

OPEN CHANNEL NEWS

MCES Industrial Waste & Pollution Prevention

Issue #28/ May 2008



Metropolitan Council Environmental Services

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) is one of three divisions of the Metropolitan Council, a regional public agency working for the seven-county metropolitan area. The mission of MCES is to provide wastewater services that protect the public health and environment while supporting regional growth.

Services provided by MCES ensure that:

- (1) sufficient sewer capacity exists to serve planned development, and sufficient capital investments are made to preserve the region's water quality;
- (2) wastewater collection and treatment services are provided in a cost- and quality-competitive manner for 104 communities and nearly 800 industrial clients; and
- (3) local plans provide for adequate water supply and nonpoint source pollution prevention in the region.

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Important Dates:

June 19, 2008 – Industrial Waste Customer Forum at 8:00 a.m. at IWPP Section Office, 455 Etna St., Suite 32, St. Paul.

June 24, 2008 – Metropolitan Council public information meeting for proposed SAC changes.

July 15, 2008 – Liquid Waste Hauler Reports due at MCES offices.

July 30, 2008 – All Regular and Special Discharge quarterly and semi-annual reports due at MCES offices.

Mail Reports to: MCES, IWPP Section, 390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55101-1805.



Upgrades are Under Way at the Blue Lake Treatment Plant

A \$200 million, six-year upgrade of the MCES Blue Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant in Shakopee began in September 2007. The goals of the project include enhanced pollutant removal, improved safety and reliability, replacement of aging equipment and support systems, reduced energy usage, and increased capacity to serve area growth.

The construction will occur in five phases, starting with modifications and updates to the activated sludge process to enhance phosphorus removal. Phase II includes improved flood control by rehabilitating and expanding the levee, increasing capacity of groundwater wells, and installing stormwater holding ponds. Phase III, when the bulk of the work will occur, involves replacing an aging disinfection system with a safer, more secure system; adding facilities to improve ammonia nitrogen removal; and rehabilitation of many process and support systems throughout the plant. Also, a new “state of the art” Liquid Waste Receiving facility will be constructed with card access, efficient traffic routing, a weigh scale and heated water/ heated slab washdown area. Phase IV involves augmenting the solids process with anaerobic digestion to reduce mass and volume of solids loading to the heat dryer. A synergistic and energy saving benefit of this addition is using methane produced from digestion to replace most of the natural gas used to fuel the dryer. Adding treatment tanks to handle increased flows from service-area growth will occur during the final construction phase slated to start in 2011.

After the expansion, the Blue Lake Plant will be the second largest wastewater treatment plant in the state, with capacity for treating approximately 41 million gallons of wastewater a day. The plant will be second to MCES's Metro Plant, which has the capacity to treat 251 million gallons a day.

Communities Make Progress in Tackling Inflow and Infiltration

What looked like a looming crisis in regional wastewater capacity is turning into a success story, thanks to the efforts of local communities in the seven-county region and the Metropolitan Council.

For the second year, the Council has deferred proposed surcharges on community wastewater bills because of progress made and additional commitments by communities to reduce excessive inflow and infiltration (I/I) of clear water and stormwater into sanitary sewers.

Two years ago the Council adopted a program to impose a surcharge on wastewater bills starting in January 2007 for communities with excessive clear water flows into the regional wastewater system. Communities could choose to undertake a program to reduce the I/I in lieu of the surcharge.

“Communities have stepped up to the plate to solve the problem,” said Bill Moore, general manager of Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES). “A substantial amount of excessive I/I has been taken out of the system.”

Of the 46 communities identified as having excessive I/I in 2007, six have already spent the equivalent of their entire five-year surcharge to reduce the problem. All of the other communities have made progress and submitted work plans to continue their efforts in 2008.

One city discovered two large stormwater pipes that were connected to the sanitary sewer system. Another found a breach between adjacent stormwater and sanitary sewer pipes that allowed stormwater to enter the sanitary sewer. And many communities are attacking a major source of inflow – foundation drains at individual properties that are illegally connected to a sanitary pipe.

