

NOTICE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT WASTEWATER DISCHARGE PERMIT

Permit No.: WA0023744
Facility: City of Bellingham
Sewer Treatment Plant
200 McKenzie Avenue
Bellingham, Whatcom County

The City of Bellingham has reapplied for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 90.48 Revised Code of Washington (RCW), Chapter 173-220 Washington Administrative Code (WAC), and the Federal Clean Water Act.

The Bellingham Sewer Treatment Plant currently operates an activated sludge secondary treatment plant designed to handle a maximum month design flow of 34.3 MGD. The wastewater, following treatment, must meet the requirements of the Washington State Water Pollution Control Act and applicable regulations for a permit to be issued. Following evaluation of the application and other available information, a draft permit has been developed which would allow the discharge of treated domestic wastewater into Bellingham Bay.

A tentative determination has been made on the effluent limitations and special permit conditions that will prevent and control pollution. A final determination will not be made until all timely comments received in response to this notice have been evaluated.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND INFORMATION

The draft permit, fact sheet and related documents may be viewed at the Department of Ecology (Ecology) website: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/paris/DocumentSearch.aspx> by entering permit number WA0023744. These documents are also available at Ecology's Northwest Region Office, by appointment only, between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, weekdays. To schedule an appointment to view copies, call 206-594-0000, or email nwro_public_request@ecy.wa.gov.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments regarding the proposed permit. All comments must be submitted within 30 days after publication of this notice to be considered for the final determination. Comments should be sent to:

Tricia Miller, Permit Coordinator
Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Region Office
PO Box 330316
Shoreline, WA 98133-9716
tricia.miller@ecy.wa.gov

Any interested party may request a public hearing on the proposed permit within 30 days of the publication date of this notice. The request for a hearing shall state the interest of the party and the reasons why a hearing is necessary. For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341 or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>

Date of Publication: November 30, 2022 (Public Notice of Draft Permit)