

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE OF A DRAFT NPDES PERMIT TO DISCHARGE INTO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5, NPDES Programs Branch - WN-15J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604
(312) 886-6106

Public Notice No.: 17-04-01-A

Public Notice Issued On: April 7, 2017

Comment period ends: May 8, 2017

Permit No.: MI-0055808-4 (Reissuance)

Application No.: MI-0055808-4

Name and Address of Applicant:

Union Charter Township
2010 South Lincoln Road
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858

**Name and Address of Facility
Where Discharge Occurs:**

Union Township Wastewater
Treatment Plant
4511 East River Road
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858
SW1/4, SE1/4, Section 2, T14N, R4W
Union Township,
Isabella County

Receiving Water: Chippewa River

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT'S FACILITY AND DISCHARGE

The above named applicant has applied for an NPDES Permit to discharge into the designated receiving water. The discharge is located within the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation. The permit will be issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The permittee collects and treats up to 2.4 MGD of municipal wastewater from Union Township. Influent from the collection system passes through screening and grit removal and then flows to oxidation ditches for biological treatment. Chemicals for phosphorus removal are added before the wastewater flows to clarifiers for settling. After clarification, the water flows through a tertiary filter for polishing followed by ultraviolet light disinfection, and a cascade aerator. Discharge is to the Chippewa River. Biosolids are processed through aerobic digesters and then land applied at agronomic rates.

Proposed Effluent Limitations

Monitoring Point 001A- the permittee is authorized to discharge treated municipal wastewater from Monitoring Point 001A through Outfall 001. Outfall 001 discharges to the Chippewa River. The design flow is 2.4 mgd.

Parameter	Date	30-Day Average	7-Day Average	Daily Maximum	Daily Minimum
Flow	All Year	Report		Report	
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD ₅)	June - October	4 mg/L 80 lbs/d		10 mg/L 200 lbs/d	
	November - May	25 mg/L 500 lbs/d 85 % removal	40 mg/L 800 lbs/d		
Total Suspended Solids	June - October	20 mg/L 400 lbs/d	30 mg/L 600 lbs/d		
	November - May	30 mg/L 600 lbs/d 85 % removal	45 mg/L 900 lbs/d		
Ammonia (as N)	June - October	0.5 mg/L 10 lbs/d		2.0 mg/L 40 lbs/d	
Dissolved Oxygen	All Year				5 mg/L
E.coli	All Year	126 E. coli/100ml*		410 E. coli/100 ml	
Total Phosphorus	All Year	1.0 mg/L 10 lbs/d	2.0 mg/L 20 lbs/d		
Total Mercury	All Year (rolling average)	2.0 ng/L 0.00003 lbs/d			
pH	All Year			9.0 S.U.	6.5 S.U.

* Geometric Mean

The limits were developed to ensure compliance with 40 CFR 131 and 133 and protection of human health and EPA's water quality criteria, and protection of Michigan WQS where applicable. In this regard, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) developed limits for this facility that would be protective of state water quality standards. Though the State's WQS are not applicable at the point of discharge, EPA believes the limits are appropriate and will use them to ensure compliance with the State's WQS at the reservation boundary. Also, permit writer's judgment is used to set the permit requirements. Information from MDEQ on the development of the limits can be found in the administrative record. We have also included a daily maximum limit for E. coli and a weekly average limit for phosphorus. The permit also requires the continued implementation of a mercury minimization plan. The permit also requires compliance with 40 CFR Part 403 to prevent any pass through of pollutants or any inhibition or disruption of the permittee's facility and 40 CFR Part 503 when sludge is used or disposed. The permittee plans on land applying its sewage sludge on the following identified sites.