Excess clear water robs the regional wastewater collection and treatment system of capacity needed for future growth. It also can cause sewer backups, resulting in threats to human health and the environment.

If successful, the Council’s program will help the region avoid these problems with local investments estimated at \$150 million. Adding capacity at the regional level to collect and treat the excess clear water would cost more than \$900 million and may not have even been feasible because of capacity constraints at the Council treatment facilities. “At this rate of progress, by 2012 we will have ensured adequate capacity in our wastewater collection and treatment system for decades to come,” Moore said.



IWPP technician measuring wastewater flow coming from the city of Hopkins.

IWPP Assists with MCES Community Flow Measuring

The main mission of MCES’s Industrial Waste and Pollution Prevention (IWPP) Section is to regulate and monitor industrial discharges to the sewer system to ensure compliance with local and federal regulations. Additionally, because of the section’s wastewater monitoring capabilities, IWPP assists MCES’s Treatment Services and Interceptor Services departments when needed in monitoring plant processes and sewer system flows. This includes assisting in community flow measuring.

MCES owns and operates nearly 600 miles of interceptors (sewers that convey wastewater from municipalities to treatment plants) and 190 permanent wastewater metering stations. The metering stations determine wastewater flow volumes from communities served by the MCES sewer system. The communities are then billed by MCES for the costs of collecting and treating the wastewater. MCES does not have permanent metering stations for all areas served. Where permanent stations are not available, temporary monitoring is conducted by IWPP technicians. IWPP performs about 30 temporary community flow measuring projects each year. The monitoring extends for one week and is conducted during various seasons. Periodically, IWPP measures flows at the permanent metering stations to verify flows. These activities help ensure accurate measurements and billing for treatment costs.

Additionally, IWPP assists Interceptor Services in measuring flows to plan for construction projects within the interceptor system. As communities, businesses and industries grow, some existing sewers need to be replaced or supplemented to accommodate increased wastewater discharge. Other sewer sections may have deteriorated due to aging and/or corrosive environments and need relining or replacement. Obtaining reliable flow data is critical in planning such projects.

Check All Limits Before Signing Your Categorical Compliance Statement!

MCES is again reminding Categorical Industrial Users (CIUs) to know your discharge limits and compare your monitoring results to all limits before signing your compliance statement. All data generated must be submitted to MCES and must accurately characterize the industry's discharge and other facility information. The data submitted to MCES under the provisions of the Waste Discharge Rules are subject to evaluation for accuracy. Both Federal Regulations (40 CFR 403.12) and MCES Waste Discharge Rules (Section 501, 503 and 504) make fraud and false statements submitted by IUs punishable by law, up to and including criminal penalties. Accordingly, the integrity of all information submitted to MCES is of great importance.

Understanding Your Discharge Limits

Local Limits are technically derived by MCES primarily to protect its wastewater treatment plants and ensure compliance with their NPDES permits. Local Limits apply at the total facility discharge of an Industrial User (IU), which includes industrial and domestic wastewater, and other non-production sources.

EPA Categorical Limits are derived for certain categories of industry that, because of the similarity of their base operations, have similar wastewater discharge characteristics. Developed by EPA, they are based on what EPA determines is a reasonably attainable limit once the wastewater has been treated by the "best available" treatment technology. Categorical limits apply at the end of the process, or directly after pretreatment, prior to the co-mingling of dilution streams such as domestic wastewater and non-contact cooling water. **In instances where there is a Local Limit and a Categorical Limit for the same parameter, the most stringent limit applies.**

Another difference is that while Local Limits are based only on a maximum daily allowable limit, most **Categorical Limits have both a maximum daily allowable limit and a long-term average limit that is more stringent** (usually a monthly average limit). EPA's reasoning behind this two-tiered system is that due to fluctuations in production and the performance of pretreatment systems, occasionally there will be spikes in the concentrations of the regulated parameters in a facility's wastewater discharge. The maximum daily limit accounts for this, while over extended periods of time EPA reasons that the facility should be able to treat its wastewater discharge to the average concentrations allowed by the long-term limit.

