

Request for Comments

Proposed Renewal of a Water Quality Permit for the City of Estacada

The purpose of this notice is to invite you to provide written comments on this proposed permit renewal (File #27866).

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 water-borne pollutants produced at a regulated facility.

Comments due:

Written comments are due:
5 p.m., October 11, 2010

Where can I send my comments?

Where can I get technical information?

Nancy Stellmach

Northwest Region Permit Coordinator
(503) 229-5690 or (800) 452-4011 (Toll Free)
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Northwest Region – Portland Office
2020 SW 4th Ave, Suite 400
Portland, OR 97201

How can I review documents?

You can review electronic versions of the draft permit and review report at the following links:

[Draft Permit](#)
[Fact Sheet](#)

You can review hard copies of the draft permit and related documents including the *Biosolids Management Plan* at DEQ's Northwest Regional Office located in Portland, Oregon. For a review appointment please call Ms. Marjorie Holland at (503) 229-6826.

What is proposed?

DEQ proposes to renew a Water Quality permit for the City of Estacada's wastewater treatment facility. DEQ and the City of Estacada are 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.

The renewal permit contains more stringent chlorine limits to reduce effluent toxicity. Summer ammonia limits are added and pH limits are adjusted. Facility operation will be regulated to reduce summer effluent ammonia discharged to the Clackamas River. A revised Biosolids Management Plan is available for review.

Permit expiration

Oregon law requires facilities with a water quality permit and associated Biosolids Management Plan to renew/update these documents every 5 years. Upon renewal, the permit will expire on August 31, 2015.

Who is the applicant?

City of Estacada
PO Box 958
Estacada, OR 97023

Where is the facility located?

The facility is located adjacent to Timber Park and Hwy 211/224
Estacada, OR 97023

Who might have an interest?

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

What does the City of Estacada's wastewater treatment facility do that affects water quality?

The City treats sanitary waste collected by sewer from the City's urban areas. Year-around the treated effluent is discharged to the Clackamas River at river mile 23.6.

What legal requirements apply?

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is issuing this permit pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 468B.050; the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, PL 92-500; and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapter 340 Division 041.

How does DEQ determine what requirements go into the permit?

Various federal and state regulations apply to Estacada's treatment facility. Permit requirements are based on the amount of waste that can be discharged to the Clackamas River without jeopardizing beneficial uses, and water quality standards and criteria. All applicable regulations must be contained in the permit, including the appropriate record keeping,



State of Oregon
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Environmental
Quality

Northwest Region
Water Quality Program

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By: nls

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

What are the known health effects or environmental impacts of the permitted substances discharged by the City of Estacada?

Discharges from Estacada’s facility must be treated to reduce bacteria, oxygen consuming substances, and toxicity to levels compatible with the beneficial uses of the Clackamas River.

How are the permitted substances measured?

Permitted substances are sampled, measured, and tested according to State approved standard methods.

Compliance history:

During the last permit cycle, Estacada’s wastewater treatment facility had seven instances where permit violations required a DEQ warning letter. The Estacada facility is currently in compliance with the terms of its permit.

What are the special conditions of this permit?

Schedule D, Special Conditions require: compliance with the Biosolids Management Plan and changes in federal biosolids standards, compliance with operator certification rules, groundwater protection, and adherence to notification requirements listed in Schedule-F of the permit.

What other DEQ permits are required?

No other DEQ permits are required for this facility.

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

There are no similar activities in the immediate area.

What happens next?

DEQ will schedule a public hearing if one is requested by 10 or more people, or by an authorized person representing an organization of at least 10 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 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 Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at (800) 735-2900.