

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT

LOG NUMBERS: 2018-63477

PERMIT NO.: 2018-SC-63477

BUREAU ID: W0328990003

FINAL PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, APPLICATION
AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

DATE ISSUED September 21, 2018

PREPARED BY: Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater
Chicago

SUBJECT: METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO-MWRDGC Prairie Plan
Project

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:

A. Storage

The operations include storage of digested sewage sludge on the Fulton County site as follows. Sludge transported to the Fulton County site under this permit may be stored on an interim basis (over winter) on the bituminous surface sludge storage facilities in holding basin #1(Site B), Field 45 (Site A), Field 35 (Site D) and Field 73 (Site C).

B. Application

The operations include application of sludge with the present discing equipment to application Fields Nos. 1 through 45, 47, and 50 through 65, 73, 75, 76 and 80 through 84.

C. Transportation

Transportation of a quantity equal to or less than 190,000 dry tons per year of dried digested sewage sludge from the Stickney, Calumet and John Egan Water Reclamation Plants to the Prairie Plan Site in Fulton County by truck, railroad, barge or any combination thereof. Sludge from these facilities may be air dried at the LASMA drying site, HASMA drying site, the Calumet East and Calumet West drying sites. The District shall advise the Agency of the method of sludge shipment prior to said activity. Sludge transfer stations shall be permitted by the Agency.

This operating permit expires on December 31, 2022.

This permit renews and replaces Permit Number 2013-SC-58146 which was previously issued for the herein permitted facilities.

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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
EPA-Peoria FOS
Records - Municipal



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

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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: This permit is reissued based upon the statement by the District that sludge is not being applied at the Fulton County site at this time. Not less than 90 days prior to the resumption of the land application of sludge on the Fulton County site, the District will advise the Agency, in writing, of the resumption of land application activities on this site

SPECIAL CONDITION 2: The District shall submit to this Agency a complete permit application for a supplemental permit if the District intends to transport sludge quantities to Fulton County which are greater than authorized by this permit.

SPECIAL CONDITION 3: The District shall submit to this Agency a complete permit application for a supplemental permit if the District intends to apply sludge to areas not authorized by this permit.

SPECIAL CONDITION 4: The District shall submit to this Agency a complete supplemental permit application for approval prior to sludge application at rates greater than authorized under this permit. Said supplemental permit request shall include but not be limited to a revised crop yield figures based on historical yields from MWRDGC sludge amended sites, accounting for variable nitrogen concentrations from yearly operations and a revised sludge application rate equation. The District shall also designate a field(s) that contains a runoff basin and berm for adequate monitoring and observation to justify any request to increase in the herein permitted sludge application rate on fields without runoff basins and berms.

SPECIAL CONDITION 5: The District shall submit to this Agency a complete permit application for a supplemental permit if the District intends to modify any of the monitoring requirements of this permit.

SPECIAL CONDITION 6: The District shall submit to this Agency a supplemental permit application for dry storage sites not authorized by this permit at the Fulton County Prairie Plan site for sludge transported to Fulton County under this permit.

SPECIAL CONDITION 7: The District shall apply to this Agency for a renewal of this permit, or portions thereof, if it becomes necessary to operate beyond any expiration date set forth in this permit. The renewal application shall be accompanied by a time schedule showing dates when the existing operations will be ceased and shall be filed with the Agency 90 days before the existing permit expires.

SPECIAL CONDITION 8: The District shall provide on-site supervision of sludge application at all times to ensure that all the conditions of this permit are met. In the event of any accidental discharge of sludge to streams and interconnected ponds or sink holes, which retain standing water year-round, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Peoria Regional Office (309-693-5463) shall be notified within 24 hours of such discharge. Cleanup of the accidental discharge shall be initiated as soon as possible.

SPECIAL CONDITION 9: This permit is issued on the basis that any surveillance activity by the staff of this Agency does not relieve the District from sole responsibility for establishing and continuing a surveillance program for monitoring and detecting any discharge of waters which do not meet the applicable provisions of the Environmental Protection Act or the Rules and Regulations of the Pollution Control Board.

SPECIAL CONDITION 10: This permit does not relieve the District of sole responsibility for the existing discharges to the waters of the State which may have occurred through mining activity or any other past activity in this area, which do not

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meet the applicable provisions of the Environmental Protection Act or Illinois Pollution Control Board Rules and Regulations.

SPECIAL CONDITION 11: As such time as the District resumes sludge application at the Fulton County site the District shall resume submission of monthly monitoring reports to this Agency.

