



Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

**MUNICIPAL DIVISION
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)/
STATE DISPOSAL SYSTEM (SDS) PERMIT MN0021784**

Public Comment Period Begins: January 10, 2013
Public Comment Period Ends: February 8, 2013

Current Permit Issued: February 21, 2008
Current Permit Expiration Date: January 31, 2013

Name and Address of Permittee:

City of Pine City
315 Main Street South, Suite 100
Pine City, MN 55063

Facility Name and Location:

Pine City WWTP
County Road 55
T 39N, R 21W, Sections 21, 22, 27, & 28
Pine City, Pine County, Minnesota

Receiving Water: Snake River (Class 2B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water)

Description of Permitted Facility

The Pine City Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility) is located at Sections 21, 22, 27 and 28, Township 39 North, Range 21 West, Pine City, Pine County, Minnesota. This is a Class C Facility.

Major components of the Facility include:

Collection with gravity and/or Pressure Sewer
1 Bar Screen - mechanical
3 Aerated Ponds - more than two hours of detention time (3.4 acres each)
2 Primary Stabilization Ponds (19.5 and 38.75 acres)
1 Secondary Stabilization Pond (37.25 acres)

The application and plans indicate that the existing treatment system consists of 2 lift stations, 700 feet of 4 inch force main, 6,865 feet of 8 inch force main, a mechanical bar screen, three aerated ponds, a three cell stabilization pond system (2 primary and 1 secondary), 4,600 feet of 12 and 15 inch gravity outfall sewer, and 1,665 feet of 10 inch siphon pipe (outfall line under Cross Lake). This Facility has a groundwater

monitoring well network which consists of 4 groundwater wells.

The Facility has a controlled discharge (SD-001) to the Snake River (Class 2B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water) downstream of Cross Lake, and is designed to treat an average wet weather flow of up to 750,000 gallons per day (gpd), with a five day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) strength of 800 milligrams per liter (mg/L). The three aerated ponds are 3.4 acres each with a maximum operating depth of 14 feet and a detention time of approximately 50 days. The two primary cells of the stabilization pond system have surface areas of 19.5 and 38.75 acres, and the secondary cell has a surface area of 37.25 acres, all measured at the three foot depth. The stabilization pond provides a total detention time of approximately 209 days at design flow.

The facilities are further described in plans and specifications on file with the MPCA dated July 18, 1961, and in an engineering report by the firms of Ellerde and Company, St. Paul, Minnesota and Howard A Kuusisto, Consulting Engineers, St. Paul, Minnesota.

There are no designed bypass points known to exist in the disposal system.

The location of the Facility is shown on the "Topographic Map of Permitted Facility" (page 5).

In accordance with the MPCA rules regarding nondegradation for all waters that are not Outstanding Resource Value Waters, nondegradation review is required for any new or expanded significant discharge (Minn. R. 7050.0185). A significant discharge is 1) a new discharge (not in existence before January 1, 1988) that is greater than 200,000 gpd to any water other than a Class 7 water or 2) an expanded discharge that expands by greater than 200,000 gpd that discharges to any water other than a Class 7 water or 3) a new or expanded discharge containing any toxic pollutant at a mass loading rate likely to increase the concentration of the toxicant in the receiving water by greater than one percent over the baseline quality. The flow rate used to determine significance is the design average wet weather flow. The January 1, 1988, design average wet weather flow for this Facility is 750,000 gpd.

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 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.

Preliminary Determination on the Draft Permit

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

A draft permit is available for review at the MPCA office at the address listed below, at the St. Paul office and on-line at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/public-notices/list.html>.

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 Nicole Blasing at 218-316-3890.

