



PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-13-15
June 24, 2013

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 Fort Benton
P.O. Box 8
Fort Benton, MT 59442

FACILITY NAME: City of Fort Benton Wastewater Treatment Facility

FACILITY LOCATION: 2610 Riverview Trail
Fort Benton, MT 59442
Chouteau County

RECEIVING WATER: Outfall 001: Missouri River
Outfall 002: Missouri River via Infiltration Pond

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0021601

The City of Fort Benton Wastewater Treatment Facility serves the city of Fort Benton in Chouteau County. The total population served is about 1,500 individuals. The average daily design flow of the facility is 0.255 million gallons per day (mgd) and the maximum daily flow for the prior year is 0.25 mgd.

Wastewater is collected and transported to the facility via a separate sanitary sewer system. The treatment system consists of a three-cell aerated lagoon system. After treatment in the lagoons, the effluent enters into a splitter box and is directed into either the Missouri River (Outfall 001) or into

the infiltration pond (Outfall 002). The infiltration pond is hydraulically connected to the Missouri River. The majority of the effluent discharged by the facility is discharged via Outfall 002.

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 or increased permits under the MPDES program. The order was issued in the lawsuit Friends of the Wild Swan vs. U.S. EPA, et al. (CV 97-35-M-DWM), District of Montana and Missoula Division. DEQ finds that renewal of this permit does not conflict with the order because there are no new or increased sources associated with the discharge.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS July 24, 2013. 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 July 24, 2013 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 David Dunbar 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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