These long-term Categorical Limits, and how they are applied, have been viewed as confusing and often misunderstood. Generally, IUs are only required to conduct one day of self-monitoring during each reporting period.

There have been occasions where IUs subject to Categorical Limits receive the results of the one day of monitoring and only compare it to the maximum daily limits, without regard to whether the monitoring results are greater than the long-term limits. This is a serious error that can lead to the IU receiving a Notice of Violation and being subject to other MCES enforcement actions.

EPA considers one day of monitoring results, submitted as being representative of the IU's discharge over the course of a reporting period, as essentially an average result for the period. A one-day result that exceeds the long-term limit is thus considered a violation. **Therefore, it is imperative that IUs subject to Categorical Limits immediately review self-monitoring results once they receive them, and compare them to the long-term limits in the permit.** Contact the IWPP engineer that handles your permit immediately if any exceedences are detected. If a result is greater than the long-term limit but still below the maximum daily limit, there may be time to conduct additional monitoring that may bring the average of all the results below the long-term limit and avoid a violation. Please be sure to contact your IWPP engineer prior to conducting additional monitoring to receive guidance and options on your best plan of action.

Septage Management Program Updates

The **Liquid Waste Hauler Permit language** is being updated with permit renewals. Haulers should review their permit when they receive it.

The **Fridley Liquid Waste Receiving Facility** was purchased by MCES and proposals for contract operations of the facility were received on May 19. The facility is expected to open this fall. MCES's northern sites – Plymouth, Coon Rapids and Forest Lake – will close 30 days following start-up of the Fridley site. The Plymouth site may close sooner due to local construction.

Construction of the **Metro Plant disposal site** is complete and MCES is testing the system. The access system and electronics for the scale have been purchased, but an installation date has not been set.

In an effort to keep permitted haulers more informed of activities involving the MCES disposal sites, announcements will be posted to our Web page at www.metrocouncil.org/environment/IndustrialWaste/announcements.htm



MCES Permittee Compliance Recognition

MCES would like to thank all of our permittees for making a conscientious effort to follow their MCES permit requirements. Eighty three percent of our permittees did not receive a Notice of Violation (NOV) in 2007. In looking back, thirty three percent of the industrial users that have held permits for the past ten consecutive years did not receive an NOV during the entire 10-year period. Fifty seven percent did not receive an NOV for the past five consecutive years. This shows that the majority of our permittees make a consistent effort to abide by their permit and do the right thing. See below and on the reverse side of this insert for the 10-year and 5-year permittee listings.



10-Year MCES Permittee Recognition – 1997-2007 (Listed by permit number and facility name.)

Regular Standard Permittees

348	3M Co - 3M Center	1003	ADM Milling
41	Ameripride Services	401	Andersen Corp
996	APG Cash Drawer	926	Aveda Corp
944	Banta Catalog Group	187	Bauer Welding & Metal Fab
957	Bell Lumber & Pole	590	Best Brands Inc
843	Boston Scientific	1070	Brady Worldwide Inc
801	Brenntag Great Lakes	919	BSM/CORAM North Am.
434	Canadian Pacific Railway	874	Cargill Inc - BioIndustrials
575	Chaska Chemical Co Inc	517	Children's Hospital
902	City of Coon Rapids	852	City of Fridley
959	City of New Brighton	856	City of Plymouth
709	City of St. Louis Park	1016	City of St. Louis Park
1004	City of Wayzata	845	Clariant Corp
134	Co-Operative Plating	770	Covanta Hennepin Energy
319	Cummins PG – Tech Center	895	Custom Business Forms
814	Cypress Semi-Conductor	428	Dakota Growers Pasta
474	District Energy St Paul Inc	694	Douglas Corp
384	Flame Metals Processing	1107	FSI International Inc
415	GAF Materials Corp	849	General Mills Inc
362	General Mills Tech Center	1106	Gerdau Ameristeel US
360	Graco Inc	412	Guidant
370	Hardcoat Inc	1094	Huebsch Laundry
1125	Intek Plastics Inc	1121	Interstate Detroit Diesel
1133	Japs-Olson Company	303	Johnson Screens Inc
663	Kangas Enameling Inc	969	Kohl & Madden Printing Ink
746	Kurt Manufacturing	909	Kurt Manufacturing
1110	LeJeune Bolt Company	55	Lifetouch Inc
562	Litho Technical Service	792	McLaughlin Gormley King
438	Med Tek Inc	607	Medtronic Inc
643	Metal-Tronics Inc	514	Methodist Hospital
611	Metro Transit	613	Metro Transit
614	Metro Transit	615	Metro Transit
616	Metro Transit	993	Meyers Printing Co
126	Micro Parts Inc	922	Minneapolis Water Works
597	MN Correctional Facility	998	Modern Tool
753	Northern Iron of St. Paul	765	Northern Screw Machine
328	Northland Aluminum Prod.	824	NSP, d.b.a Xcel Energy

