Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

INDUSTRIAL DIVISION
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE

STATE DISPOSAL SYSTEM (SDS) PERMIT MN0070700

Public Comment Period Begins: June 4, 2015
Public Comment Period Ends: July 6, 2015

Name and Address of Permittee:
MN DNR Lake Vermilion-Soudan State Park
1379 Stuntz Bay Road - PO Box 335
Soudan, Minnesota 55782-0335

Facility Name and Location:
MN DNR Lake Vermilion - Soudan Underground Mine SP
Vermilion Park Drive
T62N, R15W, Section 13,
Soudan, St. Louis County, Minnesota

Receiving Water: NONE

Description of Permitted Facility
The MN DNR Lake Vermilion - Soudan Underground Mine SP facility (Facility) is located at Section 13, Township 62 North, Range 15 West, Soudan, St. Louis County, Minnesota.

The application and plans indicate that the proposed Facility would consist of a domestic water treatment facility to filter and chlorinate water drawn from a surface water intake in Lake Vermilion. The Facility would provide potable water for State Park visitor buildings and campground facilities and would be a Transient Non-Community Water System. The Facility treatment components include: intake filter, pretreatment disc filters, ultrafiltration membrane modules, granular activated carbon, chlorination, and finished water storage tanks. The following chemicals would be used in the water treatment: sodium hypochlorite, citric acid, caustic soda, and sodium bisulfite.

The Facility is designed to produce up to 43,200 gallons/day for domestic consumption. The various filters can be backwashed with finished water hourly when in use; more thorough cleaning cycles would take place monthly or semiannually depending on need. Backwash wastewater is routed to a neutralization tank and then discharged to an infiltration bed. The daily backwash discharge is expected to average 1500 gallons per day; the infiltration bed is designed to infiltrate up to 2400 gallons per day. Under this permit, filter backwash is not discharged to surface water.
Water filter backwash solids may be generated by the water treatment process. There are four options for disposal based on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) guidance document “Guidelines – Disposal Methods for Water Filter Backwash Solids.” wastewater treatment facility, landfill, non-residential construction fill, and land application. Requirements for each of these options are listed in the guidance document.

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 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, at the Duluth regional office and on-line at [http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/data/index.cfm?PN=1](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 Brian Schweiss at 651-757-2709.

**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:

Brian Schweiss, 4th Floor  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Rd N  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
Topographic Map of Permitted Facility
MN0070700, MN DNR Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park
T62N, R15W, Section 13
Breitung Township, St. Louis County, Minnesota

Lake Vermilion State Park
WS001: Water Treatment Plant and Infiltration Bed

Map produced by: MPCA Staff
Scale: 1:24,000