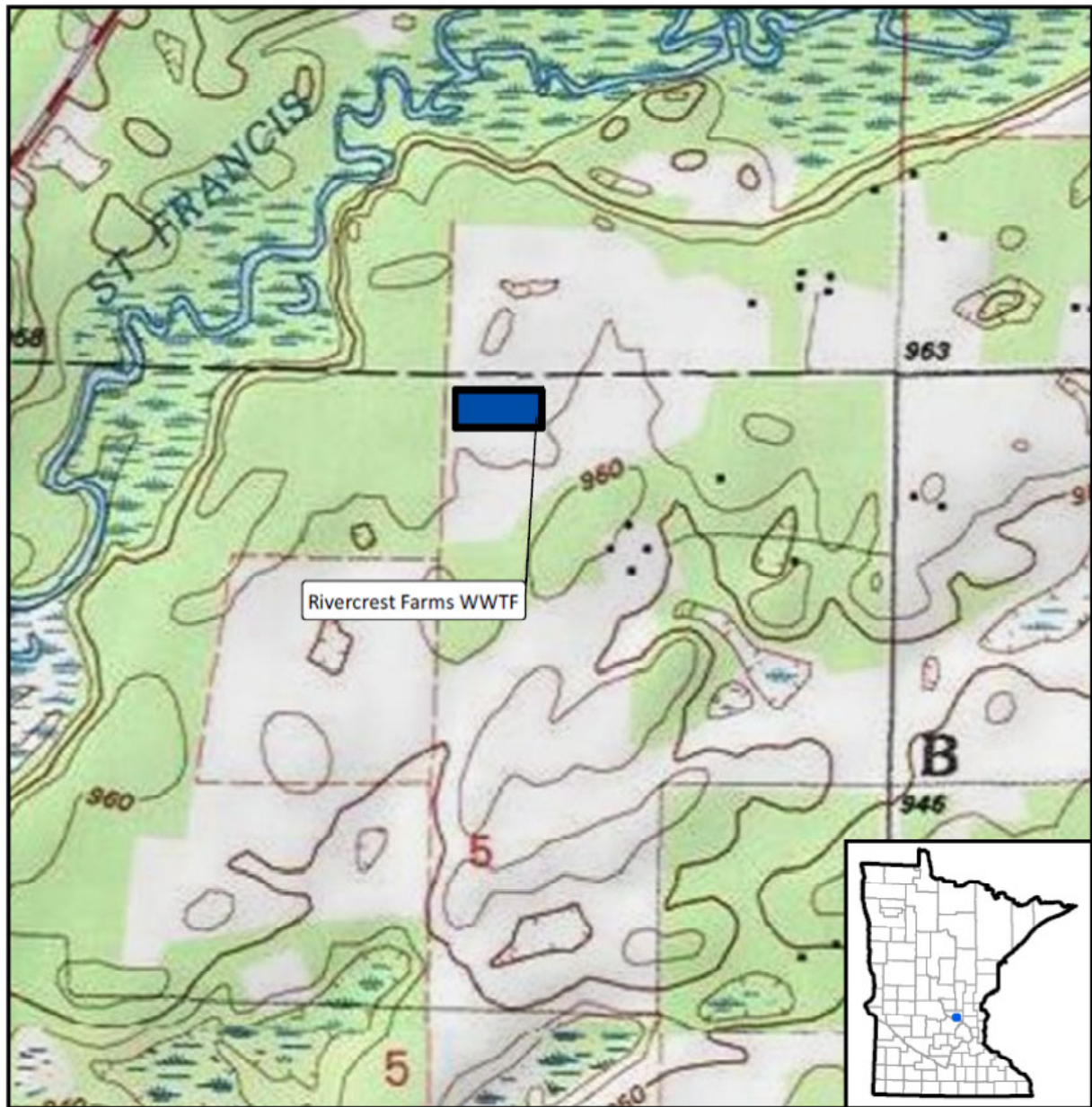
The system is further described in plans and specifications on file with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and in an engineering report prepared by North American Wetland Engineering, P.A., Forest Lake, Minnesota.

The location of the facility is shown on the "Topographic Map of Permitted Facility" (page 4).

The location of designated monitoring stations is specified on the "Summary of Stations" (page 5).

Topographic Map of Permitted Facility

MN0065960: Rivercrest Farms Wastewater Treatment Facility
T33N, R27W, Section 5
Big Lake, Sherburne County, Minnesota



Map produced by: MPCA Staff, 7/24/12
Source: USGS Quad
Scale: 1:10,000

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Ground Water Stations

<u>Station</u>	<u>Type of Station</u>	<u>Local Name</u>	<u>PLS Location</u>
GW001	Well, Downgradient	GW-001	NW Quarter of the NE Quarter of Section 5, Township 33 North, Range 27 West
GW002	Well, Upgradient	GW-002	NW Quarter of the NE Quarter of Section 5, Township 33 North, Range 27 West
GW004	Well, Downgradient	GW-004	SE Quarter of the NW Quarter of Section 5, Township 33 North, Range 27 West

Waste Stream Stations

<u>Station</u>	<u>Type of Station</u>	<u>Local Name</u>	<u>PLS Location</u>
WS001	Influent Waste	Raw Sewage Manhole Phase 1 & 2	NW Quarter of the NE Quarter of Section 5, Township 33 North, Range 27 West
WS002	Internal Waste Stream	Septic Tank Phase 1	NW Quarter of the NE Quarter of Section 5, Township 33 North, Range 27 West
WS003	Internal Waste Stream	Septic Tank Phase 2	SE Quarter of the NW Quarter of Section 5, Township 33 North, Range 27 West
WS004	Internal Waste Stream	Distribution Manhole Phase 1	SE Quarter of the NW Quarter of Section 5, Township 33 North, Range 27 West
WS005	Internal Waste Stream	Distribution Manhole Phase 2	SE Quarter of the NW Quarter of Section 5, Township 33 North, Range 27 West

Rivercrest Farms WWTF

Limits and Monitoring Requirements

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The Permittee shall comply with the limits and monitoring requirements as specified below.

