

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-19-26
December 2, 2019

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) and the Administrative Rules of Montana 17.30.1001 et seq., Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS). 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

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT:	Colstrip Energy Limited Partnership
FACILITY NAME:	Colstrip Energy Limited Partnership Ash Monofills
FACILITY LOCATION:	The existing monofill sites are located approximately four miles north of the Town of Colstrip
PERMIT NUMBER:	MTX000052

A determination has been made by DEQ to reissue an existing Montana Ground Water Pollution Control System (MGWPCS) permit, MTX000052, to Colstrip Energy Limited Partnership (permittee) for the placement of coal fly ash and bottom ash at existing ash monofills.

Fly ash and bottom ash is a byproduct of the combustion process at the permittee's coal-fired steam electric power generation facility (Rosebud Power Plant). The ash is deposited in dry form by truck on top of the existing monofill site that is located adjacent to the power plant. The ash is then hydrated to mitigate fugitive dust emissions and to solidify the ash. Both the power plant and ash monofills are located approximately four miles north of the Town of Colstrip.

The facility has two ash monofills. One is actively being used for placement of dry coal ash. The other monofill was retired and rehabilitated in 2006. Active monitoring for potential leachate is currently taking place at both monofills.

The MGWPCS permit requires:

- Long term ground water monitoring for potential monofill leachate;
- Best management practices for fugitive dust and erosion control;
- Rehabilitation of the monofill; and,
- Long term monitoring of rehabilitation efforts.

The scope of this permit addresses the operation, placement of waste, best management practices, and monitoring conditions of the facility. The facility is located:

NWNE Section 32, Township 03 North, Range 41 East

Latitude: 45.97529, Longitude: -106.65551

Rosebud County

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS January 2, 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 January 2, 2020, will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permit. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail 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 17.30.1024).

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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