PUBLIC NOTICE

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) seeks public comment to help guide the draft version of an environmental assessment (Draft EA) for a proposed tire monofill near Polson in Lake County, Montana.

The applicant, Vern Reum, currently operates Tire Depot, a Class III tire monofill located approximately 3.5 miles southeast of Polson, east of US Highway 93. Tire Depot is seeking licensure of a new Class III tire monofill located on a 40-acre parcel, owned by Mr. Reum, approximately 3.5 miles southeast of Polson, west of US Highway 93.

DEQ determined that Tire Depot's application was complete. DEQ will now analyze the potential impacts of the proposed project, as required by the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA).

The first phase, required by MEPA, is to conduct "scoping" to identify environmental issues associated with the proposed project. DEQ is seeking comments from federal, tribal, state and local governments, and the public to identify potential impacts and possible alternatives to be considered. The comments will assist an interdisciplinary team of experts in establishing the scope of the Draft EA. DEQ will commence preparation of the Draft EA once comments have been received and evaluated.

The scoping period began on June 10 and has been modified to allow for a public meeting. Public comments will be accepted until the close of business on July 24, 2020. Written comments concerning the proposal may be submitted via U.S. Mail at the below address:

Waste and Underground Tank Management Bureau Solid Waste Program P.O. Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620-0901

Comments may also be emailed to: <u>DEQSWProgram@mt.gov</u>. Call 406-444-5300 for more information or guidance.

A **public scoping meeting** will be held at **9:00 am** on **July 22, 2020**, as an opportunity for the public to provide comments on the proposed project. Due to COVID-19, the meeting will be hosted virtually on Zoom. Contact the Solid Waste Program (SWP) using the above information to register and receive a secure meeting link. Participants are asked to join the meeting 10 minutes early to test their connection.

The application is available on DEQ's website at: http://deq.mt.gov/Public/notices/solidwastelegalpublicnotice.

A hard copy of the application may be obtained from SWP at the above email address.

Dated this 1st day of July 2020.