

## General information

**Public comment period begins:** July 7, 2025**Public comment period ends:** August 6, 2025**Name and address of Permittee:**North Branch Water & Light  
Commission  
PO Box 910  
North Branch, MN 55056-0910**Facility name and location:**North Branch Municipal Water and Light  
6388 Maple St  
North Branch, MN 55056-3330  
Chisago County**MPCA contact person:**Clare Adams  
Industrial Division  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road N  
Saint Paul, MN 55155  
Phone: 651-757-2449  
Email: [clare.adams@state.mn.us](mailto:clare.adams@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 North Branch Municipal Water and Light

North Branch Municipal Water and Light (North Branch) owns and operates a municipal peak electric generating plant that includes two 2,788 brake horsepower (bhp) engines installed in 2002 and three 3,286 bhp engines installed in 2010. The main pollutants of concern are the result of combustion of diesel fuel in the engines, including nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and carbon monoxide (CO). The 2002 engines each have an oxidation catalyst as control equipment to reduce carbon monoxide emissions.

The permit action is for operation of the facility. The permit action is the reissuance of the Part 70 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 <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOCs	CO	CO <sub>2e</sub>	Total HAP
Total Facility PTE	5.50	4.52	4.38	0.12	236	3.29	21.5	12598	0.134

PM = Particulate Matter

PM<sub>2.5</sub> = PM, 2.5 microns and smallerNO<sub>x</sub> = Nitrogen Oxides

CO = Carbon Monoxide

PM<sub>10</sub> = PM, 10 microns and smallerSO<sub>2</sub> = Sulfur Dioxide

VOCs = Volatile Organic Compounds

CO<sub>2e</sub> = Carbon Dioxide Equivalents as defined in Minn. R. 7007.0100

HAP = Hazardous Air Pollutant

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

The preliminary determination to reissue 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:

Clare Adams  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road N  
Saint 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.