

General information

Public comment period begins: June 22, 2026
Public comment period ends: July 22, 2026
Current permit issued: April 17, 2013
Current permit expiration date: March 31, 2018

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:

Twin City Tanning LLP
501 Malden St
South Saint Paul, MN 55075

Facility name and location:

Twin City Tanning Company LLP
501 Malden St
South Saint Paul, MN 55075-5936
Dakota County
T028N, R22W, Section 027

MPCA contact person:

Emily Schnick
Industrial Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd N
Saint Paul, MN 55155
Phone: 651-757-2699
Email: emily.schnick@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: Mississippi River - Twin Cities

Description of permitted facility

The principal activity at the facility is the processing of cattle hides into chrome tanned leather. The source of the facility's makeup water is from the South St. Paul municipal city water supply at a maximum rate of 500,000 gallons per day. The facility uses approximately 175 million gallons of water annually to facilitate the production process.

The industrial by-product (IBP) is generated from wastewater pretreatment. Waste from washing cattle hides are routed through a clarifier. Two main wastewaters are produced, which are either treated in the sulfide oxidation process, or are treated for chrome recovery. Wastewater entering the sulfide oxidation process contains dirt, blood, salt, proteins, sodium chloride, sulfides, sulfates, liming agents, calcium hydroxide and low pH sulfuric acid from the pickling process. The IBP for land application is the result of the pretreatment of wastewater from the sulfide oxidation process. None of the wastewaters containing residual chrome from the tanning process are discharged into the pretreatment system from where the IBP is generated.

Solids from the sulfide oxidation process are periodically removed, pH adjusted to lower pH prior to land application, and land applied at agronomic rates during the cropping season. The IBP is land applied continuously throughout the year typically at rates of twice per day, up to four times per day and land applied with a tanker truck by a licensed applicator within two hours of leaving the facility. If the facility is not able to apply their byproducts, it is discharged to the municipal wastewater treatment system, Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) - Metro Plant. Prior to 2008, all IBP was discharged to MCES without adverse impact.

There are two indoor 10,000-gallon tanks that store the solid material before it is transferred directly from the storage tanks to the tanker trucks for transport to the land application site.

Sanitary waste is sent directly to MCES and is not covered by this permit.

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:
Emily Schnick
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd 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.