



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 MN0030643**

Public Comment Period Begins: July 17, 2012
Public Comment Period Ends: August 16, 2012

Current Permit Issued: March 16, 2007
Current Permit Expiration Date: February 29, 2012

Name and Address of Permittee:

City of Hibbing
401 E 21st Street
Hibbing, MN 55746

Facility Name and Location:

Hibbing WWTP - South Plant
11669 Town Line Road
T57N, R20W, Section 32
Hibbing, St. Louis County, Minnesota

Receiving Water: East Swan Creek (Class 2B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water)

Description of Permitted Facility:

The Hibbing Wastewater Treatment Plant - South Plant (Facility) is located at SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 32, Township 57 North, Range 20 West, Hibbing, St. Louis County, Minnesota. This is a Class A Facility.

Major Components of the Facility Include:

- 2 Bar Screens – mechanical
- 3 Grit Removal Units
- 2 Primary Clarifiers
- 4 Trickling Filters
- 4 Secondary Clarifiers
- 1 Phosphorus Removal - chemical
- 1 Chlorination/Dechlorination Tank
- 1 Gravity Thickening Unit

2 Anaerobic Digesters - complete mixed, heated - mesophilic
3 Flow Equalization Basins
1 Biosolids Storage Lagoon

Proposed Additions to the Facility Include:

1 Filter System Diversion Structure (manhole) (Proposed)
5 Dual Media Sand Filters (Sand and Anthracite) (Proposed)

The Facility has a continuous discharge (SD001) to the East Swan Creek (Class 2B, 3B, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water) to the East Swan River (Class 1B, 2A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water). The Facility is designed to treat wastewater at an average wet weather flow rate of 4.5 million gallons per day (MGD) with a 5-day carbonaceous biological oxygen demand strength of 5629.5 pounds per day or 150 milligrams per liter.

The Facility includes a bypass diversion structure that can divert flow during periods of high flow to an equalization (EQ) basin system consisting of 2.0 acre and 15.0 acre aerated EQ basins and a 0.8 acre EQ basin. The Facility also has an emergency discharge from the EQ basins that have the capability of discharging partially treated wastewater when the basins are full and the plant is at maximum capacity.

As part of this permit action the City of Hibbing will be constructing five (4 duty/1 redundant) rectangular dual media sand filters (with 12 inches of sand and 18 inches of anthracite and a surface area of 407 ft² each) at the Facility in accordance with the schedule of compliance that was executed between the City of Hibbing and the MPCA on July 16, 2012. The new dual media sand filters will be designed for a loading rate of 2.13 gpm/ft² (average) and 2.35 gpm/ft² (peak). The existing Facility includes a three point chemical addition system (for alum injection) that allows for operational flexibility to improve and fine tune treatment, if necessary.

The dual media sand filters will be located in the southeast corner of the existing Facility. A new filter system diversion structure will divert treated secondary effluent from the third stage secondary clarifier to the new filter building. Filtered effluent will then flow back to the existing chlorination/dechlorination tank for disinfection and subsequently flow to the post aeration tank prior to discharge.

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

The location of designated monitoring stations is specified on the "Summary of Stations" page in the draft permit.

In accordance with Minnesota Pollution Control Agency rules regarding nondegradation for all waters that are not Outstanding Resource Value Waters (ORVW), 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 gallons per day to any water other than a Class 7 water or 2) an expanded discharge that expands by greater than 200,000 gallons per day 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 calculated design average wet weather flow for this Facility is 2.0 mgd.

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 national pollutant discharge elimination system permit has been issued by the agency 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 and fact sheet are available for review at the MPCA office at the Detroit Lakes address 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 and fact sheet 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 Holly Christensen at 218-846-8104.

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:

Holly Christensen
MPCA – Detroit Lakes Office
Municipal Division
714 Lake Avenue, Suite 220
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Topographic Map of Permitted Facility

MN0030643, Hibbing Wastewater Treatment Plant - South Plant
SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 32, T57N, R20W
Hibbing, St. Louis County, Minnesota



Map produced by: MPCA Staff, 1/12/12
Source: USA Topo
Scale: 1:15,000

