



Montana Department of  
**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Brian Schweitzer, Governor

P. O. Box 200901

Helena, MT 59620-0901

(406) 444-2544

Website: [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov)

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-11-08

April 4, 2011

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue wastewater discharge permits to the facilities listed in this notice. These permits are 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 draft permits for the facilities listed below. Copies of the draft permits, statements of basis, and environmental assessments are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov).

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: Holcim (US) Incorporated Trident Plant  
FACILITY NAME: Holcim (US) Wastewater Treatment Plant  
FACILITY LOCATION: 470 Trident Road, Gallatin County  
RECEIVING WATER: Missouri River  
PERMIT NUMBER: MT0000485

The Holcim wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is a small extended aeration package plant consisting of a combined aeration tank and clarifier. One lift station pumps sanitary wastewater from the office building to the WWTP. The Holcim WWTP also treats sanitary wastewater from the nearby Montana Rail Link (MRL) depot (small field office building) which serves approximately four railroad workers. Only sanitary wastewater is treated and discharged to the Missouri River; no industrial wastewater is treated in the Holcim WWTP.

This permit changes a typographical error in the Statement of Basis (SOB) and permit to correct the effluent limit for total nitrogen. Additional minor changes will also be made in the SOB and permit to clarify the effective date of bacteria and chlorine effluent limits and to clarify how effluent flow is monitored.

On September 21, 2000, a U.S. District Judge issued an order stating that until all necessary

total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) 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., CV 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 it is not a new permit and the renewed permit will reduce the pollutant load to the Missouri River.

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APPLICANT: Big Sky Coal Company  
P.O. Box 97  
Colstrip MT 59323

FACILITY NAME: Big Sky Mine

FACILITY LOCATION: State Highway 39 South, Rosebud Co.

RECEIVING WATER: Lee, Emile, Miller, and Hay Coulees

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0000884

This is a reissuance of MPDES permit MT0000884 for Big Sky Coal Company which discharges treated mine drainage from a reclaimed surface coal mine to Lee, Emile, Miller and Hay Coulees. Treatment consists of a series of settling ponds designed to contain the runoff from a 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event. As ponds are removed and reclaimed during the term of the reissued permit, treatment will consist of an approved Sediment Control Plan.

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 the receiving waters are not listed as impaired.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS May 4, 2011. 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 May 4, 2011 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 Noelle Uncles or Barb Sharpe at [WPBPublicNotices@mt.gov](mailto:WPBPublicNotices@mt.gov).

During the public comment period provided by the notice, the Department will accept requests for a

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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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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
WATER PROTECTION BUREAU  
PO BOX 200901  
HELENA MT 59620-0901

TODD EVERTS  
LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OFFICE  
RM 171 STATE CAPITOL BUILDING  
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