

General information

Public comment period begins: May 22, 2025
Public comment period ends: July 21, 2025
Current permit issued: February 14, 2020
Current permit expiration date: November 30, 2023

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:

Rich Prairie Sewer & Water District
PO Box 280
Pierz, MN 56364-0280

Facility name and location:

Rich Prairie Sewer Treatment Facility
11835 280th Ave
Pierz, MN 56364
Pierz Township
Morrison County
T040N, R30W, Section 028

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 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.

Watershed: Mississippi River - Sartell

Receiving water: Skunk Creek - Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water

Description of the Rich Prairie Sewer Treatment Facility

The existing facility has a controlled discharge from SD001. The facility has been reclassified from Class D to Class C.

The facility is designed to treat:

- an average wet weather (AWW) flow of 0.229 million gallons per day (mgd); and
- five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) of 609 pounds per day (lb/day).

The facility consists of a six-cell stabilization pond system. The two primary pond cells have surface areas of 9.3 acres each and the two secondary cells have surface areas of 9.3 and of 4.0 acres, each measured at the four-foot mean operating depth. The two aerated ponds have a surface area of 0.2 acres each, measured at the 11-foot mean operating depth. The aerated ponds have a detention time of approximately seven days and the facility pumps the effluent. The pond system provides a total detention time of 180 days at design flow.

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.