



Montana Department of
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Brian Schweitzer, Governor

P. O. Box 200901

Helena, MT 59620-0901

(406) 444-2544

Website: www.deq.mt.gov

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-11-15

May 31, 2011

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: Town of Belt
P.O. Box 453
Belt, MT 59412

FACILITY NAME: Town of Belt Wastewater Treatment Facility

FACILITY LOCATION: T19N, R6E, Section 23
Cascade County

RECEIVING WATER: B & M Coulee

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0021571

This permit is a reissuance of a Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit for surface discharge of treated wastewater to B & M Coulee, a tributary to Belt Creek. The receiving water does not have year-round flow, except for the portion wetted by the continuous discharge from the Belt WWTF. The Town of Belt operates a three-cell aerated/facultative lagoon system with ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection of the effluent and a design flow of 0.155 million gallons per day. The domestic wastewater collection and treatment system serves approximately 632 people. The proposed permit will apply secondary treatment standards for five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅) and pH, treatment equivalent to secondary for total suspended solids (TSS), year-round pathogen limits, as measured by *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*). In addition, effluent limits have been imposed for oil and grease, total residual chlorine and the metals: arsenic, cadmium, iron, lead and zinc. The metals limits were established to comply with the wasteload allocation for the Belt WWTF in the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Belt Creek. 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 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., 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 and the permit implements the wasteload allocation for the Belt WWTF established in the TMDL for Belt Creek.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS June 30, 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 June 30, 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.

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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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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