

**Department of Environmental Conservation
Response to Comments**

For

**Chugach Electric Association-Beluga Power Plant
APDES Permit No. AK0026603**

Public Noticed February 19, 2026 – March 20, 2026

April 3, 2026



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

1 Introduction

1.1 Summary of Facility / Permit

The Chugach Electric Association (CEA) operates the Beluga Power Plant (BPP) on the West side of Cook Inlet. The proposed discharge for BPP is wastewater associated with electrical power generation including drinking water sand filter backwash, wastewater collected in plant floor drains, and fire pump water testing. The BPP is an intermittent discharge and will occur at a maximum rate of 10,000 gallons per day to Krause Creek, Outfall 001A which is located at 61° 11' 11 North latitude and 151° 2' 19 West longitude. No mixing zone is proposed, or authorized, and effluent limits proposed are to be met at the end of the pipe.

Since 2016, the Beluga Power Plant has been issued two Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) wastewater discharge permits for a 5-year term. The current version of the Beluga Power Plant became effective on June 1, 2021, and will expire on May 31, 2026. The reissued permit will become effective on June 1, 2026.

1.2 Opportunities for Public Participation

The DEC proposed to reissue an APDES wastewater discharge permit for the Beluga Power Plant. 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 that the Department would be working on this permit via letter, fax and/or email.
- posted a preliminary draft of the permit on-line for a 10-day applicant review on February 3, 2026 and notified tribes and other agencies.
- posted the draft of the permit on-line for a 30-day public comment period on February 19, 2026.
- sent email notifications via the APDES Program List Serve when the preliminary draft, draft, and proposed final permits were available for review

The Department did not receive any comments on the draft permit.

1.3 Final Permit

Beluga Power Plant waived the 5-day applicant review period on March 26, 2026. The final permit was adopted by the Department on April 3, 2026. There are not any changes to the publicly-noticed permit.