GW 001, GW 004

Parameter	Limit	Units	Limit Type	Effective Period	Sample Type	Frequency	Notes
Chloride, Total	Monitor Only	mg/L	Instantaneous Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
Elevation of GW Relative to Mean Sea Level	Monitor Only	feet	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Measurement, Instantaneous	1 x Month	
Nitrite Plus Nitrate, Total (as N)	10	mg/L	Instantaneous Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
Nitrogen, Ammonia, Total (as N)	Monitor Only	mg/L	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
Nitrogen, Kjeldahl, Total	Monitor Only	mg/L	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
pH, Field	Monitor Only	SU	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
pH, Field	Monitor Only	SU	Calendar Month Minimum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
Specific Conductance, Field	Monitor Only	umh/cm	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
Temperature, Water (C)	Monitor Only	Deg C	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	

GW 002

Parameter	Limit	Units	Limit Type	Effective Period	Sample Type	Frequency	Notes
Chloride, Total	Monitor Only	mg/L	Instantaneous Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
Elevation of GW Relative to Mean Sea Level	Monitor Only	feet	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Measurement, Instantaneous	1 x Month	
Nitrite Plus Nitrate, Total (as N)	Monitor Only	mg/L	Instantaneous Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
Nitrogen, Ammonia, Total (as N)	Monitor Only	mg/L	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
Nitrogen, Kjeldahl, Total	Monitor Only	mg/L	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
pH, Field	Monitor Only	SU	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
pH, Field	Monitor Only	SU	Calendar Month Minimum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
Specific Conductance, Field	Monitor Only	umh/cm	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	
Temperature, Water (C)	Monitor Only	Deg C	Calendar Month Maximum	Apr, Jul, Oct	Grab	1 x Month	

WS 001

Parameter	Limit	Units	Limit Type	Effective Period	Sample Type	Frequency	Notes
BOD, Carbonaceous 05 Day (20 Deg C)	Monitor Only	mg/L	Calendar Month Average	Jan-Dec	Grab	1 x Month	
Flow	Monitor Only	mgd	Calendar Month Average	Jan-Dec	Measurement, Continuous	1 x Day	
Flow	Monitor Only	MG	Calendar Month Total	Jan-Dec	Measurement, Continuous	1 x Day	
Flow	Monitor Only	mgd	Daily Maximum	Jan-Dec	Measurement, Continuous	1 x Day	

Rivercrest Farms WWTF
Limits and Monitoring Requirements

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The Permittee shall comply with the limits and monitoring requirements as specified below.

WS 001

Parameter	Limit	Units	Limit Type	Effective Period	Sample Type	Frequency	Notes
pH	Monitor Only	SU	Calendar Month Maximum	Jan-Dec	Grab	1 x Month	1
pH	Monitor Only	SU	Calendar Month Minimum	Jan-Dec	Grab	1 x Month	1
Precipitation	Monitor Only	in	Calendar Month Total	Jan-Dec	Measurement	1 x Day	
Solids, Total Suspended (TSS)	Monitor Only	mg/L	Calendar Month Average	Jan-Dec	Grab	1 x Month	

WS 002, WS 003

Parameter	Limit	Units	Limit Type	Effective Period	Sample Type	Frequency	Notes
Remaining Scum Capacity	Monitor Only	in	Calendar Quarter Maximum	Jan-Dec	Measurement	1 x Quarter	
Remaining Sludge Capacity	Monitor Only	in	Calendar Quarter Maximum	Jan-Dec	Measurement	1 x Quarter	
Scum Depth, Maximum of Sample	Monitor Only	in	Calendar Quarter Maximum	Jan-Dec	Measurement	1 x Quarter	
Sludge Depth, Maximum of Sample	Monitor Only	in	Calendar Quarter Maximum	Jan-Dec	Measurement	1 x Quarter	

WS 004, WS 005

Parameter	Limit	Units	Limit Type	Effective Period	Sample Type	Frequency	Notes
BOD, Carbonaceous 05 Day (20 Deg C)	Monitor Only	mg/L	Calendar Quarter Average	Jan-Dec	Grab	1 x Quarter	
Chloride, Total	Monitor Only	mg/L	Calendar Quarter Average	Jan-Dec	Grab	1 x Quarter	
Nitrogen, Total (as N)	Monitor Only	mg/L	Calendar Quarter Average	Jan-Dec	Grab	1 x Quarter	2
Solids, Total Suspended (TSS)	Monitor Only	mg/L	Calendar Quarter Average	Jan-Dec	Grab	1 x Quarter	

Notes:

1 -- Analyze immediately. Except weekends or holidays. This means within 15 minutes or less of sample collection.

2 -- Total Nitrogen is the sum of nitrate (NO₃), nitrite (NO₂), organic nitrogen and ammonia (all expressed as N). Note that for analysis purposes, Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN) is a test performed that is made up of both organic nitrogen and ammonia.

