

General information

Public comment period begins: August 12, 2024

Public comment period ends: September 11, 2024

Name and address of Permittee:

MagIron LLC
 6377 Eshquaguma Rd.
 Gilbert, MN 55741-8009

Facility name and location:

MagIron LLC
 28754 County Highway 61
 Grand Rapids, MN 55744
 Itasca County

MPCA contact person:

Benjamin Wenkel
 Industrial Division
 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
 520 Lafayette Rd.
 St. Paul, MN 55155
 Phone: 651-757-2603
 Email: benjamin.wenkel@state.mn.us
 File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or
 844-828-0942

A draft permit and supporting documentation 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 MagIron

The permit action is for modification and operation of the facility. The permit action is the issuance of the Part 70 operating permit; therefore, the draft permit has been placed on public notice.

MagIron LLC is the new owner of the formerly named Prairie River Minerals (PRM) Demonstration Plant, the formerly named Mag Mining LLC Plant 4 (also formerly named Magnetation Plant 4 and ERP Iron Ore Plant 4), and Jessie Loadout, all of which are located west of Coleraine, MN. Plant 4 is located north of Itasca County Rd. 61, the PRM site is immediately south of the highway, and Jessie Loadout is further south of the PRM site. The PRM and Plant 4 sites are scam mining operations designed to produce high-grade iron ore and iron concentrates from legacy low-grade waste rock stockpiles, tailings basins, and other stockpiled iron-bearing material. The PRM site is designed to produce a maximum of 1.75 million metric tons per year of products and Plant 4 is capable of producing 3.0 million metric tons per year of concentrate. Jessie Loadout is a rail loadout facility that will receive concentrate from Plant 4 where it will be loaded to railcars for shipping.

The main pollutants of concern are particulate matter (PM), PM less than 10 microns in diameter (PM₁₀), and PM less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM_{2.5}). MagIron will utilize control strategies to reduce fugitive dust from its paved and unpaved roads along with the long-term material storage areas, stockpiles, and exposed mining areas. It will also operate water sprays on the material processing equipment at two locations at the PRM site to control particulate matter emissions.

This permit action incorporates the existing equipment from Plant 4 and Jessie Loadout and authorizes construction of a new fixed crushing circuit at Plant 4 and a new conveyor at the existing portable screening operation at Plant 4. This permit action does not authorize any changes or modifications to the PRM and Jessie Loadout sites.

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

Pollutant	PM	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	SO ₂	NO _x	VOCs	CO	CO _{2e}	Lead
Total Facility PTE	1,178	384	76.8	0.078	12.5	0.77	7.22	12,304	0.0055

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

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

The preliminary determination to issue 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:
Benjamin Wenkel
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

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.