Regular Standard Permittees (continued)

73	Packaging Corp of America	1062	Penske Truck Leasing
1032	Phillips & Temro Industries	835	R & D Systems Inc
526	Regions Hospital	878	Rosemount Inc
273	Sanimax AMX LLC	819	Schawk Minneapolis
1066	Seacole-C & H	205	Seagate Technology
858	Sexton Printing Inc	445	Smead Mfg Co
829	St. John's Hospital NE	973	St Jude Medical Inc
803	Star Tribune	255	Thomas Engineering
91	Thomson West	466	Timmerman Finishing
190	Twin City Plating Co	1017	U of M - Animal Waste
114	United Sugars Corp	110	Univar USA Inc
1022	Valmont/Lexington	591	Waldorf Corp
138	Walkerstorfer Co Inc	219	World Aerospace Corp
369	Ziegler Inc		

Special Discharge Permittees

2020	BAE Systems Armaments	2049	BAE Systems Land & Arm.
2059	Bell Lumber & Pole Co	2001	BFI Waste Systems
2040	Bongards Creameries	2220	Burlington Northern Railway
2067	Burnsville Sanitary Landfill	2212	Canadian Pacific Railway
2045	City of St. Louis Park	2216	ExxonMobil
2043	Honeywell Inc	2180	Interplastic Corporation
2016	Kurt Manufacturing Co	2134	Metro Transit
2070	Michigan Reutilization	2055	Michigan Reutilization
2169	MPCA - WDE Landfill	2005	MPCA - Woodlake Landfill
2213	MPCA Hopkins Landfill	2174	MPCA Tellijohn Landfill
2192	MPCA Washington Landfill	2141	Nobles County Landfill
2190	Pope Douglas Waste Mgmt	2105	Renville County
2202	RRT Becker Ash Disposal	2195	Sinclair Marketing
2227	Sinclair Marketing	2060	SKB Management Corp.
2160	Spruce Ridge Inc	2226	Stewart Lumber
2142	Superior Plating Inc	2203	Superior Plating Inc
2231	U of M - Elmer Anderson	2061	Whirlpool/Reynolds Metals
2228	WLSSD	2229	Ziegler Inc

Liquid Waste Haulers Permittees

4026	A Northern Cesspool	4061	Bob Freiermuth Sanitation
4076	B's Pumping Service	4007	C & B Excavating/Sewer
4068	Duane's Septic Service	4091	Nature Calls Inc
4027	Olson's Sewer Service	4028	Pinky's Sewer Service
4056	Smilies Sewer Service	4073	Stan's Line Cleaning