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:

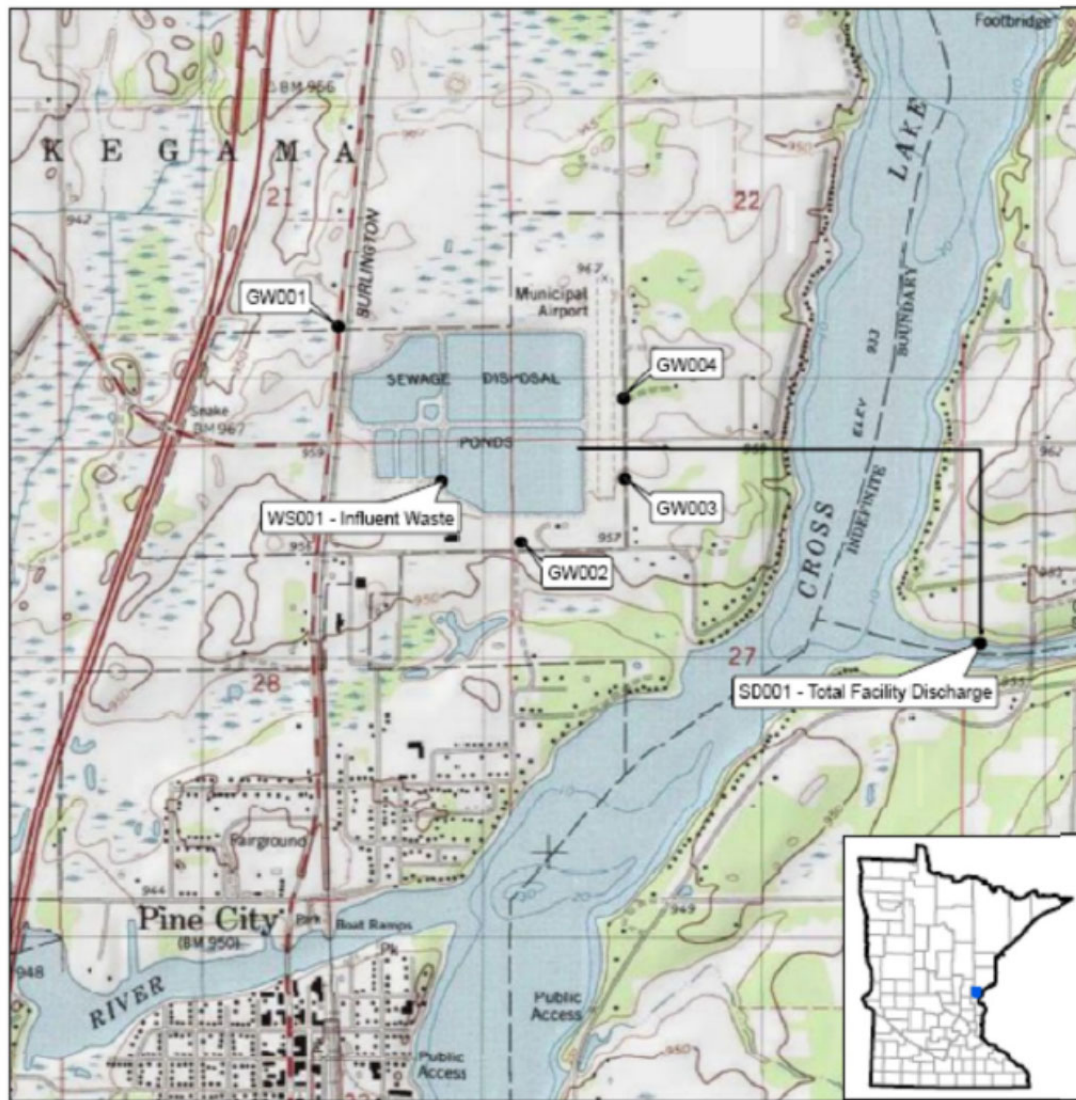
Nicole Blasing
Municipal Division
7678 College Road, Suite 105
Baxter, MN 56425

Topographic Map of Permitted Facility

MN0021784: Pine City Wastewater Treatment Facility

T39N, R21W, Section 27

Pine City, Pine County, Minnesota



Map produced by: MPCA Staff, 10/26/2012
Source: USGS Quad
Scale: 1:20,000