

**Department of Environmental Conservation
Response to Comments**

For

**University of Alaska - Southeast
Anderson Building Facility
APDES Permit No. AK0055875**

Public Noticed May 26, 2021 – June 28, 2021

FINAL, July 8, 2021



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

1 Introduction

1.1 Summary of Facility / Permit

The Anderson Building Facility at the University of Alaska – Southeast (UAS) houses laboratory tanks for studying sea organisms used for academic research at the University near Juneau, Alaska.

Discharge Location: The wastewater discharge is transmitted through a marine outfall line to Auke Bay at: 58.38000° North latitude and 134.64420° West longitude.

Description of Discharge: The wastewater effluent is untreated wastewater that discharges at a flow rate of 100,800 gallons per day. The main pollutants monitored in this wastestream are five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅), total suspended solids (TSS), total settleable solids, fecal coliform bacteria (FC), enterococci bacteria (enterococci), pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), and temperature.

Mixing Zone: No mixing zones are authorized in the permit.

1.2 Opportunities for Public Participation

The Department of Environmental Conservation proposed to reissue an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) wastewater discharge permit to UAS for the Anderson Building Facility. To ensure public, agency, 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/pip/>
- notified potentially affected tribes and local governments that the Department would be working on this permit via letter, fax and/or email on April 7, 2021.
- posted a preliminary draft of the permit on-line for a 10-day applicant review on May 20, 2021 and notified tribes, local governments, and other agencies.
- formally posted public notice of the draft permit on May 26, 2021 on the Department's public notice web page.
- sent email notifications via the APDES Program List Serve when the preliminary draft and draft permits were available for review.

The Department did not receive any comments during the public notice period. The Department requested comment from the Departments of Natural Resources (DNR) Fish and Game (DFG), the National Marine Fisheries Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Department contacted the permittee on June 29, 2021. The permittee waived the five-day proposed final applicant review in writing. The Department proceeded to issuance of the final permit consistent with 18 AAC 83.120(m).

1.3 Final Permit

The final permit was issued by the Department on July 8, 2021. There were no changes from the public noticed permit.