



Montana Department of  
**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-13-26**  
**October 28, 2013**

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); ARM 17.30.1001 *et seq.*, Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS); 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: Big Sky Coal Company

FACILITY NAME: Big Sky Coal Mine

FACILITY LOCATION: State Highway 39 South, Colstrip, MT, 59323

COUNTY: Rosebud

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

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0000884

This is a major modification of the MPDES permit for the Big Sky Coal Mine. The modification replaces effluent limitations for Outfall 006 with limitations required by 40 CFR 434, Subpart H, also known as Western Alkaline Coal Mining Standards. Western Alkaline Coal Mining Standards set limitations on sediment discharged by outfalls associated with reclamation areas, brushing and grubbing areas, topsoil stockpiling areas, and regraded areas.

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 the receiving waters are not listed as impaired.

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APPLICANT: Bonner Holdings, LLC

FACILITY NAME: Bonner Town Pump Travel Plaza

FACILITY LOCATION: 7985 Hwy 200 East  
Milltown, Montana 59851  
Section 21, Township 13 North, Range 18 West  
Missoula County

RECEIVING WATER: Outfall 001: Class I Ground Water

PERMIT NUMBER: MTX000127

The proposed Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS) permit authorizes Bonner Holdings, LLC to discharge domestic wastewater from the existing Bonner Town Pump Travel Plaza wastewater treatment system to ground water.

The wastewater treatment system collects and treats domestic wastewater from existing Town Pump Travel Plaza. The Travel Plaza includes a 24-hour convenient store, public restrooms, laundry and shower facilities, casino, and three (3) fast-food restaurants. The restaurant wastewater flows through a grease trap prior to primary treatment. All wastewater generated by the Travel Plaza flows into one (1) septic tank for primary treatment followed by a recirculating sand filter. The treated effluent is then pressure-dosed into an adjacent subsurface drainfield.

The receiving water for the discharge structure (Outfall 001) is shallow Class I ground water as defined in ARM 17.30.1006. The drainfield associated with Outfall 001 is located:

- Southeast ¼ of Section 21, Township 13 North, Range 18 West;
- 46° 52' 28" North Latitude and -113° 53' 23" West Longitude.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS November 29, 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 November 29, 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-

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mail David Dunbar 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 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 and 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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