



**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-12-27**  
**May 29, 2012**

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

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT NAME: City of Chinook  
P.O. Box 1177  
Chinook, MT 59523

FACILITY NAME: City of Chinook Wastewater Treatment Plant

FACILITY LOCATION: 300 Daffy Hills Lane  
Chinook  
Blaine County

RECEIVING WATER: Milk River

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0020125

This permit is a reissuance of a Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit for surface discharge of treated domestic wastewater to the Milk River. The City of Chinook operates an oxidation ditch activated sludge plant with a design flow of 0.50 million gallons per day (mgd) constructed in 1984, with modifications in 2005 and 2009/2010. Disinfection of the effluent is accomplished with ultraviolet light (UV) treatment. The domestic wastewater collection and treatment system serves approximately 1,200 people. The proposed permit will apply immediate and final effluent limitations that are the national secondary treatment standards for five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>), total suspended solids (TSS) and pH; and pathogen limits, as measured by *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*); and limits on total ammonia nitrogen, total nitrogen, total phosphorus and oil and grease

necessary to meet receiving water quality standards. New final effluent limitations on nitrate plus nitrite (NO<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>2</sub>) become effective May 1, 2017, and a compliance schedule is included in the permit for meeting the final effluent limits on NO<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>2</sub>. 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.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS June 28, 2012. 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 28, 2012 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 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 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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