

General information

Public comment period begins: April 5, 2021
Public comment period ends: May 5, 2021 (4:30 p.m.)
Current permit issued: April 15, 2011
Current permit expiration date: April 14, 2016

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to reissue] this permit for a term of approximately 10 years.

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| Name and address of Permittee: | Facility name and location: | MPCA contact person: |
| Koochiching County Environmental Services 715 4th Street International Falls, MN 56649-2438 | Koochiching Recycling and Transfer 4100 Highway 11 West International Falls, MN 56649 Koochiching County T070N, R24W, Section 009 | Orten Abad Resource Management and Assistance Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 520 Lafayette Road North St. Paul, MN 55155-4194 Phone: 651-757-2219 Email: orten.abad@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>. 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.

Description of Koochiching Recycling & Transfer

In April 1996, the MPCA issued a solid waste Permit by Rule to Koochiching County for the construction and operation of a demolition debris land disposal facility until the permit SW-550 was issued in 1998. The landfill is a Class I unlined and accepts demolition and construction debris.

The Koochiching County Demolition Landfill owns 95 acres, of which approximately 12 acres are used for this demolition waste and as a transfer station.

The waste transfer facility consists of a 100 feet by 80 feet tipping floor for municipal solid waste, a recycling area of 85 feet by 75 feet and a yard waste composting area. The building is elevated to allow for a truck pit on the east side and a lower recycling area on the north side. The leachate from the transfer station building is pumped into two ponds located north of the east/west facility access road. The County maintains a 10 feet fence around the pond to prevent people from wandering into the pond. An area for plastic, paper, glass, appliances, tires, and electronics is located within the facility. The facility has adequate equipment on site at all times. The facility is capable of handling up to 300 vehicles per day. The transfer station capacity is 9,000 tons/year of municipal solid waste.

Waste is currently being placed on Phase I: 113,600 cubic yards of waste in-place and 60,200 cubic yards of airspace remaining (final cover not included). Phase II and Phase III have an approximate remaining airspace of 102,600 cubic yards and 104,200 cubic yards (final cover not included). The site is developed in 3 phases for a total design capacity of 415,600 cubic yards including two-feet of final cover.

The following changes to the permit are made through this permit action:

- The permit has been updated to reflect current MPCA templates and standard citation formatting.
- This permit authorizes the continuation of the operation and disposal of 60,200 cubic yards of construction and demolition debris waste and cover material in Phase I.
- The permitted capacity for this reissuance is 173,800 cubic yards for the next 10-years based on the waste in place since 2020.
- The permitted capacity, phase development, and engineering plans have been updated.

The preliminary determination to reissue this Solid Waste 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.