Department of Environmental Conservation
Response to Comments

For

United States Coast Guard Base Kodiak Wastewater Treatment Facility
APDES Permit No. AK0020648

Public Noticed March 10, 2022 – April 8, 2022

Pending, 2022
1 Introduction

1.1 Summary of Facility / Permit

United States Coast Guard (USCG) Base Kodiak began as Naval Air Station Kodiak in 1941. In 1947, Coast Guard Air Station was commissioned as an air detachment at the Navy Base which was followed in 1972 with the establishment of USCG Base Kodiak.

USCG Base Kodiak is a major shoreline installation of the USCG 17th District. The 17th district covers approximately 4,000,000 square miles and over 47,300 miles of shoreline including the Gulf of Alaska, Bristol Bay, Bering Sea, and the Pacific Ocean above 40º north latitude. The major tenant of USCG Base Kodiak is Air Station Kodiak. USCG Base Kodiak is also the home port for several cutters. Operations include search and rescue, enforcement of laws and treaties, marine environmental protection, aids to navigation, military defense, disaster control services and support, assistance to local, state, and federal agencies, and logistical support for outlying Coast Guard units.

The USCG Base Kodiak Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) provides secondary treatment of domestic wastewater and treatment of landfill leachate and pretreated bilge and equipment wash water generated from Base operations. The WWTF is designed to treat a daily maximum 1.2 million gallons per day.

DEC issued an APDES permit for the USCG Base Kodiak WWTF discharge in 2017. The permit expired on February 28, 2022. 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 for a new permit prior to the expiration of the current permit. A timely application for a new permit was submitted by the USCG on September 2, 2021; therefore, the 2017 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 Homer 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: [http://dec.alaska.gov/water/wastewater/](http://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 16, 2022, and notified tribes and other agencies
• posted the draft of the permit online for a 30-day public comment period on March 10, 2022
• posted the proposed final permit on-line for a five-day applicant review on April 15, 2022.
• 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 on the draft permit.

1.3 Final Permit
The final permit was adopted by the Department on Pending. No changes were made to the publicly noticed permit.