Owner	Farmer	Site ID#	Acres	Latitude	Longitude
Larry Coldwell	Larry Coldwell	14N04W07-LC03	35	43:37:24	85:50:47
Bob Ervin	Bob Erwin	14N04W09-BE01	117	43:37:389	85:48:148
Bob Erwin	Richard Swindelhurst	15N04W35-RS01	100	43:58:77	84:16:25

Rodney Rapp	Rodney Rapp	15N4W02-RR01	65	43:40:29	84:48:44
Fred Fox	Fred Fox	14N05W10-FF01	68	43:36:53	84:53:25
Bob Murphy	Bob Murphy	14N05W02-BM01	248	43:36:50	84:52:25
Robert Murphy	Robert Murphy	14N04W04-RM01	75	43:37:45	84:47:59
Robert Murphy	Robert Murphy	14N04W04-RM02	35	43:37:45	84:47:40
Tom Murphy	Tom Murphy	14N05W14-TM01	30	43:36:37	84:52:28

Section 401 Water Quality Certification

EPA is the appropriate authority for purposes of certifying the proposed discharge under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Section 401 certification is not needed from the state or the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe as neither has federally approved water quality standards applicable to the receiving water at the point of discharge, however as stated above, EPA believes the effluent limitations included in the draft permit meet state water quality standards at the reservation boundary.

ESA and NHPA Compliance

EPA has satisfied its requirements under the Endangered Species Act and the National Historical Preservation Act. Since this is an existing facility with no new planned expansion or construction expected within the permit term, it is believed that the issuance of the permit and the continued operation of the facility and associated discharge will have no effect on endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat and will have no impact on historical, archeological, or cultural resources.

TENTATIVE DETERMINATION

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of applicable standards and regulations, the Acting Regional Administrator of EPA, Region 5 proposes to reissue a NPDES permit for the discharge from the Union Township WWTP subject to certain effluent limitations and special conditions.

COMMENT PROCEDURES

The determination to issue an NPDES permit is tentative. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the draft permit. EPA's Comment and Public Hearing procedures may be found at 40 CFR §§ 124.10, 124.11, 124.12, and 124.13. The following is a summary of those procedures:

1. The comment period during which written comments on the draft permit may be submitted extends until May 8, 2017.
2. During the comment period, any interested person may request a public hearing by filing a written request which must state the issues to be raised. The last day for filing a request for public hearing is May 8, 2017.
3. In appropriate cases, including those where there is significant public interest, the EPA Regional Administrator may hold a public hearing. A decision has not yet been made as to whether a public hearing will be held for this permit. Public notice of such a hearing will be circulated in at least one newspaper in the geographical area of the discharge and to those persons on the EPA mailing list at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

4. All comments received after May 8, 2017 will not be considered in the formulation of final determinations.

5. Written comments of request for a public hearing must be delivered or mailed to: John A. Colletti, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, NPDES Programs Branch - WN-16J, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604 or emailed to colletti.john@epa.gov.

The application and Public Notice numbers should appear next to the EPA address on the envelope and on each page of any submitted comments. It is important that all viewpoints are considered before taking action. Therefore, we greatly appreciate your time and effort in participating in the public participation process. EPA will notify the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice of the final permit decision.

PETITION TO REVIEW

Within 30 days following the service of notice of the Regional Administrator's final permit decisions, any person who filed comments on the draft permits or participated in a public hearing, if held, may petition the Environmental Appeals Board to review any condition of the permit decision. All documents that are sent through the U.S. Postal Service (except by Express Mail) **MUST** be sent to the following address: Clerk of the Board, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Appeals Board, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Mail Code 1103M, Washington, DC 20460-0001.

All mail sent to the Environmental Appeals Board may be delayed by a random sterilization procedure. Parties are encouraged to utilize the Board's e-filing system or hand or courier delivery when filing pleadings with the Board to avoid potential delays.

Documents that are hand-carried in person, delivered via courier, mailed by Express Mail, or delivered by a non-U.S. Postal Service carrier (e.g., Federal Express or UPS) **MUST** be delivered to: Clerk of the Board, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Appeals Board, 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW, U.S. EPA East Building, Room 3334, Washington, DC 20004

Documents that are hand-carried may be delivered to the Clerk of the Board between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (excluding federal holidays).

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The application, draft permit, including proposed effluent limitations and special conditions, statement of basis, and other documents contained in the administrative record, are available for inspection and may be copied at a cost of 15 cents per page at the Chicago Regional offices of the Environmental Protection Agency anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. You may also view, the public notice, statement of basis, and draft permit on Region 5's website at “<http://www.epa.gov/region5/water/npdestek/index.htm>”. All data submitted by the applicant is available as part of the administrative record. For more information, please contact John Colletti at (312) 886-6106 or by e-mail at colletti.john@epa.gov.

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone you know that would be interested in this matter.