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Chapter 1. Special Requirements

1. Special Requirements

- 1.1 The Permittee shall submit an update to the Nitrogen Mitigation Plan submitted March 17, 2011. This update will be submitted for approval to the MPCA within 180 days of permit issuance. This update shall expand the current Nitrogen Mitigation Plan in the event that the current operations are unsuccessful at meeting permit limits for groundwater.
- 1.2 The Permittee shall submit a updated Final O & M Manual Certificate of Completion Form within 180 days of permit issuance.
- 1.3 Prior to the development of the 47th lot, the Permittee shall submit to the MPCA Plans and Specifications for the next phases of the development's wastewater treatment facility. These plans and specifications shall follow the current Large Subsurface Treatment System guidance. The document is located at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/view-document.html?gid=5179>.

Chapter 2. Domestic Wastewater -- Large Subsurface Treatment System (LSTS)

1. Unauthorized Discharge

- 1.1 There shall be no unauthorized discharge to the ground surface or surface water from these facilities.

2. Prohibitions

- 2.1 The Permittee shall prevent the discharge of any wastes other than sewage into any component of the facility, including septic tanks, advanced treatment systems, and soil treatment systems that could result in damage to the treatment facility or inhibit treatment unless the discharge of such other substances is specifically approved in writing by the MPCA.

3. Sanitary Sewer Extension Permit

- 3.1 The Permittee may be required to obtain a Sanitary Sewer Extension Permit from the MPCA for any addition, extension or replacement to the sanitary sewer. If a sewer extension permit is required, construction may not begin until plans and specifications have been submitted and a written permit is granted except as allowed in Minn. Stat. 115.07, Subd. 3(b).

4. Operator Certification

- 4.1 The Permittee shall provide a Class D state certified operator who is in direct responsible charge of the operation, maintenance and testing functions required to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit. (Minnesota Statutes, section 115.72)
- 4.2 The certified operator shall also become certified as a Service Provider within two years of permit issuance. Copies of the certificate of attendance and the exam results indicating a passing score shall be submitted to the agency within 2.5 years after permit issuance. Equivalent training may be allowed but must be pre-approved by the MPCA.
- 4.3 Within 2.5 years of permit issuance, submit a copy of the Service Provider's Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) Individual Certification Card displaying the Certification Number to the MPCA, Attn: WQ Submittals Center.
- 4.4 If the Permittee chooses to meet operator certification requirements through a contractual agreement, the Permittee shall provide a copy of the contract to the MPCA, WQ Submittals Center. The contract shall include the certified operator's name, certificate number, company name if appropriate, the period covered by the contract and provisions for renewal; the duties and responsibilities of the certified operator; the duties and responsibilities of the permittee; and provisions for notifying the MPCA 30 days in advance of termination if the contract is terminated prior to the expiration date.

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Chapter 2. Domestic Wastewater -- Large Subsurface Treatment System (LSTS)

4. Operator Certification

- 4.5 The Permittee shall notify the MPCA in writing within 30 days of a change in operator certification or contract status. Mail changes to: Operator Certification, 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55155-4194.

5. Special Requirements

Special Condition - Update O & M Manual

- 5.1 The Permittee is required to have on-site and available an updated Operation and Maintenance manual. This manual must be available to MPCA staff upon request.

6. Facility Maintenance

- 6.1 The facility shall be adequately protected to prevent damage.

7. Collection System

- 7.1 The collection system shall be properly maintained to minimize inflow, infiltration, exfiltration, and obstructions. A record of all inspections and maintenance operations shall be kept by the Permittee for a minimum of three years.

8. Tank Maintenance

- 8.1 All tanks (primary, secondary, holding, dosing, individual, etc) associated with this system shall be operated, pumped and maintained to ensure proper system operation and solids management. After every pumping event, all tanks shall be inspected for potential failure (such as cracks, roots, damaged baffles, etc.). Identified problems shall be corrected immediately.
- 8.2 The owner of a septic tank or tanks or the owner's agent must arrange for the removal and proper disposal of septage from all tanks or compartments in which the top of the sludge layer is less than 12 inches below the bottom of the outlet baffle or whenever the bottom of the scum layer is less than three inches above the outlet baffle. All accumulations of sludge, scum, and liquids must be removed through the maintenance hole.
- 8.3 The Permittee shall properly clean the effluent screens as often as needed to maintain an adequate flow rate from the septic tank(s). The Permittee shall keep a record at the facility that indicates the dates that the effluent screens are inspected, removed and cleaned.
- 8.4 Tanks that are not specifically covered under the Limits & Monitoring section of this permit shall be inspected at least every three years and pumped as necessary unless more restrictive local requirements have been established.

9. Soil Treatment System Maintenance

- 9.1 The soil treatment system(s) shall be adequately fenced.
- 9.2 A dense vegetative cover shall be maintained over the soil treatment system(s) at all times during the growing season to prevent the growth of unwanted vegetation such as trees, deep rooted nuisance plants, aquatic vegetation and to prevent erosion.
- 9.3 Routine maintenance shall be conducted to discourage the presence of rodents and other burrowing animals and deer on the soil treatment system and to allow inspection of observation ports installed in the soil treatment system(s) inspection pipes.

