

General information

Public comment period begins: July 7, 2026
Public comment period ends: August 6, 2026
Current permit issued: October 1, 2013
Current permit expiration date: September 30, 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:

United States Air Force Reserve
760 Military Hwy, Bldg. 744
Minneapolis, MN 55450

Facility name and location:

U.S. Air Force Reserve/934th Airlift
Wing
760 Military Hwy, Bldg. 744
Minneapolis, MN 55450
Hennepin County
T28N, R23W, Sections 19 and 20

MPCA contact person:

Christine Bianchi
Industrial Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
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Saint Paul, MN 55155-4194
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Email: christine.bianchi@state.mn.us

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or
844-828-0942

A draft permit and supporting documentation 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: Lower Minnesota River

Receiving water: Mississippi River - Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water; Unnamed stream - Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water; Minnesota River - Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water

Description of permitted facility

The U.S. Air Force Reserve/934th Airlift Wing facility (facility) is located at 760 Military Highway Bldg 744, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55450, Hennepin County.

The main base of the facility (Base Area N) is located adjacent to the north of the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP). The facility also includes a small triangular area to the southeast (Base Area D) which houses the US Air Force JP-8 tanks. The principal activity at this facility is the storage, maintenance, and operation of military aircraft by the United States Air Force Reserve's 934th Airlift Wing. The facility consists of several service buildings, aircraft parking/aircraft deicing apron, and two above-ground storage tanks for fuel with accompanying secondary containment basins.

The waste streams authorized by this permit include the discharges of stormwater as further described herein. As these are stormwater related discharges dependent on precipitation, they occur intermittently. Discharge flow volume for station SD 001 averages 53,000 gallons per day (gpd); station SD 002 discharge flow volume averages 8,000 gpd; station SD 003 discharge flow volume averages 1,600 gpd; and station SD 004 discharge flow volume averages 4,600 gpd. Station SD 005 has been added to this permit to monitor stormwater discharges from the area located northeast of the aircraft parking apron and is further discussed below.

Outfall SD 001 collects stormwater from the aircraft parking apron, east-end including the designated deicing location and stormwater catch basins serving the area surrounding several aircraft maintenance buildings. Any deicing fluid which reaches the ground following plane deicing is vacuumed up by specially-equipped trucks.

When deicing operations are not occurring, stormwater will be directed to the stormwater collection system. The stormwater is treated with an oil-water separator before discharge to the MSP storm sewer. The Vortechs hydrodynamic separator treatment system consists of a gravity-baffled unit with approximately 1,600 gallon oil storage capacity. The treatment system is inspected quarterly and cleaned as-needed. Station SD 001 discharges to the Minnesota River (Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water), south of Snelling Lake via the MSP storm sewer/conveyance/treatment system.

Outfall SD 002 collects stormwater from the largest part of the base, most of which is non-industrial; including buildings, driveways, parking lots, and a small part of the west-end of the aircraft parking area, away from the deicing area. The stormwater is treated via an oil-water separator before discharge to the City of Minneapolis storm sewer. The Vortechs hydrodynamic separator treatment system consists of a gravity-baffled unit with approximately 1,600 gallon oil storage capacity. The treatment system is inspected quarterly and cleaned as needed. The storm sewer discharges into the Mississippi River (Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water), downstream from where Minnehaha Creek outlets into the river.

Outfall SD 003 collects stormwater from the secondary containment basins for JP-8 Tanks 600 and 601 and stormwater catch basins in the truck loading and parking area at Base Area D. The secondary containment dike system includes a bypass valve which is maintained in the locked/closed position. The treatment system for this waste stream consists of an oil-water separator with a 10,000 gallon capacity. The discharge goes into the storm sewer which discharges to an unnamed stream (Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water), followed by the Mississippi River (Class 2Bg, 3, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water) near Federal Drive and Highway 55.

Outfall SD 004 collects stormwater runoff from the perimeter of the truck-loading area at the fuel storage/transfer facility (Base Area D). The treatment system for this waste stream consists of an oil-water separator with a 10,000 gallon capacity. This waste stream is discharged into the same storm sewer as station SD 003.

Outfall SD 005 collects stormwater from a small part of the base, most of which is non-industrial; including buildings, driveways, parking lots and the glycol and fuel storage area located northeast of the aircraft parking apron. The stormwater is treated with a Vortechs hydrodynamic separator treatment system before discharge to the same MSP storm sewer as SD 001.

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:

Christine Bianchi
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

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.