



PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-11-25
October 3, 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) and the Administrative Rules of Montana 17.30.1001 et seq., Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS). 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

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| APPLICANT NAME: | Thompson River Power, LLC |
| FACILITY NAME | Thompson River Power |
| FACILITY LOCATION: | NE, NW, SE of Section 13, Township 21 North, Range 29 West, Sanders County |
| RECEIVING WATER: | Class I ground water |
| PERMIT NUMBER: | MTX000159 |

The permit authorizes the discharge of industrial wastewater-effluent from a 16.5 megawatt wood, wood waste and/or coal fired, steam-generating electric power plant. TRP is located approximately four miles east of the town of Thompson Falls on the south side of Highway 200. The outfall is 700 feet north of the Clark Fork River (CFR).

The industrial wastewater will consist of boiler and cooling tower blowdown (97% average annual contribution), with low volume wastes associated with the floor drains in the plant (3% annual average contribution). Wastewater from the floor drains will be routed through an oil-water separator and be temporarily stored in the existing lined pond (3.2 million gallon capacity) prior to

discharge. Plant make-up water will come from a deep production well located approximately 1,000 feet east of the plant on property owned by TRP. All industrial wastewater will pass through an adsorption treatment plant where it will be treated for arsenic, iron, manganese, and uranium. When the plant is in full operation, wastewater will be produced at a continuous rate of 60 gallons per minute (gpm) and discharged through 410-foot long, 4-foot deep subsurface drain field lateral lines (i.e., Outfall 001) to the shallow ground water.

Outfall 001 is located in the NE, NW, SE Section 13, Township 21N, Range 29 West, North Latitude 47° 34' 39.539" and West Longitude -115° 15' 8.568" in Saunders County. The subsurface drain field lateral lines will be located southeast of the plant and north of the existing lined storage pond.

Shallow ground water beneath the facility is "Class I" ground water according to the Montana Ground Water Quality Standards, Beneficial Use Classifications. A 700-foot, source specific ground water mixing zone for total dissolved solids (TDS), barium, fluoride, sulfate, and zinc was requested by the permittee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS November 2, 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 November 2, 2011 will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permit. 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 17.30.1024).

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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