Soil Treatment System Inspection

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Chapter 2. Domestic Wastewater -- Large Subsurface Treatment System (LSTS)

9. Soil Treatment System Maintenance

- 9.4 Ponding depth inspections to determine the condition of each soil treatment system (trench, bed, at-grade, mound, or drip dispersal) /drainfield standpipe shall be conducted every other month during the time the soil treatment system is in use. The inspection of each soil treatment system shall include the identification of wet or saturated areas, depth of effluent ponding in the soil treatment observation ports, evidence of effluent at the surface, frozen components, and measurements in piezometers (if installed). Visual observations shall be recorded and inspection records shall be maintained by the owner for a minimum of three years following each inspection. The results of the inspection are not required to be submitted to the MPCA but shall be made available upon request by MPCA staff.
- 9.5 Indications of excessive hydraulic and organic loading to the wastewater treatment facility flow rate include ineffective septic tanks or advanced treatment systems, prolonged saturated soil conditions, vegetative drowning or excessive ground water mounding (observed from piezometers) and exceeding daily permitted flow rates as indicated by flow meters, event counters and running time clocks.

Reserve Soil Treatment System

- 9.6 The reserve area for the soil treatment system/drainfield must be properly protected to prevent the use of, and damage to, the area. The reserve area must be posted and identified for the public with at least one sign designating its future purpose and the boundaries must be visibly staked at all corners. In no case may this area be disturbed for any purpose, including vehicle traffic, storage, bike, hiking or ATV trails, playing fields, etc.

Chapter 3. Ground Water Stations

1. Monitoring Wells

- 1.1 The Permittee shall install, maintain and abandon groundwater monitoring wells according to the Minnesota Water Well Construction Code, Minnesota Rules, ch. 4725. Damaged or improperly constructed monitoring wells shall be repaired or properly abandoned and replaced. Information on licensed water well contractors is available from the Minnesota Department of Health.
- 1.2 The Permittee shall submit a detailed monitoring well log for each monitoring well at the facility and a detailed US Geological Survey topographical map identifying the location of each well.
- 1.3 Each monitoring well shall be clearly numbered on the outside of the well with either indelible paint or an inscribed number.
- 1.4 The monitoring wells shall be sampled in accordance with "Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Water Quality Division: Sampling Protocol for Ground Water Monitoring Wells, July 1997," Triplett, et. al. Copies of this publication are available on the internet at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/groundwater/wqsampling.html> or may be obtained from the MPCA by calling 651-282-6143 or 800-657-3938.
- 1.5 Grab samples must be collected at all ground water monitoring points (lysimeters or wells) after stabilization tests are conducted.
- 1.6 Prior to well purging and sampling, depths to groundwater shall be measured to the nearest 0.01 foot below the top of the well casing, and groundwater elevations shall be reported to the nearest 0.01 foot above mean sea level.
- 1.7 Temperature, specific conductance and pH shall be reported as the final field measurements from well stabilization.
- 1.8 If the analytical results for pH, temperature, total chloride, or total nitrite plus nitrate (as N) are above applicable drinking water standards, further testing will be required.

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Chapter 3. Ground Water Stations

1. Monitoring Wells

- 1.9 This permit may be modified if it is determined that the discharge represents a significant real or potential threat to the groundwater or public health based on MPCA review of ambient or historical groundwater data. The modifications may include intervention or hard limits, corrective actions or other actions including the installation of additional monitoring wells and de-nitrifying facilities.

2. Requirements for Specific Stations

- 2.1 GW 001: Submit a monthly DMR by 21 days after the end of each calendar month following permit issuance.
- 2.2 GW 002, GW 004: Submit a monthly DMR by 21 days after the end of each calendar month following permit issuance.

Chapter 4. Waste Stream Stations

1. Requirements for Specific Stations

- 1.1 WS 001, WS 002, WS 003, WS 004, WS 005: Submit a monthly DMR by 21 days after the end of each calendar month following permit issuance.

2. Sampling Location

- 2.1 Grab samples shall be collected at a point representative of total influent flow to the system.
- 2.2 Samples for Station WS001 shall be taken at the raw sewage manhole for Phase 1 & Phase 2.
- 2.3 Samples for Stations WS002 and WS003 shall be taken at the septic tank designated for Phase 1 & Phase 2.
- 2.4 Samples shall be taken after the septic tank and before entering the drainfield.
- 2.5 Samples for WS004 and WS005 shall be taken at the Distribution Manhole designated for Phase 1 & Phase 2.

Chapter 5. Total Facility Requirements

1. General Requirements

General Requirements

- 1.1 No Discharge. There shall be no point source discharge to surface water from the permitted activity.
- 1.2 Incorporation by Reference. The following applicable federal and state laws are incorporated by reference in this permit, are applicable to the Permittee, and are enforceable parts of this permit: 40 CFR pts. 122.41, 122.42, 136, 403 and 503; Minn. R. pts. 7001, 7041, 7045, 7050, 7052, 7053, 7060, and 7080; and Minn. Stat. Sec. 115 and 116.
- 1.3 Permittee Responsibility. The Permittee shall perform the actions or conduct the activity authorized by the permit in compliance with the conditions of the permit and, if required, in accordance with the plans and specifications approved by the Agency. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 3, item E)
- 1.4 Toxic Discharges Prohibited. Whether or not this permit includes effluent limitations for toxic pollutants, the Permittee shall not discharge a toxic pollutant except according to Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, sections 400 to 460 and Minnesota Rules 7050, 7052, 7053 and any other applicable MPCA rules. (Minn. R. 7001.1090, subp.1, item A)
- 1.5 Nuisance Conditions Prohibited. The Permittee's discharge shall not cause any nuisance conditions including, but not limited to: floating solids, scum and visible oil film, acutely toxic conditions to aquatic life, or other adverse impact on the receiving water. (Minn. R. 7050.0210 subp. 2)

