

## General information

**Public comment period begins:** June 18, 2021  
**Public comment period ends:** August 17, 2021 (4:30 p.m.)  
**Current permit issued:** November 24, 2010  
**Current permit expiration date:** October 31, 2015

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to reissue this permit for a term of approximately five years.

<b>Name and address of Permittee:</b>	<b>Facility name and location:</b>	<b>MPCA contact person:</b>
City of Thief River Falls PO Box 528 Thief River Falls, MN 56701-0528	Thief River Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility 405 Third Street East Thief River Falls, MN 56701 Pennington County T154N, R43W, Section 6 & 31	Amanda Wilkens Municipal Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 7678 College Road, Suite 105 Baxter, MN 56425 Phone: 218-316-3881 Email: <a href="mailto:amanda.wilkens@state.mn.us">amanda.wilkens@state.mn.us</a>  File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or 1-844-828-0942

A draft permit and fact sheet are available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publicnotices>. Additional materials relating to the issuance of this permit are available for inspection by appointment at any MPCA office (<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mpca/mpca-offices>) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The MPCA will mail or email a copy of the draft permit upon request. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and time identified above.

**Watershed:** Red Lake River

**Receiving water:** Unnamed ditch - Class 7, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water

## Description of permitted facility

The Thief River Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility) is located at 405 Third Street East, Thief River Falls, Minnesota 56701, Pennington County. The Facility is a Class D.

The Facility is designed to treat:

- An average wet weather (AWW) flow of 2.99 million gallons per day (MGD)
- Five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD<sub>5</sub>) of 250 milligrams per liter (mg/L)

The existing Facility consists of four main lift stations, approximately 17,530 feet of 10, 12, 16, and 20-inch force main, and a three-cell stabilization pond system consisting of two 131-acre primary cells and one 88-acre secondary cell. The Facility provides a detention time of 210 days at design flow. The Facility has two controlled discharge points, (SD 004) from the 88-acre secondary cell and (SD 005) from the 131-acre primary pond to County Ditch #70 (Class 7, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water) which flows to the Red Lake River (Class 1C, 2Bd, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water).

There are three bypass points in the collection system at lift stations #1, #7, and #9. These are not permitted discharge stations and are manually controlled and locked at all times. There are no other bypass points known to exist in this collection or disposal system.

The preliminary determination to reissue this wastewater permit is tentative.

## Procedure for public participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are three formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA's consideration of this matter. Interested persons may:

- (1) Submit written comments on the draft permit.
- (2) Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.
- (3) Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.

## Submitting written comments

To submit comments or petitions to the MPCA through the mail or email, you must state:

- (1) Your interest in the permit application or the draft permit.
- (2) The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the draft permit you believe should be changed.
- (3) The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

## Public informational meeting

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed facility. MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

## Contested Case Hearing

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.