

General information

Public comment period begins: December 16, 2022

Public comment period ends: February 14, 2023

Current permit issued: May 25, 2012

Current permit expiration date: April 30, 2017

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: | Facility name and location: | MPCA contact person: |
|---|---|--|
| City of Zumbro Falls PO Box 123 Zumbro Falls, MN 55991-0123 | Zumbro Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility Main St Zumbro Falls, MN 55991 Wabasha County T110N, R13W, Section 031 | Melanie Miland Municipal Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 7381 Airport View Dr SW Rochester, MN 55902 Phone: 507-206-2647 Email: melanie.miland@state.mn.us |
| | | File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or 844-828-0942 |

A draft permit is 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: Zumbro River

Receiving water: Buckman Coulee - Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water; thence to the Zumbro River - Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water

Description of permitted facility

The Zumbro Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility) is located in the NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 31, Township 110 North, Range 13 West, Gillford Township, Wabasha County, Minnesota.

The application and plans indicate that the existing treatment system consists of a lift station and a three-cell stabilization pond system. This is a Class D facility.

The Facility has a controlled discharge (SD 001) to a dry run (Buckman Coulee) to the Zumbro River (Class 2 water). The system is designed to treat an average wet weather (AWW) influent flow of 0.0297 million gallons per day (MGD) with a five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) strength of approximately 226 milligrams per liter (mg/L). The primary pond cells have surface areas of approximately 1.5 and 1.6 acres, measured at the six-foot depth (the high water level), and 1.32 and 1.39 acres measured at the average operating level. The secondary pond cell has a surface area of approximately 1.5 acres, measured at the six-foot depth (the high water level), and 1.33 acres at the average operating level. The pond system provides a total detention time of approximately 180 days at the AWW design flow of 0.0297 MGD.

There are no bypass or overflow points known to exist in this treatment system.

Because the city of Zumbro Falls is located in an area of southeastern Minnesota where karstic geological characteristics are prevalent, the Permittee was required in an administrative order to develop a contingency plan to be implemented in the event that the Facility is affected by these characteristics. Sections of this permit contain special requirements and definitions pertaining to karst geology: a) Section 5.5 - Karst Requirements and b) Limits and Monitoring Requirements.

The Facility is further described in plans and specifications on file with the MPCA and in an engineering report by the firm of Israelson and Associates, Inc., Bloomington, Minnesota.

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 Melanie Miland
7381 Airport View Dr SW
Rochester, MN 55902

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.