



NOTICE OF REVIEW

APDES Preliminary Draft Permit

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

NOTICE OF REVIEW OF AN
ALASKA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (APDES)
PRELIMINARY DRAFT PERMIT
TO DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

DEC has prepared an APDES preliminary draft permit for Westward Seafoods – Captains Bay Facility. The Preliminary Draft Permit and associated documents are available to the applicant for a 10-day review. Following the close of the 10-day applicant review period, DEC will prepare a draft permit and fact sheet for a formal 30-day public review period. Public comments will be accepted during the formal 30-day review period. You can access the documents on DEC's Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program webpage at:

<https://dec.alaska.gov/water/wastewater/>

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Preliminary Draft Permit Review:

Start Date: 10/28/2021

End Date: 11/10/2021

Permit No.: AK0049786

Applicant: Westward Seafoods, Inc.
Captains Bay Facility
1 Mile Captains Bay Road
Dutch Harbor, AK 99692

Proposed Project and Location:

Westward Seafoods, Inc. owns, operates, and maintains the facility, which conducts seafood processing and seafood meal reduction. The facility is located in the City of Unalaska, Alaska on Captains Bay.

Processing wastes (i.e., heads, offal, unusable tissue parts) are flumed to dewatering conveyors where they are transported to the meal plant for reduction to fish meal, a marketable secondary product. Water used in bailing, butchering, processing, and fluming is collected before final discharge and passed through a 0.5-millimeter (mm) screen to recover residual tissue pieces. Screened wastewater is discharged without further treatment through Outfall 001A. In some cases, product is recovered from wastewater prior to screening, such as recovering tissue from surimi wash water using centrifuge decanters before the wash water is sent to the screens.

Screened solids and unusable seafood parts are sent to the meal reduction plant. Fish meal processing produces a stream of noncontact saltwater used in evaporation machinery and to scrub dryer vapors from the meal dryers. This wastewater is discharged from Outfall 002A, along with cooling water from electricity generation and refrigeration compressors. A second fish meal wastestream contains stickwater (fish tissue liquids removed in the dehydration process) along with impure condensate from the evaporator, liquid discharges from conveyor machinery, clean-up wash water, and machinery cooling water. Stickwater is typically discharged by vessel July through September and discharged from Outfall 001A October through June. A skimmer was installed in 2014, and it skims fish oil from stickwater prior to discharge. Outfall 001A terminates 1,200 feet from the facility in a multi-port diffuser north of the rocky reef Bailey's Ledge, at a depth of -61 ft mean lower low water (MLLW) above substrate at -83 ft MLLW but in close proximity to depths extending to -200 ft MLLW. Outfall 002A terminates at -3 ft MLLW, under the facility dock.

There is a 200-foot x 253-foot mixing zone around the Outfall 001A diffuser for temperature, color, turbidity, residues, dissolved oxygen, sediment, and total ammonia. There is also an authorized 1.0-acre zone of deposit for residues on the seafloor.

There is a 100-foot radius mixing zone for temperature around Outfall 002A.

Administrative Record:

The APDES preliminary draft permit, fact sheet, and associated documents are available for public review at the DEC offices located in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Soldotna, and Wasilla. Please contact the office of your choice to arrange for hard copies of the documents to be available for your review.

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Anchorage, AK 99501
907-269-6285

610 University Avenue
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If you would like to see any additional supporting technical documents, contact Anne Weaver.

The documents are also accessible from the DEC website at:

<https://dec.alaska.gov/water/wastewater/>

Disability Reasonable Accommodation Notice

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need a special accommodation in order to participate in this review, please contact Brian Blessington at (907) 269-7660 or TDD Relay Service 1-800-770-8973/TTY or dial 711 within 10 days of publication of this notice to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.