

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
PERMITTING & COMPLIANCE DIVISION

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PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-98-13
September 15, 1998

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PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue and/or renew wastewater discharge permits under the authority of MCA 75-5-402 and ARM 17.30.1301 et seq. (Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.)

**ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY COUNCIL**

It is the Department's intention to renew the Sand & Gravel General Discharge Permit.

APPLICANT INFORMATION AND DEPARTMENT'S TENTATIVE DETERMINATIONS

APPLICANT NAME: Sand and Gravel Production General Discharge Permit
APPLICANT STATUS: Renewal
PERMIT NUMBER: MT-G490000
EXPIRATION DATE: August 31, 2003

This application is for the reissuance of a "General Discharge Permit" for discharges from sand and gravel operations. Applicants for the Sand and Gravel Production General Discharge Permit will be required to apply to the Department for written authorization to discharge.

Information on Sand and Gravel Discharges and the Tentative Determinations:

Typically, the extraction of the raw material, sand and gravel, is via front-end loader, power shovel, or scraper. The extraction process may involve removal of the overburden and/or pit dewatering operations. Pit dewatering may occur during periods of frequent rainfall or when the groundwater table is intercepted.

Once the raw material is extracted, the methods of processing are similar for all sand and gravel operations in Montana. Generally, process operations include sand and gravel separation, screening, crushing, sizing, and stockpiling. Washing of the aggregate generates additional wastewaters. In most cases, where practiced, pit dewatering contributes the largest volume of generated wastewater. Incidental water uses may include non-contact water for crusher bearings and water for dust suppression. This latter water either remains with the product or evaporates.

Sand and gravel production operations are subject to the requirements of Section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act, commonly known as the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). Title 40, CFR 436, specifies the wastewater discharge requirements for this industry. Discharges obtaining initial permits after December 17, 1982, must meet the requirements specified in the Montana Nondegradation Rule, Administrative Rules of Montana Title 17, Chapter 30 - Water Quality, Sub-Chapter 7 - Nondegradation of Water Quality.

The proposed permit requires regular self-monitoring of discharge quality and quantity with the reporting of results monthly. The Department has determined that effluent limitations and other requirements in the Sand and Gravel Production General Discharge Permit will insure compliance with the Montana Surface Water Quality Standards and Nondegradation Rules. The recommended expiration date for the permit is August 31, 2003.

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REGISTER OF INTERESTED PERSONS

Any person interested in a particular application, or group of applications, may submit their name, address, and telephone number to the Department for the purpose of being included on the mailing list for public notice of tentative permits. The list of names will be maintained as a means for contacting persons with an interest in MPDES permit actions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS October 15, 1998 or within 30 days of date of posting, whichever is later. Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, Montana, 59620. All comments received or postmarked PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS October 15, 1998 or 30 days from posting date will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits.

If no objections are received within the specified comment period, the Department will issue final determinations within sixty days of the date of this notice. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-3080, or by writing to the aforementioned address. The draft permit, environmental assessments, and related documents are available for review and reproduction at the aforementioned address.

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