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Brian Schweitzer, Governor

Website: www.deq.mt.gov

**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-10-05
February 22, 2010**

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue a wastewater discharge permit to the facility listed in this notice. This permit is issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); and Sections 402 and 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared a draft permit for the facility listed below. Copies of the draft permit, statement of basis, and environmental assessment are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website www.deq.mt.gov.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT NAME: City of Malta
P.O. Box 1300
Malta, MT 59538

FACILITY NAME: City of Malta Wastewater Treatment Facility

FACILITY LOCATION: 48° 22'24" N latitude, 107° 51'16" W longitude
Phillips County

RECEIVING WATER: Milk River

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0020389

This permit is a reissuance of a Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit for surface discharge of treated wastewater to the Milk River. The City of Malta operates a single-cell aerated lagoon system, including a polishing cell. The present facilities are the presently operational part of a 2007 wastewater improvement project (2007 Project) which, when completed in 2010, will include additional storage cells and slow rate land application of effluent that has been treated with ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection. The UV installation was completed at the facility in 2008 but can only treat effluent to be applied to the land. Completion of the 2007 Project is intended to eliminate the discharge of treated effluent from the Malta wastewater treatment facility to the Milk River. The 2007 Project has a design flow of 0.277 million gallons per day. The domestic wastewater collection and treatment system currently serves approximately 1,870 people and the design population for the 2007 Project is 2,388. The proposed permit will apply interim effluent limits that are secondary treatment standards for pH, treatment equivalent to secondary for five-day

biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅), alternative state requirements for total suspended solids (TSS) and oil and grease (O & G) limits through December 31, 2011. Final effluent limits, effective January 1, 2012, apply the national secondary treatment standards for BOD₅ and pH, treatment equivalent to secondary for TSS, year-round pathogen limits, as measured by *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*), O & G limits and limits on total ammonia-N. The proposed permit requires periodic self-monitoring of discharge quality and quantity, with monthly reporting of results. This permit and Statement of Basis will be submitted to the EPA for approval.

On September 21, 2000, a U.S. District Judge issued an order stating that until all necessary total maximum daily loads under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act are established for a particular water quality limited segment, the State is not to issue any new permits or increase permitted discharges under the MPDES program. The order was issued in the lawsuit *Friends of the Wild Swan v. U.S. EPA, et al.*, CA 97-35-M-DWM, District of Montana, Missoula Division. The DEQ finds that the issuance of this proposed permit does not conflict with the order because this is not a new or increased source.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS **March 24, 2010**. Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS **March 24, 2010** will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail Bree Duffy or Barb Sharpe at WPBPublicNotices@mt.gov.

During the public comment period provided by the notice, the Department will accept requests for a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issue proposed to be raised in the hearing (ARM 17.30.1373).

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-3080 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The complete administrative record, including permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

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