

# Public Notice – Superfund

## Request for comments on draft Minnesota Decision Document Main Street Solvent Plume

*Doc Type: Public Notice*

### General information

**Public comment period begins:** June 5, 2026**Public comment period ends:** 11:59 p.m. on July 6, 2026**Site Name and location:**Main Street Solvent Plume  
317/321 Main Street  
Biwabik, MN 55708**MPCA contact person:**Dan Cervin  
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A draft Minnesota Decision Document for the Main Street Solvent Plume Site is available for review on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Public Notices webpage at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/get-engaged/public-comments>. Additional materials relating to this document are available for inspection by appointment at any MPCA office (<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mpca/mpca-offices>) 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 Minnesota Decision Document upon request. Comments and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and time identified above.

### Description of the Main Street Solvent Plume

In October 2001 and February 2002, during an investigation of three petroleum leak sites located in the general vicinity of 317/321 Main Street, the MPCA identified the chlorinated volatile organic compound (CVOC) tetrachloroethylene (PCE) in groundwater at concentrations up to 530 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ). While no definitive release location was identified, impacts to groundwater appeared to originate at or near 317/321 Main Street. A Responsible Party was not identified for the release. The Site was listed on the Minnesota Permanent List of Priorities (PLP) in 2013 and assigned Site ID SR0001281.

The MPCA conducted remedial investigations and site monitoring from 2012 to 2025 to determine the extent and magnitude of the release. Initial subsurface investigations began at the Site in 2012 with the advancement of multiple soil borings for the collection of groundwater, soil, and soil vapor samples at the Site. Groundwater investigations conducted at the Site had previously shown the water table to be at approximately 40 feet below ground surface. Since the start of site investigation, the groundwater level has dropped to its current depth of approximately 65 feet below ground surface. The drop in ground levels may be attributable to nearby mine pit dewatering activities. New, deeper wells were installed at the Site in 2016 through 2019 and the water table elevation has been stable since that time. The permanent monitoring wells have been sampled annually or biannually since 2016.

There is contaminated groundwater at the Site, in addition to limited soil and soil vapor impacts. The contamination is not currently impacting receptors, and risk to human health and the environment is low.

### MPCA Decision

The MPCA has determined that no action/natural attenuation is the appropriate response action for the Site. To implement the selected response action, the MPCA will seal and abandon the monitoring well network at the Site.

### Submitting Comments

Comments may be submitted to the MPCA by the two methods below:

1. Online at [www.pca.state.mn.us/publiccomments](https://www.pca.state.mn.us/publiccomments)
2. U.S. Mail to the address listed above.