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Chapter 5. Total Facility Requirements

1. General Requirements

- 1.6 Property Rights. This permit does not convey a property right or an exclusive privilege. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 3, item C)
- 1.7 Liability Exemption. In issuing this permit, the state and the MPCA assume no responsibility for damage to persons, property, or the environment caused by the activities of the Permittee in the conduct of its actions, including those activities authorized, directed, or undertaken under this permit. To the extent the state and the MPCA may be liable for the activities of its employees, that liability is explicitly limited to that provided in the Tort Claims Act. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 3, item O)
- 1.8 The MPCA's issuance of this permit does not obligate the MPCA to enforce local laws, rules, or plans beyond what is authorized by Minnesota Statutes. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp.3, item D)
- 1.9 Liabilities. The MPCA's issuance of this permit does not release the Permittee from any liability, penalty or duty imposed by Minnesota or federal statutes or rules or local ordinances, except the obligation to obtain the permit. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp.3, item A)
- 1.10 The issuance of this permit does not prevent the future adoption by the MPCA of pollution control rules, standards, or orders more stringent than those now in existence and does not prevent the enforcement of these rules, standards, or orders against the Permittee. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp.3, item B)
- 1.11 Severability. The provisions of this permit are severable and, if any provisions of this permit or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstance are held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances and the remainder of this permit shall not be affected thereby.
- 1.12 Compliance with Other Rules and Statutes. The Permittee shall comply with all applicable air quality, solid waste, and hazardous waste statutes and rules in the operation and maintenance of the facility.
- 1.13 Inspection and Entry. When authorized by Minn. Stat. Sec. 115.04; 115B.17, subd. 4; and 116.091, and upon presentation of proper credentials, the agency, or an authorized employee or agent of the agency, shall be allowed by the Permittee to enter at reasonable times upon the property of the Permittee to examine and copy books, papers, records, or memoranda pertaining to the construction, modification, or operation of the facility covered by the permit or pertaining to the activity covered by the permit; and to conduct surveys and investigations, including sampling or monitoring, pertaining to the construction, modification, or operation of the facility covered by the permit or pertaining to the activity covered by the permit. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp.3, item I)
- 1.14 Control Users. The Permittee shall regulate the users of its wastewater treatment facility so as to prevent the introduction of pollutants or materials that may result in the inhibition or disruption of the conveyance system, treatment facility or processes, or disposal system that would contribute to the violation of the conditions of this permit or any federal, state or local law or regulation.

Sampling

- 1.15 Representative Sampling. Samples and measurements required by this permit shall be conducted as specified in this permit and shall be representative of the discharge or monitored activity. (40 CFR 122.41 (j)(1))
- 1.16 Additional Sampling. If the Permittee monitors more frequently than required, the results and the frequency of monitoring shall be reported on the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) or another MPCA-approved form for that reporting period. (Minn. R. 7001.1090, subp. 1, item E)
- 1.17 Certified Laboratory. A laboratory certified by the Minnesota Department of Health shall conduct analyses required by this permit. Analyses of dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, specific conductance, and total residual oxidants (chlorine, bromine) do not need to be completed by a certified laboratory but shall comply with manufacturers specifications for equipment calibration and use. (Minn. Stat. Sec. 144.97 through 144.98 and Minn. R. 4740.2010 and 4740.2050 through 4740.2120) (Minn. R. 4740.2010 and 4740.2050 through 2120)

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Chapter 5. Total Facility Requirements

1. General Requirements

- 1.18 Sample Preservation and Procedure. Sample preservation and test procedures for the analysis of pollutants shall conform to 40 CFR Part 136 and Minn. R. 7041.3200.
- 1.19 Equipment Calibration: Flow meters, pumps, flumes, lift stations or other flow monitoring equipment used for purposes of determining compliance with permit shall be checked and/or calibrated for accuracy at least twice annually. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 2, items B and C)
- 1.20 Maintain Records. The Permittee shall keep the records required by this permit for at least three years, including any calculations, original recordings from automatic monitoring instruments, and laboratory sheets. The Permittee shall extend these record retention periods upon request of the MPCA. The Permittee shall maintain records for each sample and measurement. The records shall include the following information (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 2, item C):
- a. The exact place, date, and time of the sample or measurement;
 - b. The date of analysis;
 - c. The name of the person who performed the sample collection, measurement, analysis, or calculation; and
 - d. The analytical techniques, procedures and methods used; and
 - e. The results of the analysis.
- 1.21 Completing Reports. The Permittee shall submit the results of the required sampling and monitoring activities on the forms provided, specified, or approved by the MPCA. The information shall be recorded in the specified areas on those forms and in the units specified. (Minn. R. 7001.1090, subp. 1, item D; Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 2, item B)

Required forms may include:

DMR Supplemental Form

Individual values for each sample and measurement must be recorded on the DMR Supplemental Form which, if required, will be provided by the MPCA. DMR Supplemental Forms shall be submitted with the appropriate DMRs. You may design and use your own supplemental form; however it must be approved by the MPCA.

Note: Required summary information **MUST** also be recorded on the DMR. Summary information that is submitted **ONLY** on the DMR Supplemental Form does not comply with the reporting requirements.

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Chapter 5. Total Facility Requirements

1. General Requirements

1.22 Submitting Reports. DMRs and Supplementals shall be submitted to:

MPCA
Attn: Discharge Monitoring Reports
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4194.

