

**Department of Environmental Conservation
Response to Comments**

For

Kodiak Wastewater Treatment Facility

APDES Permit No. AK0021555

Public Noticed February 26, 2024 – March 26, 2024

April 15, 2024



**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501**

1 Introduction

1.1 Summary of Facility / Permit

The City of Kodiak's Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) was originally put into service in 1978. The WWTF provides secondary treatment of domestic wastewater from residential and commercial sources and is designed to treat 6.2 million gallons per day. There are no significant industrial wastewater contributions to the WWTF.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued the City of Kodiak (Kodiak) their first National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Kodiak WWTF in 1974. In 1978, Kodiak applied for CWA Section 301(h) waiver from secondary treatment standards. EPA granted Kodiak the waiver and reissued the permit in 1985 with the waiver from secondary treatment standards. In 1987, Kodiak requested the rescindment of the 301(h) waiver as they had determined to operate as a secondary treatment plant. EPA subsequently modified the Kodiak WWTF permit in 1988 to include secondary treatment standards. EPA reissued the permit in 1999.

DEC reissued the 1999 NPDES permit under the Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) program in 2018 for a five-year permit term. Under the Administrative Procedures Act and state regulations at 18 AAC 83.155(c), an APDES permit may be administratively extended (i.e., continues in force and effect) provided that the permittee submits a timely and complete application prior to the expiration of the current permit. Kodiak submitted a timely and complete application for permit reissuance in December 2022; therefore, the 2018 permit is administratively extended until such time a new permit is reissued.

1.2 Opportunities for Public Participation

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC or the Department) proposed to issue an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) wastewater discharge permit the Kodiak WWTF. To ensure public, agency, local governments and tribal notification and opportunities for participation, the Department:

- identified the permit on the annual Permit Issuance Plan posted online at: <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/wastewater/>
- notified local governments and potentially affected tribes that the Department would be working on this permit via letter, fax and/or email
- posted a preliminary draft of the permit online for a 10-day applicant review February 1, 2024, and notified tribes and other agencies
- posted the draft of the permit online for a 30-day public comment period on February 26, 2024

- posted the proposed final permit on-line for a five-day applicant review on April 4, 2024
- sent email notifications via the APDES Program List Serve when the preliminary draft, draft, proposed, and final permits were available for review.

The Department did not receive any comments during the public notice period of the draft permit.

1.3 Final Permit

The final permit was adopted by the Department on April 15, 2024. Minor changes were made to the publicly noticed permit. Changes include the addition of an effluent flow monitoring location at Permit Section 1.2.6 and the correction of copper mass-based limits in Table 2.