

# Request for Comments

## Proposed Renewal Permit for the City of Amity Sewage Treatment Plant

### DEQ's role

DEQ issues permits to regulate the type and amount of wastewater produced at a regulated facility.

### Invitation to comment

DEQ invites the public to comment on the Amity Sewage Treatment Plant's proposed wastewater treatment permit, known officially as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit.

### Comments due

Comments due: 5 p.m., September 1, 2010

### How can I comment?

You can e-mail, fax, or mail your comments to:  
Carrie Everett, Permit Coordinator  
(503) 378-5055 or (800) 349-7677  
DEQ - Salem Office  
Attn: Carrie Everett  
750 Front Street NE, Suite 120  
Salem, OR 97301-1039  
FAX: (503) 373-7944  
Email: everett.carrie@deq.state.or.us

### Where can I get more information?

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

- [Permit](#)
- [Report](#)
- [Reclaimed Water Plan](#)
- [Biosolids Management Plan](#)

You can also contact:

April Graybill, Water Quality Specialist  
(503) 378-6967 or (800) 349-7677  
DEQ - Salem Office  
Attn: April Graybill  
750 Front Street NE, Suite 120  
Salem, OR 97301-1039  
FAX: (503) 373-7944  
Email: graybill.april@deq.state.or.us

People can review the draft permit and related documents at the nearest DEQ office in Salem. For a review appointment, call Carrie Everett at (503) 378-5055.

### What is proposed?

DEQ proposes to renew a NPDES permit for the Amity Sewage Treatment Plant. The Department is proposing more stringent discharge limits in the renewal permit.

### Who is the applicant?

City of Amity  
PO Box 159  
Amity, OR 97101

### Where is the facility located?

401 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Amity, OR

### What does the Amity Sewage Treatment Plant permit allow?

The Amity Sewage Treatment Plant discharges treated wastewater to Salt Creek. Including near the point of discharge, Salt Creek is water quality limited for bacteria.

The Willamette River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) that addresses this parameter was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency on September 29, 2006. The proposed permit includes limits for bacteria.

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

The Department used the appropriate Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) and standard language for the permit. A reasonable potential analysis and permit limit calculations were performed using statistical methods. The Department uses EPA guidance and best professional judgment in choosing model inputs, critical case scenarios and statistical factors.

An antidegradation review was conducted in order to determine whether the Department could allow a renewed permit for discharge to waters of the state. All evaluations showed that the discharge meets the requirements and exceptions of the applicable regulations except as otherwise noted in the permit and evaluation report.

### What are the known health effects or environmental impacts of the permitted discharge by the City of Amity?

When operated in accordance with the NPDES permit, the facility discharge is not expected to



State of Oregon  
Department of  
Environmental  
Quality

### Western Region Water Quality

750 Front St. NE, Suite 120  
Salem, OR 97301  
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Fax: (503) 373-7944  
Contact: April Graybill  
E-mail:  
Graybill.April@deq.state.or.us

[www.oregon.gov/DEQ](http://www.oregon.gov/DEQ)

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Notice Issued: 07/28/2010  
By: Carrie Everett

have any significant health effects or environmental impacts.

Bacteria and other human pathogens may be present and could impact public health. However, treatment processes including disinfection are performed prior to discharge.

**How are the permitted substances measured?**

The permit requires the facility to monitor for various pollutants using federal monitoring practices and standards.

**Compliance history:**

The facility was last inspected on January 28, 2010 and was found to be operating in compliance with the permit. The facility has received the following Warning Letters (WLs) and PENs (Pre-Enforcement Notices):

Violation Date	WL/PEN Date	Parameter	Violation Class
1/2010	5/21/2010	Exceeding BOD <sub>5</sub> and TSS Monthly average lbs/day and TSS weekly average lbs/day permit limitations	Class 1, 1, 3, & 3
1/2009, 3/2008	2/12/2010	Exceeding BOD <sub>5</sub> and TSS Monthly average lbs/day permit limitations	Class 3 & 3
8/2008	10/14/2008	Exceeding Total Coliform 7-day median organisms/ml effluent permit limitations	Class 1 & 2
12/21/2007	1/23/2008	Failure to conduct proper maintenance of the lagoon cell dike walls	Class 2
1/2007	3/16/2007	Exceeding TSS Daily, Weekly, and Monthly average lbs/day permit limitations	Class 3, 2, & 2
1/2006 - 8/2006	11/17/2006	E. coli monthly geometric mean, BOD Daily, Weekly, and Monthly average lbs/day and removal efficiency, missed monitoring for BOD, TSS, and flow	Class 2, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, & 1

**What other DEQ permits are required?**  
None.

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

Most cities in the area operate wastewater treatment facilities. Nearby facilities of similar size and type (stabilization lagoons) include the

City of Carlton Sewage Treatment Plant and the City of Yamhill Sewage Treatment Plant.

**What other information about this company is related to this permit?**

The City also holds a NPDES General 200-J permit for the discharge of filter backwash water from their water supply treatment plant.

**What happens next?**

DEQ will schedule a public hearing if one is requested by ten or more people, or by an authorized person representing an organization of at least ten people. An additional public notice will be published to advertise the public hearing.

If a public hearing is not requested, 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 Water Quality permit following EPA review.

**Accessibility information**

DEQ is committed to accommodating people with disabilities at our hearings. 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](mailto:deqinfo@deq.state.or.us).

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