DMRs, DMR supplemental forms and related attachments may be electronically submitted via the MPCA Online Services Portal after authorization is approved. When electronically submitted, the paper DMR submittal requirement is waived.

DMRs and DMR Supplemental Forms shall be postmarked or electronically submitted by the 21st day of the month following the sampling period or as otherwise specified in this permit. Electronic DMR submittal must be complete on or before 11:59 PM of the 21st day of the month following the sampling period or as otherwise specified in this permit. A DMR shall be submitted for each required station even if no discharge occurred during the reporting period. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subps. 2.B and 3.H)

Other reports required by this permit shall be postmarked by the date specified in the permit to:

MPCA
Attn: WQ Submittals Center
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4194

- 1.23 Incomplete or Incorrect Reports. The Permittee shall immediately submit an amended report or DMR to the MPCA upon discovery by the Permittee or notification by the MPCA that it has submitted an incomplete or incorrect report or DMR. The amended report or DMR shall contain the missing or corrected data along with a cover letter explaining the circumstances of the incomplete or incorrect report. (Minn. R. 7001.0150 subp. 3, item G)
- 1.24 Required Signatures. All DMRs, forms, reports, and other documents submitted to the MPCA shall be signed by the Permittee or the duly authorized representative of the Permittee. Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 2, item D. The person or persons that sign the DMRs, forms, reports or other documents must certify that he or she understands and complies with the certification requirements of Minn. R. 7001.0070 and 7001.0540, including the penalties for submitting false information. Technical documents, such as design drawings and specifications and engineering studies required to be submitted as part of a permit application or by permit conditions, must be certified by a registered professional engineer. (Minn. R. 7001.0540)

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Chapter 5. Total Facility Requirements

1. General Requirements

- 1.25 Detection Level. The Permittee shall report monitoring results below the reporting limit (RL) of a particular instrument as "<" the value of the RL. For example, if an instrument has a RL of 0.1 mg/L and a parameter is not detected at a value of 0.1 mg/L or greater, the concentration shall be reported as "<0.1 mg/L." "Non-detected," "undetected," "below detection limit," and "zero" are unacceptable reporting results, and are permit reporting violations. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 2, item B)

Where sample values are less than the level of detection and the permit requires reporting of an average, the Permittee shall calculate the average as follows:

- a. If one or more values are greater than the level of detection, substitute zero for all nondetectable values to use in the average calculation.
 - b. If all values are below the level of detection, report the averages as "<" the corresponding level of detection.
 - c. Where one or more sample values are less than the level of detection, and the permit requires reporting of a mass, usually expressed as kg/day, the Permittee shall substitute zero for all nondetectable values. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 2, item B)
- 1.26 Records. The Permittee shall, when requested by the Agency, submit within a reasonable time the information and reports that are relevant to the control of pollution regarding the construction, modification, or operation of the facility covered by the permit or regarding the conduct of the activity covered by the permit. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 3, item H)
- 1.27 Confidential Information. Except for data determined to be confidential according to Minn. Stat. Sec. 116.075, subd. 2, all reports required by this permit shall be available for public inspection. Effluent data shall not be considered confidential. To request the Agency maintain data as confidential, the Permittee must follow Minn. R. 7000.1300.

Noncompliance and Enforcement

- 1.28 Subject to Enforcement Action and Penalties. Noncompliance with a term or condition of this permit subjects the Permittee to penalties provided by federal and state law set forth in section 309 of the Clean Water Act; United States Code, title 33, section 1319, as amended; and in Minn. Stat. Sec. 115.071 and 116.072, including monetary penalties, imprisonment, or both. (Minn. R. 7001.1090, subp. 1, item B)
- 1.29 Criminal Activity. The Permittee may not knowingly make a false statement, representation, or certification in a record or other document submitted to the Agency. A person who falsifies a report or document submitted to the Agency, or tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate a monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this permit is subject to criminal and civil penalties provided by federal and state law. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp.3, item G., 7001.1090, subps. 1, items G and H and Minn. Stat. Sec. 609.671)
- 1.30 Noncompliance Defense. It shall not be a defense for the Permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit. (40 CFR 122.41(c))

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1. General Requirements

- 1.31 Effluent Violations. If sampling by the Permittee indicates a violation of any discharge limitation specified in this permit, the Permittee shall immediately make every effort to verify the violation by collecting additional samples, if appropriate, investigate the cause of the violation, and take action to prevent future violations. If the permittee discovers that noncompliance with a condition of the permit has occurred which could endanger human health, public drinking water supplies, or the environment, the Permittee shall within 24 hours of the discovery of the noncompliance, orally notify the commissioner and submit a written description of the noncompliance within 5 days of the discovery. The written description shall include items a. through e., as listed below. If the Permittee discovers other non-compliance that does not explicitly endanger human health, public drinking water supplies, or the environment, the non-compliance shall be reported during the next reporting period to the MPCA with its Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR). If no DMR is required within 30 days, the Permittee shall submit a written report within 30 days of the discovery of the noncompliance. This description shall include the following information:
- a. a description of the event including volume, duration, monitoring results and receiving waters;
 - b. the cause of the event;
 - c. the steps taken to reduce, eliminate and prevent reoccurrence of the event;
 - d. the exact dates and times of the event; and
 - e. steps taken to reduce any adverse impact resulting from the event. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 3k)
- 1.32 Unauthorized Releases of Wastewater Prohibited. Except for conditions specifically described in Minn. R. 7001.1090, subp. 1, items J and K, all unauthorized bypasses, overflows, discharges, spills, or other releases of wastewater or materials to the environment, whether intentional or not, are prohibited. However, the MPCA will consider the Permittee's compliance with permit requirements, frequency of release, quantity, type, location, and other relevant factors when determining appropriate action. (40 CFR 122.41 and Minn. Stat. Sec 115.061)

