

General information

Public comment period begins: January 22, 2018

Public comment period ends: 4:30 p.m. on March 23, 2018

Current permit issued: December 19, 2011

Current permit expiration date: November 30, 2016

Current permit modification date: September 18, 2012

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:

City of Big Lake
160 Lake Street North
Big Lake, MN 55309-7500

Facility name and location:

Big Lake WWTP
18999 County Road 14
Big Lake, MN 55309
Sherburne County
T33N, R27W, Section 6

MPCA contact person:

Holly Mikkelson
Municipal Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
714 Lake Avenue
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
Phone: 218-846-8104
Email: holly.mikkelson@state.mn.us

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or
1-844-828-0942

A draft permit and statement of basis 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: Mississippi River - St. Cloud

Receiving water: Mississippi River - Class 1C, 2Bd, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water

Description of permitted facility:

The Big Lake Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility) is located in the SW 1/4 of Section 31, Township 33 North, Range 27 West, Big Lake Township, Sherburne County, Minnesota. This is a Class A Facility.

The application indicates that the existing treatment system consists of a lift station with parallel 8 and 12 inch force mains, two cylindrical fine screens with spray wash and compaction system, vortex grit removal system with grit separator and classifier, influent Parshall flume, a selector tank with two mixers and baffle wall, two oxidation ditches, chemical feed system for phosphorus removal, three final clarifiers, ultraviolet disinfection system, and an outfall pipe. The Facility also has 24 hour composite influent and effluent samplers and solids handling units including two gravity biosolids thickeners, an aerobic digester, a biosolids storage tank, two biosolids batch tanks to feed the centrifuges, two centrifuges, a biosolids bunker to feed the dryer system, a Komline Sanderson indirect heat drying system, a carbon adsorber odor control system, and a biosolids storage silo with dust collection and loadout system. Biosolids are land applied on approved sites. Chlorine is also available for addition to the return activated biosolids for process control.

The Facility has a continuous discharge (SD001) to the Mississippi River (Class 1C, 2Bd, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 Water). The Facility is designed to treat an average dry weather design flow of 709,000 gallons per day (gpd), an average wet weather (AWW) design flow of 840,000 gpd and a peak hourly wet weather flow of 2,204,000 gpd with a five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand of 240 milligrams per liter (mg/L) based on the AWW design flow.

There are no designed bypass/overflow points in the disposal system.

The Mississippi River was designated an Outstanding Resource Value Water (ORVW) on November 5, 1984. The design average wet weather flow of this Facility on the date of ORVW designation is 363,000 gpd.

The preliminary determination to reissue this Wastewater 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.