

General information

Public comment period begins: December 4, 2024
Public comment period ends: February 3, 2025
Current permit issued: October 2, 2023
Current permit expiration date: September 30, 2028

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to modify this permit for a term of approximately four years.

Name and address of Permittee:

Harmony, City of
PO Box 488
Harmony, MN 55939-0488

Facility name and location:

Harmony Wastewater Treatment Facility
120 10th St SE
Harmony, MN 55939
Fillmore County
T101N, R10W, Section 023

MPCA contact person:

Nancy Heskett
Municipal Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
7381 Airport View Dr SW
Rochester, MN 55902
Phone: 507-206-2605
Email: nancy.heskett@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: Upper Iowa River

Receiving water: Pine Creek - Class 7, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water

Description of permitted facility

Existing Facility

The existing facility has a continuous discharge from SD 003 to Pine Creek. This is a class B facility.

The facility is designed to treat:

- an average wet-weather (AWW) flow of 0.194 million gallons per day (MGD),
- an average dry-weather (ADW) flow of 0.120 MGD,
- peak hourly wet-weather (PHWW) flow of 0.600 MG, and
- five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) of 324 pounds per day (lb/day).

The facility consists of two lift stations, mechanical screening, grit removal, a primary clarifier, a trickling filter, intermediate clarifiers, aeration basins, final clarifiers, chlorine contact basin with dechlorination, an anaerobic digester, sludge drying beds, and a sludge storage tank.

Proposed Facility

The facility is constructing a new ultraviolet disinfection system and installing a new effluent flow meter. No other changes are proposed.

The only portions of this major modification that are open for public comment are the proposed construction schedule, flow monitoring and phased limit for total residual chlorine.

The preliminary determination to modify 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:
Nancy Heskett
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
7381 Airport View Dr SW
Rochester, MN 55902

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.