



**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-24-11
NOVEMBER 4, 2024**

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 <https://deq.mt.gov/public/index>.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: **Montanore Minerals Corporation**

FACILITY NAME: **Libby Exploration Project – Libby Creek Adit**

FACILITY LOCATION: **Section 15 Township 27 Range 31 W**

COUNTY: **Lincoln County**

RECEIVING WATER: **Ground Water, Libby Creek**

PERMIT NUMBER: **MT0032158**

DEQ is proposing a draft new Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit number MT0032158 for Montanore Minerals Corporation's (MMC) Libby Exploration Project – Libby Creek Adit. The Libby Exploration Project is an underground silver ore and copper ore mineral exploration operation near Libby, MT. The draft MPDES permit is for the discharge of treated mine drainage and storm water from Outfall 001 and Outfall 003 (to be constructed), and from storm water only Outfalls (004-011). The draft permit establishes monitoring, effluent limits, and special conditions.

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Additionally, DEQ proposes to terminate MT0030279 for the Montanore Mine – Libby Creek Adit in Public Notice Number MT-24-13, dated November 4, 2024. Permit number MT0030279 will not terminate until permit number MT0032158 becomes effective.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited and **must be received by 11:59 p.m. on DECEMBER 6, 2024.** Comments may be directed to the DEQ Water Quality Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. **All comments received or postmarked by 11:59 p.m. on DECEMBER 6, 2024,** 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 17.30.1373).

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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