



December 31, 2019

TO: Members of the Water Pollution Control Advisory Council & the public

FROM: Joanna McLaughlin, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program

MEETING DATE: January 10, 2020

SUBJECT: Proposed changes to MPDES program administrative rules

ACTION REQUIRED BY COUNCIL:

Action Item, a recommendation to take the matter to BER for initiation of rulemaking.

BACKGROUND:

DEQ will be proposing to the Board of Environmental Review to revise and update portions of the MPDES program rules, specifically Title 17, Chapter 30, Subchapters 12 and 13. Regulatory changes include permit application requirements, public notice flexibility, the addition of definitions, and deletion of outdated provisions. Editorial changes will include update DEQ's contact information, removal and correction of outdated and erroneous references, and removal of redundant conditions.

EPA has notified the Department that updating these rules is program priority to maintain consistency with the federal program. This rulemaking change will modernize MPDES regulations, promote submission of complete permit applications, and clarify regulatory requirements to allow timely development of MPDES permits. Additional editorial changes will provide clarity and reduce redundancy.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends that the Council vote to recommend the proposed rule amendments to proceed to the BER for initiation.

Please contact us with any questions
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Attachments: *(Draft rule amendments, Presentation titled "2020 Proposed MPDES Rule Amendments")*