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Chapter 5. Total Facility Requirements

1. General Requirements

1.33 Discovery of a release. Upon discovery of a release, the Permittee shall:

- a. Take all reasonable steps to immediately end the release.
- b. Notify the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Duty Officer at 1(800)422-0798 or (651)649-5451 (metro area) immediately upon discovery of the release. You may contact the MPCA during business hours at 1(800)657-3864 or (651)296-6300 (metro area).
- c. Recover as rapidly and as thoroughly as possible all substances and materials released or immediately take other action as may be reasonably possible to minimize or abate pollution to waters of the state or potential impacts to human health caused thereby. If the released materials or substances cannot be immediately or completely recovered, the Permittee shall contact the MPCA. If directed by the MPCA, the Permittee shall consult with other local, state or federal agencies (such as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and/or the Wetland Conservation Act authority) for implementation of additional clean-up or remediation activities in wetland or other sensitive areas.
- d. Collect representative samples of the release. The Permittee shall sample the release for parameters of concern immediately following discovery of the release. The Permittee may contact the MPCA during business hours to discuss the sampling parameters and protocol. In addition, Fecal Coliform Bacteria samples shall be collected where it is determined by the Permittee that the release contains or may contain sewage. If the release cannot be immediately stopped, the Permittee shall consult with MPCA regarding additional sampling requirements. Samples shall be collected at least, but not limited to, two times per week for as long as the release continues.
- e. Submit the sampling results as directed by the MPCA. At a minimum, the results shall be submitted to the MPCA with the next DMR.

1.34 Upset Defense. In the event of temporary noncompliance by the Permittee with an applicable effluent limitation resulting from an upset at the Permittee's facility due to factors beyond the control of the Permittee, the Permittee has an affirmative defense to an enforcement action brought by the Agency as a result of the noncompliance if the Permittee demonstrates by a preponderance of competent evidence:

- a. The specific cause of the upset;
- b. That the upset was unintentional;
- c. That the upset resulted from factors beyond the reasonable control of the Permittee and did not result from operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventative maintenance, or increases in production which are beyond the design capability of the treatment facilities;
- d. That at the time of the upset the facility was being properly operated;
- e. That the Permittee properly notified the Commissioner of the upset in accordance with Minn. R. 7001.1090, subp. 1, item I; and
- f. That the Permittee implemented the remedial measures required by Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 3, item J.

Operation and Maintenance

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1. General Requirements

- 1.35 The Permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain the facilities and systems of treatment and control, and the appurtenances related to them which are installed or used by the Permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit. Proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate funding, adequate operator staffing and training, and adequate laboratory and process controls, including appropriate quality assurance procedures. The Permittee shall install and maintain appropriate backup or auxiliary facilities if they are necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit and, for all permits other than hazardous waste facility permits, if these backup or auxiliary facilities are technically and economically feasible Minn. R. 7001.0150. subp. 3, item F.
- 1.36 In the event of a reduction or loss of effective treatment of wastewater at the facility, the Permittee shall control production or curtail its discharges to the extent necessary to maintain compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit. The Permittee shall continue this control or curtailment until the wastewater treatment facility has been restored or until an alternative method of treatment is provided. (Minn. R. 7001.1090, subp. 1, item C)
- 1.37 Solids Management. The Permittee shall properly store, transport, and dispose of biosolids, septage, sediments, residual solids, filter backwash, screenings, oil, grease, and other substances so that pollutants do not enter surface waters or ground waters of the state. Solids should be disposed of in accordance with local, state and federal requirements. (40 CFR 503 and Minn. R. 7041 and applicable federal and state solid waste rules)
- 1.38 Scheduled Maintenance. The Permittee shall schedule maintenance of the treatment works during non-critical water quality periods to prevent degradation of water quality, except where emergency maintenance is required to prevent a condition that would be detrimental to water quality or human health. (Minn. R. 7001.0150. subp. 3, item F and Minn. R. 7001.0150. subp. 2, item B)
- 1.39 Control Tests. In-plant control tests shall be conducted at a frequency adequate to ensure compliance with the conditions of this permit. (Minn. R. 7001.0150. subp. 3, item F and Minn. R. 7001.0150. subp. 2, item B)

Changes to the Facility or Permit

- 1.40 Permit Modifications. Except as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 115.07, subdivisions 1 and 3, no person required by statute or rule to obtain a permit may construct, install, modify, or operate the facility to be permitted, nor shall a person commence an activity for which a permit is required by statute or rule until the agency has issued a written permit for the facility or activity. (Minn. R. 7001.0030)

Permittees that propose to make a change to the facility or discharge that requires a permit modification must follow Minn. R. 7001.0190. If the Permittee cannot determine whether a permit modification is needed, the Permittee must contact the MPCA prior to any action. It is recommended that the application for permit modification be submitted to the MPCA at least 180 days prior to the planned change.

