Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

INDUSTRIAL DIVISION
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)/
STATE DISPOSAL SYSTEM (SDS) PERMIT MN0063126

Public Comment Period Begins:	March 27, 2013
Public Comment Period Ends:	April 26, 2013
Current Permit Issued:	August 1, 2008
Current Permit Expiration Date:	July 31, 2013

Name and Address of Permittee:
CenterPoint Energy
501 W 61st Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419

Facility Name and Location:
Groundwater Treatment System at
Former Manufactured Gas Plant Site
1309 West River Parkway
Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota

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

Description of Permitted Facility:
This permit is maintained as a backup to the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES Special Discharge permit #2234) permit. This permit would authorize a discharge of treated groundwater to the Mississippi River near where the 35W Bridge crosses the Mississippi River in downtown Minneapolis at an average rate of 3,000 gallons per day and a maximum rate of 9,000 gallons per day. Groundwater in the area is contaminated with volatile organic compounds including gasoline range organics, diesel range organics and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons as a result of past operations at the site producing manufactured gas from coal. Groundwater also contains relative low concentrations of some heavy metals, cyanide and ammonia.

The permittee operates a groundwater treatment system consisting of an oil/water separator, solids removal, pH adjustment and removal of volatile organic compounds by an ultraviolet/oxidation system (Solarchem Environmental Systems).

Effluent limitations for the draft permit were developed in accordance with best professional judgment and are based on a treatment system capable of achieving the pollutant level reduction associated with a tertiary treatment system. Treatment levels are sufficient to protect a receiving water with a fishable/swimmable beneficial use designation.

Preliminary Determination on the Draft Permit
The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (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 St. Paul address listed below 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 Deborah Idzorek at 651-757-2704.

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