



Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

**MUNICIPAL DIVISION
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)/
STATE DISPOSAL SYSTEM (SDS) PERMIT MN0003182**

Public Comment Period Begins: October 4, 2012
Public Comment Period Ends: November 2, 2012

Current Permit Issued: July 31, 2007
Current Permit Expiration Date: June 30, 2012

Name and Address of Permittee:

City of Little Falls
P.O. Box 244
Little Falls, MN 56345-0244

Facility Name and Location:

Little Falls Water Treatment Plant
101 Northeast 7th Avenue
T41N, R32W, Section 34,
Belle Prairie Township, Morrison County,
Minnesota

Receiving Water: Mississippi River (Class 1C 2Bd, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water) ORVW

Description of Permitted Facility

The Little Falls Water Treatment Plant (Facility) is located at SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 34, Township 41 North, Range 32 West, Belle Prairie Township, Morrison County, Minnesota.

The Little Falls Water Treatment Plant (Facility) is located at SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 34, Township 41 North, Range 32 West, Belle Prairie Township, Morrison County, Minnesota.

The application and plans indicate the Facility is located at 101 Northeast 7th Street in the City of Little Falls, Morrison County. The Facility consists of a sand filter with 4 cells, 1 aerator, 1 splitter box, 2 clarifiers, a recarbonation basin and a lagoon to hold the lime sludge.

The Facility is designed to process 1,500,000 gallons of water per day. The Facility discharges on an intermittent basis with a maximum discharge rate of 72,000 gallons per day. The discharge point is to the Mississippi River (Class 1C, 2Bd, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6, water). Lime is added to the water for iron removal and the lime sludge is

discharged to the holding lagoons, the lagoons are pumped once per year and the sludge is then land applied. The Facility recycles its filtered backwash water to the head of the water treatment plant.

Those portions of the Mississippi River from Lake Itasca to the southerly boundary of Morrison County that are included in the Mississippi Headwaters Board comprehensive plan dated February 12, 1981, were designated as Outstanding Resource Value Waters (ORVW) on November 5, 1984. The discharge is located between designated ORVW reaches. In accordance with MPCA rules regarding nondegradation for ORVWs, nondegradation review is required for any new or expanded discharge where any change results in an increased mass loading of one or more pollutants (Minn. R. 7050.0180). The design average wet weather flow of this facility as of November 5, 1984, and associated mass loading are the baseline design flow and mass loading. This baseline flow and mass loading will be used to determine whether nondegradation review is required for any change in the discharge. The discharge may also be subject to nondegradation review in accordance with Minn. R. 7050.0185, Nondegradation for all waters.

This Permit also complies with Minn. R. 7053.0275 regarding anti-backsliding.

Any point source discharger of sewage, industrial, or other wastes for which a NPDES/SDS permit has been issued by the MPCA that contains effluent limits more stringent than those that would be established by parts 7053.0215 to 7053.0265 shall continue to meet the effluent limits established by the permit, unless the permittee establishes that less stringent effluent limits are allowable pursuant to federal law, under section 402(o) of the Clean Water Act, United States Code, title 33, section 1342.

The location of the Facility is shown on the attached map.

Preliminary Determination on the Draft Permit

The MPCA Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to issue this NPDES/SDS permit for a term of approximately five years.

A draft permit is available for review at the Brainerd MPCA office listed below, at the St. Paul office and on-line at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/data/index.cfm?PN=1>.

A copy of the draft permit will be mailed to you if the MPCA receives your written or oral request at this office. If you have questions about this draft permit or the Commissioner's preliminary determination, please contact Robin L. Novotny at 218-316-3851.

Written Comments

You may submit written comments on the conditions of the draft permit or on the Commissioner'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.
3. The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the Commissioner to investigate the merits of your position.

Petition for Public Informational Meeting

You also may request that the MPCA Commissioner 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.
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.
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.
3. An estimate of time required for you to present the matter at a contested case hearing.

MPCA Decision

You may submit a petition to the Commissioner requesting that the MPCA Citizens' Board (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 Commissioner 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 Commissioner 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 Board as provided in Minn. R. 7000.0650.

The written comments, requests, and petitions submitted on or before 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, MPCA staff as authorized by the Board, will make the final decision on the draft permit.

Comments, petitions, and/or requests must be submitted in writing on or before the end date of the public comment period identified on page 1 of this notice to:

Robin L. Novotny
Municipal Division
7678 College Road, Suite 105
Baxter, MN 56425

Topographic Map of Permitted Facility

MN0003182: Little Falls Water Treatment Plant

T41N, R32W, Section 34

Belle Prairie Township, Morrison County, Minnesota



Map produced by: MPCA Staff, 09/20/2012
Source: USGS Quad
Scale: 1:10,000

0 0.075 0.15 0.3 Miles

