



**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-16-2
February 29, 2016**

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

APPLICANT: Westmoreland Savage Corp
PO Box 30
Savage, MT 59262

FACILITY NAME: Savage Mine

FACILITY LOCATION: County Road 107
Richland County

RECEIVING WATER: Peabody Coulee, Unnamed Ephemeral Tributary to
Garden Coulee

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0023604

This is a reissuance of MPDES permit MT0023604 for Westmoreland Savage Corporation which discharges treated mine drainage from an approximately 1280 acre lignite coal mine to Peabody Coulee and an unnamed ephemeral tributary to Garden Coulee. Receiving waters are ephemeral streams which are tributary to the Yellowstone River, located approximately 5 miles downstream. Treatment consists of a series of settling ponds designed to contain the runoff from a minimum 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited **ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS March 29, 2016.** Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked **PRIOR TO**

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CLOSE OF BUSINESS March 29, 2016 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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