5-Year MCES Permittee Recognition – 2002-2007

Regular Standard Permittees

0003	The BNSF Railway Co	0501	Abbott NW Hospital
1138	ADC Telecommunications	1275	Aljon Tool Inc
0760	American Color Graphics	1224	American Fish & Seafood
0773	American Spirit Graphics	0333	Anchor Block Co
1136	Aramark Uniform Services	0748	Arrow Cryogenics
1273	ATS Medical Inc	0169	Avtec Finishing Systems
0081	BAE Systems Land and Arm.	1263	Better Parts Co
1214	Biovest International Inc	1297	Bix Produce Co
1306	BOC Edwards Inc	0912	Bodycote Thermal Process
1060	Boker's Inc	1233	Boker's Inc
1175	Boomerang Laboratories	1246	Boos Dental Laboratory
1223	Boston Scientific	1178	Buddy's Kitchen Inc
1208	Cargill Inc	1167	Carter Day International
0029	Caterpillar Paving Products	1260	Cima Labs Inc
1199	Cintas Corp	0887	City of Apple Valley
1222	City of Champlin	0984	City of Edina
1006	City of Orono	1294	Conwed Plastics
0928	Cortec Corp	0104	Culligan Soft Water Service
0239	Davis-Frost Inc	1184	DIGIgraphics/Photos Inc
1055	Diversified Mfg Corp	0884	Domino's Nat'l Commissary
0750	Donaldson Co Inc	0139	Douglas Corp
1187	Dyneon, Subsidiary of 3M	0076	E A Sween Co
0666	E/M Corp	0151	Edco Products Inc
1200	Electro Static Corp	0007	Electronic Industries Inc
0693	ELO Engineering	0107	Emerson Process Mgmt
0670	Excel Metal Finishing	0535	Fairview Univ..Medical
1261	Fed Tech	0429	FilmTec Corp
1144	Fuji Color Processing	0341	G & K Services
1191	Gannett Offset	0399	GE Osmonics Inc
0034	General Mills Inc	0848	General Mills
0797	GML Inc	1097	Greenway Research Lab
1128	Hard Anodize Inc	0089	Hard Chrome Inc
0058	Hastings Coop Creamery	1002	Hawkins Inc-Terminal I
0266	Heinrich Envelope Corp	1236	Hennepin Cty Energy Center
0511	Hennepin Cty Medical	0039	Hiawatha Metalcraft
1171	Hoffman Enclosure	1210	Hoffman Enclosures
0130	Honeywell Inc	0189	Honeywell Inc
1119	Hutchinson Technology	1162	Imation Corp
1192	Intek Plastics Inc	0061	Intermet Co
0271	International Paper Co	0244	Interplastic Corp
1131	Inthermo Inc	0854	IWCO Direct
1043	J & E Mfg	1087	J I T Powder Coating
1132	J R Williams Co Inc	1298	Johnson Brothers Liquor
0064	Kemps LLC	0742	Kwik-File Inc
0406	Lake Air Metal Stampings	0023	Lakeview Memorial Hospital
0915	Lifecore Biomedical	0787	Linfor Inc
1180	M & D Metal Finishing	0661	Maguire & Strickland Refining
0630	Marcom Services Inc	1249	Mate Precision Tooling
1154	Medtronic Perfusion Systems	1164	Metal Treaters Inc
1262	Metro Transit	0625	Metz Baking Company
1203	Mid Minnesota Wire & Mfg	0563	Mid-Continent Engineering
0272	Midwest Coca Cola Bottling	1289	Midwest Powdercoating
0355	Minnesota Knitting Mills	0354	Minntech Corp
1169	Modular Office Solutions	1026	NatureWorks LLC
0218	NiCo Products Inc #3	0206	Nor-Ell Inc
0520	North Memorial Health Care	0200	Northwest Airlines
0950	Northwest Packaging Inc	1288	Norwesco Inc
0603	NRG Energy Center	1240	NRG Energy Center Mpls

Regular Standard Permittees (continued)

