



**EXTENSION OF PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-17-05  
March 27, 2017**

**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. This permit is 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)

**Updated Public Notice**

**APPLICANT NAME:** City of Columbia Falls  
600 Veterans Drive  
Columbia Falls, MT

**FACILITY NAME:** City of Columbia Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant

**FACILITY LOCATION:** Township 30N, Range 20W, Section 19, Flathead County

**RECEIVING WATER:** Flathead River

**PERMIT NUMBER:** MT0020036

This permit is a reissuance of a Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit for discharge of treated wastewater to Flathead River. The City of Columbia Falls operates a biological nutrient removal (BNR) wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) with ultraviolet (UV) disinfection. The facility was originally constructed in 1969 and has been modified with expansions completed in 1983, 1987, 2000, and 2010. The proposed permit will (1) maintain national secondary treatment standards for five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>), total suspended solids (TSS), and pH and (2) maintain existing limits on *E. coli* bacteria and total nitrogen, and total phosphorus. The proposed permit requires periodic self-monitoring and reporting of discharge quality and quantity and periodic monitoring and reporting of upstream ambient water quality. This permit and fact sheet will be submitted to the EPA for approval.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS May 2, 2017. 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 May 2, 2017 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.

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) 444-3080 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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