

General information

Public comment period begins: February 9, 2018

Public comment period ends: 4:30 p.m. on April 9, 2018

Current permit issued: June 11, 2013

Current permit expiration date: September 30, 2015

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

Name and address of Permittee:	Facility name and location:	MPCA contact person:
Metropolitan Council 390 Robert St N Saint Paul, MN 55101-1805	MCES - East Bethel Water Reclamation Facility 18460 Buchanan St NE East Bethel, MN 55011 Anoka County T33N, R23W, Section 32	Shauna Bendt Municipal Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul, MN 55155 Phone: 651-757-2282 Email: shauna.bendt@state.mn.us File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or 1-844-828-0942

A draft permit is available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publicnotices> or at the MPCA office address listed under the MPCA contact person. 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: Rum River

Description of Permitted Facility

The facility is a water reclamation plant that provides tertiary treatment and disinfection of wastewater, followed by distribution of treated effluent to separate subsurface infiltration sites (Site A and Site E). The facility is designed to treat an average wet weather flow of 470,000 gallons per day. Each infiltration site is designed to receive up to 410,000 gallons per day on an annual average basis. This is a Class B facility.

The facility includes influent pumping, fine screening and grit removal, one set of biological treatment tanks with a five-stage biological nutrient removal system, two membrane biological reactor units for tertiary treatment, chemical addition capability, ultraviolet disinfection, back-up chlorination, and pumping and conveyance facilities. Residual biosolids from the plant are periodically removed and delivered to another Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) plant for further treatment and disposal. The facility has back-up equipment and procedures to ensure reliability of the treatment process.

The facility's two infiltration sites (Sites A and E) consist of multi-celled grass-covered earthen basins and the associated distribution system consisting of underground 16-inch and 10-inch pipe that carries water year round to both sites for distribution of the treated effluent. Each site is designed to confine multiple cells in shallow, soil-covered basins with granular material at the bottom to facilitate delivery of the treated effluent through the unsaturated zone. Both Sites A and E have a piezometer (GW009 and GW010, respectively) in the middle of each site to measure elevations, and to serve as observation ports for the piping. The sites also have a network of eight monitoring wells (GW001 - GW008) to determine if there are changes in ground water quality or elevations. The treated effluent is delivered to Sites A and E to optimize cell performance based on the operational requirements to control the mound height and maintain an unsaturated zone above the water table.

Some of the facility's treated effluent may be used for reuse activities. Effluent that meets the limits and monitoring requirements outlined in Waste Stream Stations WS005 and WS006 may be reused for the corresponding activities described for Disinfected Tertiary 2.2 Effluent and Disinfected Secondary 23 Effluent in the Municipal Wastewater Reuse factsheet found on the MPCA website (www.pca.state.mn.us). If the facility proposes reuse for an activity not listed in the fact sheet, a request must be made to the MPCA describing the activity. Future reuse activities that include the construction of permanent piping systems to distribute the treated effluent to users may require a major permit modification. However, at this time the Permittee is only conveying effluent to the two subsurface disposal sites. The Permittee is not authorized under this permit to construct any additional permanent piping systems to distribute effluent for reuse. Any proposals shall be submitted to the MPCA for review and approval prior to construction.

The facility is currently being operated in batch mode due to low initial flows, necessitating changes to operations, sampling, and monitoring provisions of the permit. Requirements for batch mode are outlined in the special requirements section of this permit.

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.