

General information

Public comment period begins: September 26, 2023

Public comment period ends: November 27, 2023

Current permit issued: June 1, 2020

Current permit expiration date: May 31, 2025

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to modify this permit.

Name and address of Permittee:	Facility name and location:	MPCA contact person:
City of East Gull Lake 10790 Gull Point Rd East Gull Lake, MN 56401-3088	East Gull Lake Wastewater Treatment Facility 11800 County Rd 18 East Gull Lake, MN 56401 Cass County T134N, R29W, Section 16 & 32	Amanda Wilkens Municipal Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 7678 College Rd, Ste 105 Baxter, MN 56425 Phone: 218-316-3881 Email: amanda.wilkens@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 <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/get-engaged/public-comments>. 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: Crow Wing River

Receiving water: Gull River - Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water

Description of permitted facility

Existing Facility

The existing facility consists of two separate sites: the North Plant - Gull Point facility (previously Squaw Point) and the South Plant - Pine Beach facility.

The North Plant - Gull Point facility has a continuous discharge from SD 001 to the Gull River. The Facility is a Class C.

The Facility is designed to treat:

- An average wet weather (AWW) flow of 0.0334 million gallons per day (MGD).
- Five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) of 68 pounds per day (lb/day).
- Total suspended solids (TSS) of 81 lb/day

The North Plant - Gull Point facility consists of a main lift station, force main, two aerated ponds, sand filter, and ultraviolet disinfection. The ponds are 13 feet deep with a normal operating depth of 10 feet. Each has a surface area of 0.41 acres. One-half of the second pond is not aerated and serves as a quiescent zone for the settling of solids.

The South Plant - Pine Beach facility has a continuous discharge from SD 002 to the Gull River. The Facility is a Class B.

The Facility is designed to treat:

- An AWW flow of 0.363 MGD
- CBOD₅ of 636 lb/day
- TSS of 606 lb/day

The South Plant - Pine Beach facility consists of a main lift station, influent splitter structure, two activated sludge basins, two final clarifiers equipped with chemical addition for phosphorus removal, ultraviolet disinfection, and a Parshall flume. The South Plant - Pine Beach facility also includes an aerated overflow storage basin, with piping to return stored wastewater to the influent splitter box, an aerobic digestion basin, and a sludge storage basin.

Proposed Facility

Proposed changes to the facility include decommissioning the North Plant - Gull Point facility and conveying all flows to the South Plant - Pine Beach facility. New sanitary sewer force main will be constructed to the South Plant - Pine Beach facility. A new influent magnetic flow meter will be installed at the South Plant - Pine Beach facility. No other changes will be made to the South Plant - Pine Beach facility.

The facility will be designed to treat:

- An AWW flow of 0.396 MGD
- CBOD₅ of 694 lb/day
- TSS of 661 lb/day

The preliminary determination to modify 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 <https://mpca.commentinput.com/comment/search>; or
- 2) By U.S. postal mail to the following address:
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
c/o Amanda Wilkens
7678 College Rd, Ste 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.