1241	NRG Energy Center	0576	NSP, dba Xcel Energy
0116	Old Dutch Foods Inc	1166	Olsen Fish Company
1044	OMG Electronic Chemicals	1218	Owens Corning
0022	Packaging Corp of America	1227	Par Aide Products
0923	Pennant Foods Company	0366	Pepsi Bottling Group
1174	Phillips & Temro Ind.	1228	Pinta Foamtec Inc
0229	Polar Semiconductor	1284	Process Displays
1190	Production Engineering	0800	Progress Casting Group
0274	Prospect Foundry LLC	0953	Pump & Meter Services
0188	Quality Painting & Metal	0036	Rahr Malting Company
0917	Rayven Inc	1292	Ritrama Inc
1257	Ron-Vik Inc	0108	Rosemount Aerospace
0109	Rosemount Aerospace	0198	Rubber Industries
1168	Ryt-Way Industries	1204	Seagate Technology
0558	Sierra Corp	1177	Skyline Exhibits
0855	Smith Engineering Inc	1148	Spruce Co
0331	St. Paul Metalcraft Inc	0044	States Electric Mfg
1215	Sterling Water Inc	0068	Stylmark
1161	Summit Brewing Co	0844	SuperMom's LLC
1309	Tek Products	1142	Tempco Mfg Co Inc
0260	Temple-Inland	0156	Thermo King Corp
1226	Travel Tags	1074	Twin City Optical
0974	U. S. Corrugated Inc	0530	United Hospital
0531	Unity Hospital	1045	UPI Mech Plating & Galvanize
1183	Uponor Wirsbo	0979	Upper River Services Inc
1137	Upsher-Smith Laboratories	0532	V A Medical Center
1067	Viking Drill & Tool Inc	1219	Wendell's
1231	Woodwinds Health Campus	1126	Wrico Stamping

Special Discharge Permittees

2021	3M Co	2004	BFI Services Group
2205	Brown County Landfill	2245	Canadian Pacific Railway
2242	Cargill Kitchen Solutions	2234	CenterPoint Energy
2254	City of Mayer	2230	Crown Extrusions
2089	E Central Solid Waste Comm	2018	Electronic Industries
2050	Elk River Landfill Inc	2111	Elk River Resource Recovery
2240	Gas Recovery Services	2253	Gerdau Ameristeel US
2259	Hard Chrome Inc	2214	Magellan Pipeline
2244	Malt-O-Meal Co	2219	Marathon Petroleum
2255	Metropolitan Airports Comm	2080	Michigan Reutilization
2185	NSP - A S King	2197	NSP - Red Wing
2179	NSP - Wilmarth	2116	Olmsted County Kalmar
2118	Pepsi Bottling Group	2256	Potlatch Corp
2133	SKB Environmental	2204	Steele County Landfill
2036	The BNSF Railway	2194	U. S. Army TCAAP
2238	U. S. Distilled Products	2241	U. S. EPA - MacGillis & Gibbs
2127	Veolia Env. Services		

Liquid Waste Haulers Permittees

4034	BFI/Pine Bend Landfill	4116	Boss Pumping
4078	C & S Lund Trucking	4075	ESI Septic
4118	Hennes Septic Pumping	4123	J R Hauling Inc
4066	Jimmy's Johnnys	4019	McCarty Water & Waste
4111	McDonough's Sewer	4121	Ron's Sewer Service Inc
4032	Roto-Rooter Services	4035	Schlomka Services
4098	SKB Environmental	4132	Vacuum Excavating

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Industrial Waste Customer Forum – June 19, 2008

The annual Industrial Waste Customer Forum is scheduled for Thursday, June 19, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. All customers holding MCES discharge permits are invited. The main focus of the forum – the 2009 preliminary budget and rates – will be presented by Jason Willett, MCES finance director. Keith Buttleman, assistant general manager (Environmental Quality Assurance), and Leo Hermes, IWPP program manager, will present other topics of interest. An open forum will also be held to answer your questions and receive feedback on the issues discussed and other customer issues as well. Other agenda items include MCES energy conservation efforts and the latest information on the septage management program.

The customer forum will be held at the MCES meeting room located at Metro 94 Business Center, 455 Etna St., Suite 32, St. Paul. Please **RSVP before June 13** by calling 651-602-4711 or sending an email to jane.trosdahl@metc.state.mn.us

SAC Public Information Meeting – June 24, 2008

The Metropolitan Council is holding a public information meeting to receive input on a proposal to allow Service Availability Charge (SAC) credit transfers between communities in certain economic development circumstances. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 24, at 3 p.m at the Council Offices at 390 North Robert Street, St. Paul. For more information contact Dan Schueller at 651-602-1624.