



**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-20-03**  
**June 1, 2020**

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue wastewater discharge permits to the facilities listed in this notice. These permits are issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); and Sections 402 and 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared draft permits for the facilities listed below. Copies of the draft permits, fact sheet, and environmental assessments are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov).

APPLICANT INFORMATION

**APPLICANT:** Stillwater Mining Company dba Sibanye-Stillwater  
**FACILITY NAME:** Stillwater Mine  
**FACILITY LOCATION:** Nye, MT in Stillwater County  
**RECEIVING WATER:** Stillwater River and Ground Water  
**PERMIT NUMBER:** MT0024716

This permitting action is a major modification of an existing Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit for discharge from the Stillwater Mining Company (SMC) Stillwater Mine's Wastewater Treatment Facility. The modification will extend the final effluent limit date by three years, to September 1, 2023.

SMC has made significant improvements to the facility's wastewater treatment process. The final step, installation of a 10-micron disc filter. Granting an extension will allow time for SMC to complete construction and optimize their upgraded facility and gather at least a year of representative effluent data.

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**APPLICANT:** Stillwater Mining Company dba Sibanye-Stillwater

**FACILITY NAME:** East Boulder Mine

**FACILITY LOCATION:** McLeod, MT in Sweetgrass County

**RECEIVING WATER:** East Boulder River and Ground Water

**PERMIT NUMBER:** MT0026808

This permitting action is a major modification of an existing Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit for discharge from the Stillwater Mining Company (SMC) East Boulder Mine's Wastewater Treatment Facility. The modification will extend the final effluent limit date by three years, to August 31, 2023.

SMC has made significant improvements to the facility's wastewater treatment process. The final step, installation of a 10-micron disc filter, is scheduled to be completed by September 2020. Granting an extension will allow time for SMC to optimize their upgraded facility and gather at least a year of representative effluent data.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited **ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS JULY 1, 2020.** Comments may be directed to the DEQ Water Quality Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked **PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS JULY 1, 2020,** will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail the Department at [DEQWPBPublicComments@mt.gov](mailto:DEQWPBPublicComments@mt.gov).

During the public comment period provided by the notice, the Department will accept requests for a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issue proposed to be raised in the hearing (ARM 17.30.1373).

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-5546 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The complete administrative record, including permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

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