SPECIAL CONDITION 12: Up to date sampling data and operational information to be used in the monthly reports must be available for inspection by this Agency's personnel and the Fulton County site.

SPECIAL CONDITION 13: The effluent discharge from any retention basin approved under this permit must meet the applicable effluent requirements for discharge to the waters of the State as required by Illinois Pollution Control Board Rules and Regulations Subtitle C. The point of discharge to the waters of the State shall be considered to be the overflow structure of each of the retentions basins. Samples may be taken from the point of discharge either prior to or during the discharge of effluent from these basins.

- 1) The BOD₅ of any discharge sample taken shall not exceed 33 mg/L
- 2) The S.S. value of any discharge sample taken shall not exceed 99 mg/L
- 3) The pH value for any discharge sample taken shall be within the limits of 6.0 to 10.0
- 4) The fecal coliform bacteria value for any discharge sample taken shall not exceed 500 per 100 milliliters

SPECIAL CONDITION 14: Sampling of retention basin effluent is not required for those basins whose tributary fields have not received sludge within the last two years. Sampling structures shall be maintained on all retention basins; regardless of the date sludge was last applied to the tributary fields. Should the surface water monitoring system detect deterioration in water quality, the Agency may require resumption of effluent testing for some or all retention basins.

SPECIAL CONDITION 15: In order to provide storage for the capture of a 100 year, 24-hour storm event, the District shall remove waters from the retention basins as soon as practicable after a storm. The permittee shall keep records of precipitation and approximate amounts of runoff pumped back to the fields or discharged and the results shall be submitted along with the monthly operation reports.

SPECIAL CONDITION 16: Sludge shall not be land applied by spraying.

SPECIAL CONDITION 17: The application rate of sludge to the application fields with berms and retention basins shall not exceed 285 dry tons/acre per five-year period.

SPECIAL CONDITION 18: 90 days prior to the resumption of the land application of sludge at the Fulton County site the District shall submit a proposed environmental monitoring program to reflect the scope of the proposed project.

SPECIAL CONDITION 19: Dried digested sludge transported to the Fulton County Prairie Plan site for application to various fields may be stored at the Fields 17 and field 25 storage sites in accordance with the following conditions:

- A. Runoff from the sludge storage site in Fields Nos. 17 and 25 shall be controlled and any discharges shall be in conformance with the discharge limitations of this permit.

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B. Sludge shall be stored for an interim period of 15 days or less.

SPECIAL CONDITION 20: Sludge applied to application fields without runoff retention basins shall be applied within the following conditions:

A. Sludge shall be applied at a rate of 25 dry tons per acre per year or less.

B. Sludge shall be incorporated within 48 hours or prior to any rainfall whichever is more restrictive.

C. Sludge shall not be applied to a site with a slope of greater than 8% with annual soil loss in excess of 5 ton/acre.

D. Sludge shall not be applied to land which lies within 200 feet from a community water supply well, potable water well, surface waters or intermittent streams or within one fourth of a mile of any potable water supply wells located in consolidated bedrock such as limestone or sink hole areas unless a 50-foot depth of non-sandy or non-gravelly unconsolidated materials exists. In no case shall sludge be applied within 400 feet of a community water supply well deriving water from an unconfined shallow fractured or highly permeable bedrock formation or from an unconsolidated and unconfined sand and gravel formation.

E. Sludge shall be applied to sites within the following guidelines:

1. Sludge shall not be applied to sites during precipitation.

2. Sludge shall not be applied to sites which are saturated or with ponded water.

3. 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 sludge provided a 200-foot grassy area existing between the sludge applied and any surface water or potable water supply well.

SPECIAL CONDITION 21: The District shall monitor sludge amended coal refuse areas to ensure that adequate vegetative cover on coal refuse piles is maintained so as to prevent erosion of the coal refuse cap.

SPECIAL CONDITION 22: Trucks transporting sludge to the Fulton County Prairie Plan site from the above-mentioned sludge processing sites shall be covered to prevent spillage or loss of wind-blown sludge particles.

SPECIAL CONDITION 23: No sooner than 90 days and no later than 7 days prior to the application of sludge to land written notice shall be provided to the owner(s) of the land receiving the sludge, the owners of land adjacent to the land receiving the sludge and the Township and County officials whose jurisdiction encompasses the sludge application site.

SPECIAL CONDITION 24: The District shall certify the acceptance of this permit no later than 45 days after its issuance.

**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.