- 1.41 No person required by statute or rule to obtain a permit may construct, install, modify, or operate the facility to be permitted except as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 115.07, subdivisions 1 and 3, nor shall a person commence an activity for which a permit is required by statute or rule until the agency has issued a written permit for the facility or activity.
- 1.42 Plans, specifications and MPCA approval are not necessary when maintenance dictates the need for installation of new equipment, provided the equipment is the same design size and has the same design intent. For instance, a broken pipe, lift station pump, aerator, or blower can be replaced with the same design-sized equipment without MPCA approval.

If the proposed construction is not expressly authorized by this permit, it may require a permit modification. If the construction project requires an Environmental Assessment Worksheet under Minn. R. 4410, no construction shall begin until a negative declaration is issued and all approvals are received or implemented.

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Chapter 5. Total Facility Requirements

1. General Requirements

- 1.43 Report Changes. The Permittee shall give advance notice as soon as possible to the MPCA of any substantial changes in operational procedures, activities that may alter the nature or frequency of the discharge, and/or material factors that may affect compliance with the conditions of this permit. (Minn. R. 7001.0150, subp. 3, item M)
- 1.44 Chemical Additives. The Permittee shall receive prior written approval from the MPCA before increasing the use of a chemical additive authorized by this permit, or using a chemical additive not authorized by this permit, in quantities or concentrations that have the potential to change the characteristics, nature and/or quality of the discharge.

The Permittee shall request approval for an increased or new use of a chemical additive at least 60 days, or as soon as possible, before the proposed increased or new use.

This written request shall include at least the following information for the proposed additive:

- a. The process for which the additive will be used;
 - b. Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) which shall include aquatic toxicity, human health, and environmental fate information for the proposed additive. The aquatic toxicity information shall include at minimum the results of: a) a 48-hour LC50 or EC50 acute study for a North American freshwater planktonic crustacean (either Ceriodaphnia or Daphnia sp.) and b) a 96-hour LC50 acute study for rainbow trout, bluegill or fathead minnow or another North American freshwater aquatic species other than a planktonic crustacean;
 - c. A complete product use and instruction label;
 - d. The commercial and chemical names and Chemical Abstract Survey (CAS) number for all ingredients in the additive (If the MSDS does not include information on chemical composition, including percentages for each ingredient totaling to 100%, the Permittee shall contact the supplier to have this information provided); and
 - e. The proposed method of application, application frequency, concentration, and daily average and maximum rates of use. (Minn. R. 7001.0170)
- 1.45 Upon review of the information submitted regarding the proposed chemical additive, the MPCA may require additional information be submitted for consideration. This permit may be modified to restrict the use or discharge of a chemical additive and include additional influent and effluent monitoring requirements.
- Approval for the use of an additive shall not justify the exceedance of any effluent limitation nor shall it be used as a defense against pollutant levels in the discharge causing or contributing to the violation of a water quality standard.
- 1.46 MPCA Initiated Permit Modification, Suspension, or Revocation. The MPCA may modify or revoke and reissue this permit pursuant to Minn. R. 7001.0170. The MPCA may revoke without reissuance this permit pursuant to Minn. R. 7001.0180.
- 1.47 TMDL Impacts. Facilities that discharge to an impaired surface water, watershed or drainage basin may be required to comply with additional permits or permit requirements, including additional restriction or relaxation of limits and monitoring as authorized by the CWA 303(d)(4)(A) and 40 CFR 122.44.1.2.i., necessary to ensure consistency with the assumptions and requirements of any applicable US EPA approved wasteload allocations resulting from Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies.
- 1.48 Permit Transfer. The permit is not transferable to any person without the express written approval of the Agency after compliance with the requirements of Minn. R. 7001.0190. A person to whom the permit has been transferred shall comply with the conditions of the permit. (Minn. R., 7001.0150, subp. 3, item N)

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1. General Requirements

- 1.49 Facility Closure. The Permittee is responsible for closure and post-closure care of the facility. The Permittee shall notify the MPCA of a significant reduction or cessation of the activities described in this permit at least 180 days before the reduction or cessation. The MPCA may require the Permittee to provide to the MPCA a facility Closure Plan for approval.

Facility closure that could result in a potential long-term water quality concern, such as the ongoing discharge of wastewater to surface or ground water, may require a permit modification or reissuance.

The MPCA may require the Permittee to establish and maintain financial assurance to ensure performance of certain obligations under this permit, including closure, post-closure care and remedial action at the facility. If financial assurance is required, the amount and type of financial assurance, and proposed modifications to previously MPCA-approved financial assurance, shall be approved by the MPCA. (Minn. Stat. Sec. 116.07, subd. 4)

- 1.50 Permit Reissuance. If the Permittee desires to continue permit coverage beyond the date of permit expiration, the Permittee shall submit an application for reissuance at least 180 days before permit expiration. If the Permittee does not intend to continue the activities authorized by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the Permittee shall notify the MPCA in writing at least 180 days before permit expiration.

If the Permittee has submitted a timely application for permit reissuance, the Permittee may continue to conduct the activities authorized by this permit, in compliance with the requirements of this permit, until the MPCA takes final action on the application, unless the MPCA determines any of the following (Minn. R. 7001.0040 and 7001.0160):

- a. The Permittee is not in substantial compliance with the requirements of this permit, or with a stipulation agreement or compliance schedule designed to bring the Permittee into compliance with this permit;
- b. The MPCA, as a result of an action or failure to act by the Permittee, has been unable to take final action on the application on or before the expiration date of the permit;
- c. The Permittee has submitted an application with major deficiencies or has failed to properly supplement the application in a timely manner after being informed of deficiencies.