

General information

Public comment period begins: November 2, 2023
Public comment period ends: December 4, 2023
Current permit issued: September 14, 2021
Current permit expiration date: September 14, 2026

Name and address of Permittee:

Heartland Corn Products
PO Box A
Winthrop, MN 55396-0429

Facility name and location:

Heartland Corn Products
53331 State Highway 19
Winthrop, MN 55396-2158
Sibley County

MPCA contact person:

Michael Van Der Wal
Industrial Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road
Saint Paul, MN 55101
Phone: 651-757-2755
Email: michael.vanderwal@state.mn.us

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or
844-828-0942

A draft permit and supporting information are 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.

Description of permitted facility and modification

Heartland Corn Products (Facility) is located at 53331 State Highway 19 in Winthrop, Minnesota.

Heartland Corn Products operates an ethanol production plant and is made up of an East Plant and West Plant. The facility uses grain to produce fuel ethanol (Denatured ethanol and E-85), corn oil, corn syrup, and byproducts. Operations at the facility include grain receiving, milling, fermentation, distillation, denaturing, storage and loadout to railcars or trucks. The facility is permitted to produce up to 155 million gallons per year (MMgpy) of undenatured ethanol, loadout 3.958 MMgpy of denaturant, receive 11.563 million tons per year of grain, and loadout 2.453 million tons per year of dry distiller's grain with solubles (DDGS) per year.

Pollutants emitted include particulate matter and particulate matter smaller than 10 microns and 2.5 microns (PM, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}), volatile organic compounds (VOC), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), hazardous air pollutants (HAP), and greenhouse gases (GHG). Sources of emissions from the facility include grain receiving and handling, milling, fermentation, distillation, DDGS production, DDGS handling and storage, product and denaturant storage and loadout, combustion sources, cooling towers, truck traffic, and VOC leaks.

This permit action authorizes an increase in production capacity to 180 MMgpy ethanol, 330,333 tons per year of DDGS, and 10 MMgpy of corn oil. The permit action also authorizes installation of a new natural gas-fired electricity generating turbine, and two new turbine and duct systems for combined heat and power, which will allow the facility to produce additional steam and up to 22 megawatts (MW) of electricity, reducing the facility's reliance on the electric grid. This permit action also authorizes the installation of new equipment to produce a high protein strand, which will be controlled by an thermal oxidizer and wet scrubber

The permit action is for modification and operation of the facility. The permit action is a major amendment; therefore, the draft permit has been placed on public notice.

A summary of the Potential to Emit (PTE)/Emissions Increase in tons per year is as follows:

Pollutant	PM	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	SO ₂	NO _x	VOCs	CO	CO _{2e}	Lead	Total HAP
Total Facility PTE	222.13	163.63	147.82	52.8	444.14	332.37	458.9	1094617	0	94.21
Emissions Increase from new and modified emission units	94.31	79.65	75.74	12.76	231.17	133.65	217.9	254352	0	69.66

PM = Particulate Matter

PM_{2.5} = PM, 2.5 microns and smaller

NO_x = Nitrogen Oxides

CO = Carbon Monoxide

PM₁₀ = PM, 10 microns and smaller

SO₂ = Sulfur Dioxide

VOCs = Volatile Organic Compounds

CO_{2e} = Carbon Dioxide Equivalents as defined in Minn. R. 7007.0100

HAP = Hazardous Air Pollutant

The Permittee is not required to submit a pollution prevention progress report pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 115D.08.

The preliminary determination to modify this Air 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 Michael Van Der Wal
520 Lafayette Road
Saint Paul, MN 55101

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.