

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT

LOG NUMBERS: 2019-64906
BUREAU ID: W0328990003

PERMIT NO.: 2019-SC-64906

FINAL PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, APPLICATION
AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

PREPARED BY: Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater
Chicago

DATE ISSUED: December 24, 2019

SUBJECT: METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO-Controlled Solids
Distribution Program

PERMITTEE TO OPERATE

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater
Chicago
100 East Erie Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Permit is hereby granted to the above designated permittee(s) to operate water pollution control facilities described as follows:

Application of approximately 190,000 dry tons per year of anaerobically digested, dewatered and air-dried sewage sludge to sites for soil amendment from the MWRDGC Stickney, Calumet and John Egan water reclamation plants. Sludge amended sites shall not grow crops for food chain use.

This permit applies only to the utilization of non-exceptional quality (EQ) biosolids.

This operating permit expires on November 30, 2024.

This permit renews and replaces Permit Number 2015-SC-59620 which was previously issued for the herein permitted facilities.

This Permit is issued subject to the following Special Condition(s). If such Special Condition(s) require(s) additional or revised facilities, satisfactory engineering plan documents must be submitted to this Agency for review and approval for issuance of a Supplemental Permit.

SPECIAL CONDITION 1: The application of Exceptional Quality biosolids to land shall follow the requirements of 40 CFR Part 503.

SPECIAL CONDITION 2: For the duration of this permit, the permittee shall determine the quantity of sludge produced by the treatment facility in dry tons or gallons with a percent total solids analysis. The permittee shall maintain adequate records of the quantities of sludge produced and have said records available for Agency inspection. The permittee shall submit to the Agency a semi-annual summary report of the quantities of sludge generated and disposed (in units of dry tons) by different disposal methods including but not limited to application on farmland, application on reclamation land, landfilling, public distribution, dedicated land disposal, sod farms, storage lagoons or any other specified disposal method.

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THE STANDARD CONDITIONS OF ISSUANCE INDICATED ON THE REVERSE SIDE MUST BE COMPLIED WITH IN FULL. READ ALL CONDITIONS CAREFULLY.

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DIVISION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

cc: EPA-Des Plaines FOS
Records - Municipal



Amy L. Dragovich, P.E.
Manager, Permit Section

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Said reports shall be submitted to the Agency by February 28 and July 31 of each year reporting the preceding July through December and January through June sludge disposal operations respectively. The permittee shall submit the semi-annual sludge management report to the following address:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water
Compliance Assurance Section
Mail Code #19
1021 North Grand Avenue East
Post Office Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

SPECIAL CONDITION 3: For the duration of this permit, if there is distribution of non-EQ biosolids, the permittee shall sample all different sludges being applied to land or publicly distributed on a monthly basis and chemically analyze said samples in accordance with the recommended procedures contained in the approved edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater for the following parameters:

Nutrients	Metals	Other
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	Cadmium	pH
Ammonia Nitrogen	Copper	% TS
Phosphorus	Lead	% VS
Potassium	Manganese	
	Nickel	
	Zinc	

In addition to the above parameters, anaerobically digested sludge shall also be tested for volatile acids. The results of these analyses shall be submitted to this Agency on a quarterly basis. The permittee shall update the sludge application rate utilizing all sludge analyses obtained after the previous sludge application period.

SPECIAL CONDITION 4: The permittee shall submit quarterly reports to the Agency which shall contain the following information, as a minimum:

- a. Solids analysis from different sources.
- b. Information on sludge users that includes the following:
 - i. User name and address
 - ii. Type of solids and source
 - iii. Quantity received (dry tons)
 - iv. Date received
 - v. Use of solids at site
 - vi. Size of application area (acres)
 - vii. Application rate (dry tons/acre)

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- c. A sludge flow schematic diagram depicting the sludge processing operations. The permittee shall revise the sludge flow schematic diagrams as necessary to reflect modifications to actual operations.
- d. Specific site monitoring as required. The reports shall be submitted to the Field Operations Section in Des Plaines and to the Permit Section of the Division of Water Pollution Control.

SPECIAL CONDITION 5: The permittee shall contact the Field Operations Section in Des Plaines and the Permit Section of the Division of Water Pollution Control 2 (two) weeks prior to transporting digested sludge to a site if:

- a. The site is 20 acres or greater;
- b. When 50 or more 20 cubic yard truckloads are proposed to be used at a particular site;
- c. The proposed application rate exceeds 50 dry tons per acre; or

This advance notice will allow the Agency time for site inspection for the determination of site suitability, when necessary. Should the Agency not provide a site inspector or contact the permittee within this time, the permittee may transport digested sludge to the proposed site.

Digested sludge may be applied at rates up to 200 dry tons per acre, without notification, provided the entire area receiving digested sludge drains to a combined sewer system which is tributary to the MWRDGC system.

