

General information

Public comment period begins: April 16, 2018

Public comment period ends: 4:30 p.m. on June 14, 2018 (60 days)

Current permit issued: July 30, 2012

Current permit expiration date: June 30, 2017

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

Name and address of Permittee:	Facility name and location:	Permitting Contacts:	
TBD	WTP General SD 520 Lafayette Rd N Saint Paul, MN 55155 Ramsey County	Robin Novotny Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 7678 College Road, Suite 105 Baxter, MN 56425 Phone: 218-316-3851 Email: robin.novotny@state.mn.us	Nancy Heskett Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 18 Wood Lake Drive SE Rochester, MN 55904 Phone: 507-206-2605 Email: nancy.heskett@state.mn.us

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> 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:

Receiving water:

Description of permitted facility

All water treatment facilities covered under this General Permit use media filters for treatment of potable water.

Filtration is used to remove suspended solids from the source water. Single media beds or multi-media beds may be used. Media is typically silica sand and/or anthracite. The most common type of filter is a sand filter. Filters are either gravity or pressure distribution.

To clean the filter, the water direction is reversed to remove removed solids. This process is referred to as backwashing. Compressed air may also be blown through the media to improve the removal of the filtered solids from the media. This is known as air scouring. The backwash water is then discharged to a holding tank or pond prior to discharge. The holding tank or pond has a minimum of 24-hours of detention to allow for suspended solids to settle out.

Water filter backwash solids (WFBS) that settle out in the holding tanks or ponds are periodically cleaned out and disposed of. Disposal of WFBS is regulated under this general permit. There are four options for disposal: wastewater treatment facility, landfilling, use as non-residential construction fill, and land application. The requirements for each of these options is listed in a guidance document titled, "Guidelines - Disposal Methods for Water Filter Backwash Solids."

Facilities covered under this permit are either Category 1 or Category 2 facilities. Category 1 facilities are required to meet technology based effluent limits and Category 2 facilities are required to meet water quality based effluent limits. Further explanation of these categories is on page 9 of the permit.

The preliminary determination to reissue this 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.