



**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-20-19**  
**November 30, 2020**

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue a wastewater discharge permit to the facility 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 a draft permit for the facility listed below. Copies of the draft permit, fact sheet, and environmental assessment 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: Sidney Sugars, Inc.

FACILITY NAME: Sidney Sugars, a sugar beet processing facility

FACILITY LOCATION: 35140 Country Road 125  
Sidney, MT 59270

RECEIVING WATER: Yellowstone River and Ground Water

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0000248

This permitting action is the renewal of an existing MPDES permit for discharge from the Sidney Sugars, Inc. sugar beet processing facility in Sidney, MT. Their current permit was effective December 1, 2009, and has been administratively extended since November 30, 2014. This proposed permit renewal includes coverage for the following process and cooling wastewater discharges:

- Outfall 001: Section 25 Pond to the Yellowstone River
- Outfall 002: Section 25 Pond through ground water to the Yellowstone River
- Outfalls 003: Factory water/wastewater circulation and treatment ponds to ground water

Sidney Sugars is subject to the Technology-based Effluent Limits under 40 CFR 409 for Beet Sugar Processing for the following parameters: 5-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), pH, fecal coliform, and temperature. In addition, Sidney Sugars is subject to Water Quality-based Effluent Limits, including: *E.coli* bacteria, oil & grease, and summer nutrient limits (total nitrogen and total phosphorus).

The proposed permit includes Special Conditions requiring Sidney Sugars to develop discharge rates and ground water fate and transfer for the Factory Ponds; maintain and follow their Farm

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Management Plan for land application of treated wastewater; install, calibrate, and maintain adequate flow meters and provide annual flow balances.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS January 19, 2021. 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 January 19, 2021, 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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