

**ADDENDUM TO THE FACT SHEET FOR
ASCENSUS SPECIALT CHEMICALS LLC
STATE WASTE DISCHARGE PERMIT ST 5037**

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Facility: Ascensus Specialty Chemicals LLC
4800 State Route 12
Elma, Washington 98541

2. APPLICATION AND COMPLIANCE REVIEW

Ascensus Specialty Chemicals LLC submitted an application to the Department of Ecology (Ecology) on November 2, 2020, for permit reissuance, and Ecology accepted it on June 14, 2021. Ecology reviewed inspections and assessed compliance of the facility's discharge with the terms and conditions in the previous permit. Ecology has sufficiently reviewed the application, Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs), and other facility information in enough detail to ensure that:

- Ascensus Specialty Chemicals LLC has complied with all of the terms, conditions, requirements and schedules of compliance of the expired permit.
- Ecology has up-to date information on the facility's waste treatment practices, the facility's production levels; and the nature, content, volume, and frequency of its discharge.
- The discharge meets applicable effluent standards and local limits, and other legally applicable requirements.

Since the issuance of the current permit, Ecology has not received any additional information, which indicates that environmental impacts from the discharge warrant a complete renewal of the permit. Therefore, Ecology chose to reauthorize this permit.

3. PERMIT REAUTHORIZATION

When Ecology reauthorizes a discharge permit it essentially reissues the permit with the existing limits, terms and conditions. Alternatively, when Ecology renews a permit it re-evaluates the impact of the discharge on the publicly owned treatment plant, which may lead to changes in the limits, terms and conditions of the permit.

The permit reauthorization process, along with the renewal of high priority permits, allows Ecology to reissue permits in a timely manner and minimize the number of active permits that have passed their expiration dates. Ecology assesses each permit that is expiring and due for reissuance and compares it with other permits due for reissuance when it plans its workload for the upcoming year. Ecology notifies the public and seeks input after it has tentatively established the permits it plans to renew and those it plans to reauthorize. Ecology considers all relevant comments and suggestions before it makes a final decision.

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This fact sheet addendum accompanies the permit, which Ecology proposes to reauthorize for the discharge of wastewater to the city of Elma's sewer system/wastewater treatment plant. The previous fact sheet explains the basis for the discharge limits and conditions of the reauthorized permit and remains as part of the administrative record.

4. PERMIT LIMITS AND CONDITIONS

The reauthorized permit is virtually identical to the previous permit issued on April 21, 2017, with a few exceptions identified below. Ecology removed the completed report requirements that do not require additional or continued assessment. The proposed reauthorized permit includes:

- The discharge limits and conditions in effect at the time of expiration of the previous permit except Oil and Grease permit limit. Ascensus Specialty Chemicals LLC requested in their permit renewal application letter of October 28, 2020 to change Oil and Grease permit limit from 53 mg/L to 100 mg/L. Ecology is changing Oil and Grease permit limit from 53 mg/L to 100 mg/L. This change is reflected on page 5 of the draft permit.
- Changes to the submittal dates for reports from those in the previous permit.
- Adjusted dates for the other necessary compliance and submittal requirements carried over from the past permit.
- A new requirement, Appendix A, which identifies the required test methods, detection levels and quantitation levels for the monitoring required in the proposed permit. Ecology added this requirement to ensure that facilities use test methods with detection levels that will detect pollutants at levels necessary to evaluate compliance with local limits.

5. PUBLIC PROCESS

Ecology public notices the availability of the draft reauthorized permit at least 30 days before it reissues the permit. Ecology invites you to review and comment on its decision to reauthorize the permit (see **Appendix A-Public Involvement Information** for more detail on the Public Notice procedures).

After the public comment period has closed, Ecology will prepare a Response to Comments document and attach it to this fact sheet addendum. Ecology will respond to each comment and describe the resultant changes to the permit in this document. Ecology sends a copy of the *Response to Comments* to all parties that submitted comments.

6. PERMIT APPEAL PROCESS

Appendix B describes the permit appeal process.

7. RECOMMENDATION FOR PERMIT ISSUANCE

Ecology proposes to reissue this permit for five years.

APPENDIX A--PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT INFORMATION

Ecology proposes to reissue a permit to Ascensus Specialty Chemicals LLC. The permit includes wastewater discharge limits and other conditions. This fact sheet describes the facility and Ecology's reasons for requiring permit conditions.

Ecology will place a Public Notice of Draft on November 23, 2021, in the [Daily World](#) to inform the public and to invite comment on the proposed draft state waste discharge permit and fact sheet.

The notice:

- Tells where copies of the draft permit and fact sheet are available for public evaluation (a local public library, the closest regional or field office, posted on our website).
- Offers to provide the documents in an alternate format to accommodate special needs.
- Asks people to tell us how well the proposed permit would protect the receiving water.
- Invites people to suggest fairer conditions, limits, and requirements for the permit.
- Invites comments on Ecology's determination of compliance with antidegradation rules.
- Urges people to submit their comments, in writing, before the end of the comment period.
- Explains the next step(s) in the permitting process.

Ecology has published a document entitled *Frequently Asked Questions about Effective Public Commenting*, which is available on our website at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0307023.html>.

You may obtain further information from Ecology by email at jessica.christensen@ecy.wa.gov, or by writing to the address listed below.

Water Quality Permit Coordinator
Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

The primary author of this permit and fact sheet is Aziz Mahar, P.E.

APPENDIX B --YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

You have a right to appeal this permit to the Pollution Control Hearing Board (PCHB) within 30 days of the date of receipt of the final permit. The appeal process is governed by chapter 43.21B Revised Code of Washington (RCW) and chapter 371-08 Washington Administrative Code (WAC). "Date of receipt" is defined in RCW 43.21B.001(2) (see glossary).

To appeal you must do the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of this permit:

- File your appeal and a copy of this permit with the PCHB (see addresses below). Filing means actual receipt by the PCHB during regular business hours.
- Serve a copy of your appeal and this permit on Ecology in paper form - by mail or in person. (See addresses below.) E-mail is not accepted.

You must also comply with other applicable requirements in chapter 43.21B RCW and chapter 371-08 WAC.

ADDRESS AND LOCATION INFORMATION

Street Addresses	Mailing Addresses
Department of Ecology Attn: Appeals Processing Desk 300 Desmond Drive Southeast Lacey, WA 98503	Department of Ecology Attn: Appeals Processing Desk PO Box 47608 Olympia, WA 98504-7608
Pollution Control Hearings Board 1111 Israel Road Southwest, Suite 301 Tumwater, WA 98501	Pollution Control Hearings Board PO Box 40903 Olympia, WA 98504-0903

APPENDIX D—RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Ecology did not receive any comments.