

General information

Public comment period begins: September 6, 2022

Public comment period ends: November 7, 2022

Current permit issued: September 27, 2016

Current permit expiration date: August 31, 2021

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 Little Falls
P.O. Box 244
Little Falls, MN 56345-0244

Facility name and location:

Little Falls Wastewater Treatment
Facility
900 Hilton Road
Little Falls, MN 56345-3403
Morrison County
T040N, R32W, Section 18

MPCA contact person:

Jon Kolstad
Municipal Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
7678 College Road, Suite 105
Baxter, MN 56425
Phone: 218-316-3924
Email: jon.kolstad@state.mn.us

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or
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>. Additional materials relating to the issuance of this permit are available for inspection by appointment at any MPCA office (<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mpca/contact-us>) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. 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 U.S. Mail comments must be received by 4:30 p.m.

Watershed: Mississippi River - Sartell

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

Description of the Little Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility

This is a Class A facility.

The Facility discharges continuously (SD004) to the Mississippi River (Class 1C, 2Bdg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water). The Facility is designed to treat an average wet weather (AWW) flow of 2.4 million gallons per day (MGD), an average annual flow of 1.9 MGD, and an average dry weather (ADW) flow of 1.1 MGD, with a five day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) strength of 177 milligrams per liter (mg/L).

Major Components of the existing Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) consist of:

- 1 Equalization Tank
- 1 Influent Flow Meter (parshall flume)
- 1 Bar Screen - Manual
- 1 Bar Screen - Mechanical
- 1 Vortex Grit Removal
- 2 Anaerobic/Anoxic selector tanks
- 2 Activated Sludge - oxidation ditch
- 2 Final Clarifiers
- 1 UV disinfection
- 1 Post-aeration (cascading aeration)
- 2 Aerated digesters
- 1 Centrifuge
- 1 Covered Dewatered Biosolids Storage Area
- 1 Land Application of Biosolids

The WWTF consist of influent flow monitoring with a parshall flume, a mechanically raked screen, a manually raked bypass screen, a vortex grit removal system, a flow equalization basin, two anaerobic selector tanks with mixing, two oxidation ditches set up for biological phosphorus removal, backup chemical phosphorus removal system, two final clarifiers, and an ultraviolet light disinfection system followed by cascade aeration prior to discharge. The proposed solids handling will consist of two aerobic digesters, biosolids dewatering with a centrifuge, dewatered biosolids cake storage in a building, and land application of biosolids and/or used by the county landfill.

Southeast Lift Station Bypass and West Lift Station Bypass are capable of discharging untreated wastewater to the Mississippi River. The treatment Facility also has a Bypass/Overflow point from the flow equalization basin to the outfall pipe.

The preliminary determination to reissue this Wastewater 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

Comments may be submitted:

- 1) Online at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publiccomments>; or
- 2) By U.S. postal mail to the following address:
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
c/o Jon Kolstad
7678 College Road, Suite 105
Baxter, MN 56425

Submitted comments or petitions 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.