

General information

Public comment period begins: July 8, 2024
Public comment period ends: September 6, 2024
Current permit issued: December 1, 2015
Current permit expiration date: November 30, 2020

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 Becker
PO Box 250
Becker, MN 55308

Facility name and location:

Becker Wastewater Treatment Facility
14398 Central Ave
Becker, MN 55308
Sherburne County
T034N, R28W, Section 031

MPCA contact person:

Jon Kolstad
Municipal Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
7678 College Rd, Ste 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 <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: Mississippi River - St. Cloud

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

Description of permitted facility

The existing facility has a continuous discharge from station SD 001 which is a combined municipal and industrial discharge point. This is a Class A facility.

The Municipal facility is designed to treat:

- an average wet weather (AWW) flow of 1.55 million gallons per day (MGD);
- an average dry weather (ADW) flow of 1.25 MGD;
- a peak hourly wet weather (PHWW) flow of 3.75 MGD;
- five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) of 2,585 pounds per day (lb/day);
- total suspended solids (TSS) of 3,361 lb/day;
- total phosphorus (TP) of 78 lb/day; and
- total nitrogen (TN) of 452 lb/day.

The facility consists of an influent pump station, mechanically cleaned bar screen, grit removal, and an anaerobic basin to assist in biological phosphorus removal. Flow then enters one of two oxidation basins for secondary treatment, two 55-foot diameter final clarifiers, chemical and polymer addition to assist in phosphorus removal, two cloth media disk filtration systems, ultraviolet disinfection, and effluent aeration basin. In addition, a bio-filter odor control system connected to the municipal and industrial headworks and the industrial EQ tanks and a vector unloading station. The biosolids are mechanically thickened in a rotary press and then landfilled for final disposal.

The Industrial facility is designed to treat:

- an average wet weather (AWW) flow of 0.6 MGD;
- a peak hourly wet weather (PHWW) flow of 0.9 MGD;
- five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) of 9,100 lb/day;
- total suspended solids (TSS) of 1,000 lb/day;
- total phosphorus (TP) of 25 lb/day; and
- total nitrogen (TN) of 100 lb/day.

The facility consists of a manual bar screen, mechanical fine screen, nutrient addition, an industrial influent lift station, two aerated influent equalization tanks, an anaerobic selector basin for biological phosphorus removal, four oxidation ditches each with two brush-type rotor aerators, three final clarifiers (two 34-foot diameter, 14-foot side water depth and one 50-foot, 12-foot side water depth) a sludge pumping building, two 30-foot diameter waste sludge holding tanks and a sludge processing building with a rotary fan press for dewatering of industrial biosolids.

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 <https://mpca.commentinput.com/comment/search>; or
- 2) By U.S. postal mail to the following address:

Jon Kolstad
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
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.