

Request for Comments

Proposed Renewal of NPDES Permit for the Coos Bay No. 2 Wastewater Treatment Facility

PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to invite you to provide written comments on this proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit renewal.

DEQ's Role:

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is responsible for protecting and enhancing Oregon's water and air quality, for cleaning up spills and releases of hazardous materials, and for managing the proper disposal of hazardous and solid wastes. One way DEQ does this is by requiring permits for certain activities. DEQ issues permits to regulate the type and amount of wastewater discharge produced at a regulated facility.

Comments due:

Written comments due: 5 p.m.,
November 29, 2013

Where can I send my comments?

Carrie Everett
(503) 378-5055 or (800) 349-7677
750 Front Street, Suite 120
Salem, OR 97301
Fax (503) 373-7944
Everett.carrie@deq.state.or.us

Where can I get technical information?

Steve Nichols, Natural Resource Specialist
(541) 269-2721
381 N. 2nd Street
Coos Bay, Oregon 97420
Fax (541) 269-7984
Nichols.steve@deq.state.or.us

Where can I get background information?

Information about this project is viewable online by clicking the following link(s):

- [Draft Permit](#)
- [Evaluation Report](#)

You can review hard copies of the draft permit and related documents at the nearest DEQ office in Coos Bay or Salem. For a review appointment in Coos Bay, call Steve Nichols at (541) 269-2721 ext. 223. For a review appointment in Salem, call Carrie Everett at (503) 378-5055.

What is proposed?

DEQ proposes to issue a renewal NPDES permit for the Coos Bay No. 2 Wastewater Treatment Facility and is inviting public comment on the proposed permitting action. During the comment period the public is invited to make comments related to specific conditions within the proposed permit.

Permit expiration

Oregon law requires facilities with a NPDES permit to renew that permit every 5 years. Upon renewal, this permit will be effective for 5 years.

Who is the applicant?

City of Coos Bay
500 Central Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420

Where is the facility located?

Coos Bay No. 2
100 Fulton Ave.
Coos Bay, Oregon

Who might have an interest?

People who work, live, and recreate in the area.

What does the City of Coos Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility do that affects water quality?

The facility is authorized to construct, install, modify, or operate a wastewater treatment, collection, control and disposal system to discharge treated wastewater from an activated sludge wastewater treatment facility to Coos Bay at River Mile 3.8.

What legal requirements apply?

The NPDES permit is required in accordance with Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 468B.050 and the Federal Clean Water Act in order to discharge treated wastewater to public waters.

How does DEQ determine what requirements go in the permit?

Various federal and state regulations apply to a facility depending on the type of industry, the type and amount of wastewater discharged and the location of the facility. All applicable regulations must be contained in the permit, including the appropriate recordkeeping,

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City of Coos Bay



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

Western Region-Eugene
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E-mail:

nichols.steve@deq.state.or.us

www.oregon.gov/DEQ

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Notice Issued: 10/23/2013
By: Carrie Everett

monitoring, and reporting requirements to ensure compliance with these rules.

The Department used the appropriate OAR's and standard language for this permit.

An antidegradation review was conducted in order to determine whether the Department could issue a permit for discharge to waters of the state. All evaluations showed that the discharge meets the requirements and/or exceptions of the applicable regulations.

What are the known health effects or environmental impacts of the permitted substances stored, disposed of, discharged or emitted by the City of Coos Bay Wastewater Treatment Facility?

Domestic sewage may expose the public to diseases if it is not properly collected, treated and disposed of.

How are the permitted substances measured?

Laboratory Analysis performed in accordance with federal regulations (40 CFR Part 136) unless otherwise specified in the permit.

Compliance history:

The facility is operating under Mutual Agreement and Order (MAO) WQ/M-WR-03-022. The MAO establishes interim limits for fecal coliform, residual chlorine and ammonia until necessary plant upgrades can be completed. In March 2009, DEQ issued a notice of civil penalty in the amount of \$13,200 for violations of the effluent limits in the permit. In May 2009, DEQ issued a penalty demand notice in the amount of \$500 for violations of the interim effluent limits in the MAO. In December 2009, DEQ issued a notice of civil penalty in the amount of \$15,150 for failing to conduct all effluent monitoring required under the permit and for violations of the effluent limits in the permit during June 2009. The facility was last inspected on August 26, 2009 and was found to be operating in compliance with its permit and MAO.

What are the special conditions of this permit?

The proposed permit establishes technology based effluent limits for BOD₅, TSS and pH. In order to protect the environment, water quality based limits on bacteria and chlorine were also included.

What other DEQ permits are required?

No other permits are required at this time.

What similar activities take place in the vicinity of the facility?

The City of North Bend has a wastewater treatment plant that discharges treated wastewater into Coos Bay at River Mile 6.7 upstream of Coos Bay No. 2. The City of Coos Bay has a second wastewater treatment plant that discharges treated wastewater into Coos Bay at River Mile 12.2.

What happens next?

DEQ will consider and provide responses to all comments received at the close of the comment period. DEQ may modify provisions in the proposed permit, but the permit writers can only modify conditions of the permit in accordance with the rules and statutes under the authority of DEQ. Participation in the rulemaking or the legislative process is the only way to change the rules or statutes. Ultimately, if a facility meets all legal requirements, DEQ will issue the facility's NPDES permit.

Accessibility information

DEQ is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. Please notify DEQ of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in large print, Braille or another format. To make these arrangements, contact DEQ Communications & Outreach (503) 229-5696 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-4011; fax to 503-229-6762; or e-mail to deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.

People with hearing impairments may call DEQ's TTY number, (503) 378-3684.