

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT

LOG NUMBERS: 2021-66896

PERMIT NO.: 2022-SC-66896

BUREAU ID: W0318990006

FINAL PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, APPLICATION
AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

PREPARED BY: Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater
Chicago

DATE ISSUED: February 15, 2022

SUBJECT: METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO-HANOVER PARK-
FISCHER FARM-Dedicated Sludge Disposal Site

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:

Surface application of approximately 2,300 dry tons per year of anaerobically digested sewage sludge from the Hanover Park Water Reclamation Plant to bermed and underdrained areas encompassing approximately 130 acres. The annual average application rate for digested sewage sludge shall not exceed 25 dry tons per acre for the annual crops.

The one time application of up to 16,000 dry tons of retention pond sediment to bermed and underdrained areas encompassing approximately 130 acres. The annual average application rate for retention pond sediment shall not exceed 140 dry tons per acre.

This operating permit expires on January 31, 2027.

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 permittee shall transport all runoff and collected leachate to the influent of the treatment plant for complete treatment and shall not be discharged to the West Branch of the DuPage River unless the applicable effluent and water quality standards have been met and the permittee's NPDES permit is modified to reflect the new discharge.

SPECIAL CONDITION 2: Groundwater monitoring wells 5, 6, 7, and 8 shall be monitored quarterly for the following parameters: pH, total phosphorus, chloride, sulfate, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, ammonia nitrogen as N, nitrate and nitrite nitrogen as N, alkalinity as CaCO₃, electrical conductivity, zinc, cadmium, copper, chromium, nickel, manganese, and iron.

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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


Brant D. Fleming, P.E.
Manager, Municipal Unit, Permit Section

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Sampling results shall be submitted as a report to the Agency by April 30, July 31, October 31 and January 31 of each year, reporting the preceding three months of sampling data. Reports shall be submitted electronically to EPA.PrmtSpecCondtns@illinois.gov with "2022-SC-66896 Special Condition 2" as the subject of the email.

SPECIAL CONDITION 3: Groundwater monitoring wells No.1 and 3 are excluded from the required sampling until such time as the adjacent 5 acre experimental field receives sludge. When application begins on the 5 acre experimental field groundwater monitoring shall be reinstated quarterly for the parameters specified in Special Condition 2 of this permit and the Agency shall be notified in writing.

SPECIAL CONDITION 4: The permittee shall analyze the sludge applied from the storage lagoons or digesters on a quarterly basis for the following parameters: % total solids, % volatile solids, pH, volatile acids, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, ammonia nitrogen, total phosphorous, cadmium, nickel, copper, lead, zinc, chromium, and manganese.

The results of these analyses shall be submitted to this Agency on a quarterly basis on Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) electronic forms. Sampling results shall be submitted to the Agency by April 30, July 31, October 31 and January 31 of each year, reporting the preceding three months of sampling data.

The Permittee is required to submit electronic DMRs (NetDMRs) instead of mailing paper DMRs to the IEPA unless a waiver has been granted by the Agency. More information, including registration information for the NetDMR program, can be obtained on the IEPA website, <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/surface-water/netdmr/pages/quick-answer-guide.aspx>.

Permittee that have been granted a waiver shall mail Discharge Monitoring Reports with an original signature to the IEPA at 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 5: The permittee shall record the quantity of drainage returned to the treatment plant influent and shall analyze this drainage for BOD₅, total suspended solids and ammonia nitrogen. Sampling results shall be submitted as a report to the Agency by April 30, July 31, October 31 and January 31 of each year, reporting the preceding three months of sampling data. Reports shall be submitted electronically to EPA.PrmtSpecCondtns@illinois.gov with "2022-SC-66896 Special Condition 5" as the subject of the email.

SPECIAL CONDITION 6: The permittee shall record the total quantities of sludge applied to each application area, including dates sludge is applied, quantities applied on each date and the type of crops grown. The permittee shall submit these records to the IEPA electronically to EPA.PrmtSpecCondtns@illinois.gov with "2022-SC-66896 Special Condition 6" as the

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subject of the email and shall indicate the expected crop for the next growing season on each application area in the fourth quarter reports for each year.

SPECIAL CONDITION 7: The permittee shall take the necessary measures to ensure relatively even distribution of sludge over the field application areas.

SPECIAL CONDITION 8: Groundwater monitoring wells shall be replaced if they do not produce adequate samples for analysis at least 4 times per quarter unless adequate documentation is provided to justify retaining said well.

SPECIAL CONDITION 9: 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. Said reports shall be submitted to the Agency by January 31 and July 31 of each year reporting the preceding July through December and January through June sludge disposal operations respectively. The Sludge Management Report Form can be obtained at the following IEPA website, <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/Documents/epa.state.il.us/water/compliance/waste-water/forms/sludge-management.pdf>.

The permittee shall submit the semi-annual sludge management report electronically or in writing to the following addresses:

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

EPA.PrmtSpecCondtns@illinois.gov

**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.