

**Department of Environmental Conservation  
Response to Comments**

**For**

**UniSea, Inc. – Dutch Harbor Facility  
APDES Permit No. AK0028657**

**Public Noticed  
May 30, 2024 – June 28, 2024**

**FINAL**



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

## **1 Introduction**

### **1.1 Summary of Facility / Permit**

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC or the Department) proposes to reissue an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) individual permit to UniSea, Inc. – Dutch Harbor Facility for discharge of seafood processing waste and wastewater to waters of the U.S. The permit authorizes discharges to South Unalaska Bay and Iliuliuk Harbor. The permit is the reissuance of AK0028657, previously issued on February 5, 2003.

In order to ensure protection of water quality and human health, the permit places limits on the types and amounts of pollutants that can be discharged from the facility, outlines best management practices (BMPs) to which the facility must adhere, and requires effluent and receiving water monitoring.

### **1.2 Opportunities for Public Participation**

DEC proposed to reissue an APDES wastewater discharge individual permit, *UniSea, Inc. – Dutch Harbor 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/>
- notified potentially affected tribes and local governments that the Department would be working on this permit via letter, fax, and/or email on August 9, 2023
- posted a preliminary draft of the permit online for a 10-day applicant review April 11, 2024 and notified tribes, local government(s), and other agencies
- formally published public notice of the draft permit on May 30, 2024 in the Anchorage Daily News and the Dutch Harbor Fisherman and posted the public notice on the Department’s public notice web page
- did not post the proposed final permit online for a 5-day applicant review (applicant waived the review on July 1, 2024)
- sent email notifications via the APDES Program Listserv when the preliminary draft and draft permits were available for review

The Department did not receive comments from any interested parties on the draft permit and supporting documents during the public notice period. The Department requested comment from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Department did not receive comments from any government agencies.

### **1.3 Final Permit**

The final permit was adopted by the Department on July 10, 2024