

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

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

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 5, Permits Branch - WP-16J  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
(312) 886-6106

**Public Notice No.:** 20-03-01-A

**Public Notice Issued On:** March 11, 2020

**Comment Period Ends:** April 10, 2020

**Permit No.:** MI-0057366-4 (REISSUANCE)

**Application No.:** MI-0057366-4

**Name and Address of Applicant:**

Hannahville Indian Community  
Water Operations Department  
N14911 Hannahville B1 Road  
Wilson, Michigan 49896

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

Hannahville Indian Community WWTP  
W374 Wandahsega Lane  
Hannahville Indian Reservation  
Harris, Michigan 49845  
Menominee County  
(South ½ of the SE ¼ of the NE ¼ of the SW  
¼ of Section 12, and the North ½ of the NE  
¼ of the SE ¼ of the Section 12, Township  
38N, Range 25W)

**Receiving Water:** Unnamed Wetland which is a part of the Depas Creek watershed

#### **Treatment Facility Description**

The above-named applicant has applied for an NPDES Permit to discharge into the designated receiving water. The facility is located within the boundaries of the Hannahville Indian Community. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has retained the authority to issue NPDES permits to facilities with discharges to waters of the United States within Indian Country. The permit will be issued by the EPA under the authorities of the Clean Water Act.

The permittee owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant consisting of headworks screening, a pre-equalization basin, two sequencing batch reactors (SBRs) system with biological and chemical treatment for phosphorus removal, post-equalization, and ultraviolet disinfection. The treated effluent flows through a diffuser (Latitude 45° 41' 53.6" N: Longitude 87° 20' 12.7" W) into a wetland which is part of the Depas Creek watershed. The existing facility is designed to treat an average daily flow of 230,000 gallons per day. The facility has been in operation since

2006. The facility can be expanded by adding two additional SBR units and increasing the design flow to 456,000 gallons per day (Phase II). At this time there is no firm expansion timeline. Wastewater is from domestic sources only, including flows from the Hannahville Indian Community, Bark River Township and a casino.

Solids from the SBR units are collected and pumped to an aerobic digester. The permittee may also use geotech drying media to further reduce the volume of sludge to be land applied. The plant has 180-days of sludge storage. The sludge is land applied to farmland held in trust for the Hannahville Indian Community.

The following land application sites have been identified by the permittee as potential sites to receive sewage sludge during the permit term. It is not expected additional sites will be needed, however, the permit requires notification both to EPA and locally if additional sites will be used. As new sites are identified, information on those sites will be available for inspection at the Regional Office.

Site Name	Size	Latitude	Longitude
Site 1 - "400 Road Property"	14 acres	45° 46' 25.2" N	87° 25' 40.0" W
Site 2 - "400 Road Property"	28 acres	45° 46' 20.4" N	87° 25' 14.2" W
B-1 Road – Forest Site	100 acres	45° 38' 07.5" N	87° 21' 12.6" W
B-1 Road – Field Site	30 acres	45° 41' 17.1" N	87° 21' 03.0" W
Three Fires Site	38.5 acres	45° 39' 18.1" N	87° 18' 36.1" W

### **Tentative Determination**

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of applicable standards and regulations, the Regional Administrator of EPA, Region 5 proposes to reissue a permit for the discharge from the Hannahville Indian Community Wastewater Treatment Plant subject to certain effluent limitations and special conditions.

### **Comment Procedures and Public Hearing**

The determination to issue the NPDES permit is tentative. 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 to April 10, 2020.
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 April 10, 2020. EPA will hold a hearing if there is significant interest based on written requests. 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.
3. All comments postmarked after April 10, 2020 will not be considered in the formulation of the final determination.

4. Written comments or requests for a public hearing must be delivered or mailed to: John A. Colletti, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, Permits Branch - WP-16J, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604, or emailed to [colletti.john@epa.gov](mailto: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. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of persons whom you know would be interested in this matter. Unless a public hearing is scheduled, the EPA will issue a final determination as to the issuance of the permit in a timely manner after the expiration of the public comment period. If you would like to receive a copy of the final determination, please submit a request during the comment period to the above address. 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 decision, any person who filed comments on the draft permit or participated in a public hearing, if held, may petition the Environmental Appeals Board (EAB) to review any condition of the permit decision. Such a petition must include a statement of the reasons supporting review of the decision, including a demonstration that the issue(s) being raised for review were raised during the public comment period (including any public hearing). The petition should, when appropriate, show that each condition being appealed is based on either, (1) a finding of fact or conclusion of law which is clearly erroneous, or (2) an exercise of discretion or an important policy demonstration which the EAB should, in its discretion, review.

#### **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 "<https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/hannahville-indian-community-wastewater-treatment-plant-mpdes-permit-mi-0057366-4>". 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](mailto:colletti.john@epa.gov).