

General information

Public comment period begins: September 9, 2024

Public comment period ends: October 9, 2024

Name and address of Permittee:

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services
 2400 Childs Rd
 Saint Paul, MN 55106-6724

Facility name and location:

Met Council - Empire WWTP
 2540 197th St W
 Farmington, MN 55024
 Dakota County
 T114N, R19W, Section 021

MPCA contact person:

Alfredo Rincon-Gonzalez
 Industrial Division
 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
 520 Lafayette Rd
 St. Paul, MN 55155
 Phone: 651-757-2158
 Email: alfredo.rincon.gonzalez@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 Met Council - Empire WWTP

The Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant cleans and treats wastewater before discharging it to the Mississippi River. Solids removed from the wastewater during the sewage treatment are known as sludge. The sludge is anaerobically digested and the digester gas generated is used as biofuel at three boilers of 8 MMBtu/hr each and a digester gas engine of 1379 bhp. If needed, biogas can also be combusted in a flare. Currently, this facility has two 2 megawatts (MW) diesel-fired engine non-emergency generators in which carbon monoxide (CO) emissions are controlled with two oxidation catalyst units. Fugitive emissions include wastewater treatment and gasoline dispensing emissions. The main pollutants of concern from the processes are CO and nitrogen oxides (NO_x).

The preliminary determination to issue this air permit is tentative.

The permit action is for operation of the facility. The permit action is issuance of a state permit operating permit. Therefore, the draft permit has been placed on public notice

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	3.31	2.85	2.85	12.0	63.0	19.6	63.3	125586	5.12E-05

PM = Particulate Matter

PM_{2.5} = PM, 2.5 microns and smaller

NO_x = Nitrogen oxides

PM₁₀ = PM, 10 microns and smaller

SO₂ = Sulfur Dioxide

VOCs = Volatile Organic Compounds

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

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:
Alfredo Rincon-Gonzalez
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.