

General information

Public comment period begins: November 6, 2024

Public comment period ends: January 6, 2025

Current permit issued: February 1, 2017

Current permit expiration date: January 31, 2022

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 Bethel
PO Box 64
Bethel, MN 55005-0064

Facility name and location:

Bethel Wastewater Treatment Facility
156 237th Ave NW
Bethel, MN 55005
Anoka County
T33N, R24W, Section 36

MPCA contact person:

Holly Mikkelson
Municipal Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
7678 College Rd, Ste 105
Baxter, MN 56425
Phone: 218-316-3860
Email: holly.mikkelson@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: Rum River

Description of permitted facility

The Bethel Wastewater Treatment facility (facility) is located at 156 237th Avenue Northeast, Bethel, Minnesota 55005, Anoka County.

The existing facility discharges from WS 002 to land via rapid infiltration basins. The facility is a Class D.

The facility is designed to treat:

- an average wet weather flow of 0.0375 million gallons per day (MGD); and
- an average dry weather flow of 0.031 MGD.

The facility consists of three lift stations, force main, two 0.75-acre aerated ponds, a 2.1-acre stabilization pond, and a four-cell rapid infiltration basin (RIB) system. Each cell of the RIB system has an area of 9,500 square feet for a total area of 0.87 acres. The facility has a total detention time of 210 days at design flow. Discharge to surface water is not permitted.

Groundwater at the facility is monitored by six groundwater monitoring wells (GW 004, GW 006, GW 007, GW 008, GW 009, and GW 010).

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:
Holly Mikkelson
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.