

NPDES authorization to discharge to waters of the United States, Permit No. NM0031097

The applicant's mailing address is:

Mora Independent School District Athletic Field Project
PO Box 179
Mora, NM 87732

The facility is located at at Highway 518 and Ranger Drive, Mora, Mora County, New Mexico. Under the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 8211, the facility is a high school.

The Mora High School is located on the floor of a mountain valley adjacent to the Mora River containing an alluvial aquifer. During construction of the athletic fields, the thin layer of impermeable clay that isolated the aquifer and the surface was disturbed. This disturbance has allowed communication of the aquifer and the surface during wet periods of the year. The dewatering project is a system of three wells, pumps and a collection system used to dewater the athletic fields when groundwater rises during wet times of the year. The water wells will be equipped with groundwater sensors that will initiate pumping when groundwater levels reach a predetermined level and shut off when they are lowered to a lower predetermined level. Under constant pumping, the three-wells could withdraw as much as 4.3 MGD, but the system will only operate as groundwater levels require. The discharge from the site, if any, is to the Mora River in Waterbody Segment No. 20.6.4.309 of the Canadian River Basin.

Designated uses of the receiving water are stated in the Fact Sheet.

This is a renewal of a permit issued on August 30, 2012, with an effective date of September 1, 2012, and an expiration date of August 31, 2017.

Changes from the previous permit are:

- Minimum Quantification Level and Sufficiently Sensitive Methods requirements have been added, and;
- DMR electronic reporting requirements have been added;

A fact sheet is available.

State Certification

This Notice also serves as Public Notice of the intent of the New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau to consider issuing Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification. The purpose of such certification is to reasonably ensure that the permitted activities will be conducted in a manner that will comply with applicable New Mexico water quality standards, including the anti-degradation policy, and the statewide water quality management plan. The NPDES permit will not be issued until the certification requirements of Section 401 have been met.

If you want to comment on State Certification submit written comments within the 30 day period to:

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Surface Water Quality Bureau (N2050)
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