SPECIAL CONDITION 6: Digested sludge delivered to a site shall be incorporated within 24 hours of delivery unless otherwise approved by the Agency and seeded or stabilized within 90 days of delivery unless temporary runoff control measures such as containment dikes, straw bales; temporary seeding etc. is undertaken at the application site.

SPECIAL CONDITION 7:

- A. Digested sludge shall be applied to sites within the following guidelines:
 1. Digested sludge shall not be applied to sites during precipitation.
 2. Digested sludge shall not be applied to sites which are saturated or with ponded water.
 3. Digested sludge shall not be applied to ice or snow covered sites.
 4. Frozen land, which is not ice or snow covered and has a slope of 5% or less, may be used for land application of digested sludge provided a 200 foot grassy area exists between the sludge applied land and any surface water or potable water supply well.

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B. It is not recommended that digested sludge be applied to sites:

1. When precipitation is imminent.
2. Which have received greater than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch rainfall within the 24-hour period preceding the intended application time of the digested sludge.

C. Digested sludge shall not be applied to land which lies within 200 feet from a community water supply well, potable water supply well, surface waters or intermittent stream that drains to a water body outside of the sludge application site.

SPECIAL CONDITION 8: Digested sludge shall only be applied to land if the sludge/soil pH is 6.5 or greater, unless lime or other suitable materials are applied to the site to raise the sludge/soil pH to a minimum of 6.5. The permittee shall perform background soil pH testing for all sites proposed to receive digested sludge at rates greater than 50 dry tons/acre.

SPECIAL CONDITION 9: User information sheets shall be provided by the permittee to all digested sludge users and shall be signed by the digested sludge users. Where sludge is used as fertilizer topdressing on established vegetation, the signed user sheets are required only for the first use of sludge during each five-year cycle of the permit. A revised and re-signed user information sheet shall be submitted to the Agency for such sites, at such time as there is a change in management, ownership or usage of said site. Records regarding digested sludge users shall be retained by the permittee.

**READ ALL CONDITIONS CAREFULLY:
STANDARD CONDITIONS**

The Illinois Environmental Protection Act (Illinois Revised Statutes Chapter 111-12, Section 1039) grants the Environmental Protection Agency authority to impose conditions on permits which it issues.

1. Unless the construction for which this permit is issued has been completed, this permit will expire (1) two years after the date of issuance for permits to construct sewers or wastewater sources or (2) three years after the date of issuance for permits to construct treatment works or pretreatment works.
2. The construction or development of facilities covered by this permit shall be done in compliance with applicable provisions of Federal laws and regulations, the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, and Rules and Regulations adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board.
3. There shall be no deviations from the approved plans and specifications unless a written request for modification of the project, along with plans and specifications as required, shall have been submitted to the Agency and a supplemental written permit issued.
4. The permittee shall allow any agent duly authorized by the Agency upon the presentations of credentials:
 - a. to enter at reasonable times, the permittee's premises where actual or potential effluent, emission or noise sources are located or where any activity is to be conducted pursuant to this permit;
 - b. to have access to and copy at reasonable times any records required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this permit;
 - c. to inspect at reasonable times, including during any hours of operation of equipment constructed or operated under this permit, such equipment or monitoring methodology or equipment required to be kept, used, operated, calibrated and maintained under this permit;
 - d. to obtain and remove at reasonable times samples of any discharge or emission of pollutants;
 - e. to enter at reasonable times and utilize any photographic, recording, testing, monitoring or other equipment for the purpose of preserving, testing, monitoring, or recording any activity, discharge, or emission authorized by this permit.
5. The issuance of this permit:
 - a. shall not be considered as in any manner affecting the title of the premises upon which the permitted facilities are to be located;
 - b. does not release the permittee from any liability for damage to person or property caused by or resulting from the construction, maintenance, or operation of the proposed facilities;
 - c. does not release the permittee from compliance with other applicable statutes and regulations of the United States, of the State of Illinois, or with applicable local laws, ordinances and regulations;
 - d. does not take into consideration or attest to the structural stability of any units or parts of the project;
 - e. in no manner implies or suggests that the Agency (or its officers, agents or employees) assumes any liability, directly or indirectly, for any loss due to damage, installation, maintenance, or operation of the proposed equipment or facility.
6. Unless a joint construction/operation permit has been issued, a permit for operating shall be obtained from the agency before the facility or equipment covered by this permit is placed into operation.
7. These standard conditions shall prevail unless modified by special conditions.
8. The Agency may file a complaint with the Board for suspension or revocation of a permit:
 - a. upon discovery that the permit application contained misrepresentations, misinformation or false statement or that all relevant facts were not disclosed; or
 - b. upon finding that any standard or special conditions have been violated; or
 - c. upon any violation of the Environmental Protection Act or any Rules or Regulation effective thereunder as a result of the construction or development authorized by this permit.