

# Fact Sheet Amendment for State Waste Discharge Permit ST0008024

## City of Moses Lake Larson Wastewater Treatment Plant

### Purpose of this Fact Sheet Amendment

This fact sheet amendment explains and documents the modifications to the permit issued to the City of Moses Lake Larson Wastewater Treatment Plant (City) on June 13, 2022. The fact sheet that accompanied the 2022 permit has detailed information about the wastewater treatment plant and Ecology's permit decisions.

State law requires any domestic wastewater facility to obtain a permit before discharging waste or chemicals to waters of the state, which includes groundwater.

This fact sheet amendment explains the regulatory and technical basis for the amended conditions contained in the permit.

The changes are not considered a major change, so a public notice is not necessary.

### Introduction

The legislature defined Ecology's authority and obligations for the wastewater discharge permit program in the Water Pollution Control law, chapter 90.48 RCW (Revised Code of Washington).

Ecology adopted rules describing how it exercises its authority:

- State waste discharge program (chapter 173-216 WAC)
- Water quality standards for ground waters of the state of Washington (chapter 173-200 WAC)
- Discharge standards and effluent limits for domestic wastewater facilities (chapter 173-221 WAC)
- Submission of plans and reports for construction of wastewater facilities (chapter 173-240 WAC)

These rules require any domestic wastewater treatment facility owner or operator to obtain a State Waste Discharge permit before discharging wastewater to state waters. They also help define the basis for limits on each discharge and for performance requirements imposed by the permit.

## 1. General Information

**Table 1: Facility Information, Location, Contacts and Discharge Type**

Applicant	City of Moses Lake 401 S. Balsam St., Moses Lake, WA 98837
Facility Name and Address	Larson Wastewater Treatment Plant 6691 Randolph Road, Moses Lake, WA 98837
Type of Treatment	Extended air activated sludge (Biolac) with ultraviolet light disinfection
Legal Description of Application Area	T20N., R28E., Section 34 Latitude: 47° 11' 14" N Longitude: -119.293887
Responsible Official	David Curnel, Mayor (509) 764-3703
Site Contact	Chris Campbell, Wastewater Manager (509) 793-0190

## 2. Background

The Larson Wastewater Treatment Plant, located southeast of the Grant County Airport, is the smaller of two Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants operated by the City of Moses Lake. The site was developed as the Larson Army Air Corp Base in 1943, subsequently acquired by the Port of Moses Lake. The Port converted the Air Field to the Grant County Airport.

The 34-acre wastewater treatment system was sold to the City of Moses Lake in 1967 and converted to a municipal wastewater treatment facility in the early 1970s. In 2002, Moses Lake upgraded the treatment process, installing an extended aeration/activated sludge (Biolac System) plant. It is permitted to receive an average of 750,000 gallons per day of municipal wastewater, including wastewater discharged from 37 industrial or commercial facilities in Moses Lake.

Treated effluent infiltrates to groundwater. Biosolids are land applied to agricultural fields owned by the City of Moses Lake. Three groundwater monitoring wells monitor the aquifer underlying the treatment plant to evaluate facility compliance with groundwater quality standards

### **3. Discussion**

The City of Moses Lake is required to measure the total coliform content in the treated effluent discharged from the Larson Wastewater Treatment Plant, and to limit the effluent total coliform content to less than 50 colony forming units (CFU)/ 100 ml.

Recently, the City purchased new equipment to measure the total coliform content in wastewater. The equipment, termed a Colilert test, measures the most probably number (MPN) of total coliforms in wastewater, instead of the number of colony forming units (CFU). EPA approved this method, and Ecology's Manchester Environmental Lab has certified that the MPN measured by the Colilert test provides the same level of accuracy as the test for colony forming units.

The City of Moses Lake requested that the test results reported to demonstrate compliance with the permit be changed from number of colony forming units (CFU) per 100 mL to the most probably number (MPN) measured in 100 mL. This change to the permit modifies the total coliform reported units reported from CFU/100 to MPN/100 mL.

### **4. Permit Modification**

Ecology will change the unit for Total Coliform from CFU to MPN on the following sections of the permit:

- Page 6; Table 2: Effluent Limits: Outfall 001.
- Page 8; Table 4: Final Wastewater Effluent Monitoring Schedule.
- Page 9; Table 5: Groundwater Monitoring Schedule.

Because text was removed as a result of the corrections, page numbers in the corrected copy may not match the page numbers listed in this letter. The corrections above reference page numbers in the original unedited version.

### **5. Conclusion**

Ecology proposes to modify the Larson Wastewater Treatment Plant permit as discussed in sections three and four above.

No other condition or requirement of the 2022 permit is hereby affected by this amendment.

#### **APPENDIX A – PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

#### **APPENDIX B - YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL**

## **Appendix A – Public Involvement Information**

Ecology proposes to modify the City of Moses Lake Larson Wastewater Treatment Plant State Waste Discharge permit. The permit modifications are described in this fact sheet amendment.

This fact sheet amendment complies with Section 173-220-190 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC), which states that public notice is not required for minor permit modifications that do not make changes that lessen the stringency of effluent limitations.

Visit the the Water Quality Permitting and Reporting Information System ([PARIS](#)) online at <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/paris/DocumentSearch.aspx> to view electronic copies of the documents or paper documents can be viewed and copied between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays, by appointment, at the regional office listed below.

Ecology is an equal opportunity agency. If you need this publication in an alternate format, please contact us at (509) 329-3400 or TTY (for the speech and hearing impaired) at 711 or 1-800-833-6388.

For more information, call the Department of Ecology Eastern Regional Office at (509) 329-3400 or go online to the [Department's webpage](#) at <https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines>.

## Appendix B - Your Right to Appeal

You have a right to appeal this permit to the Pollution Control Hearing Board (P.C.H.B.) within 30 days of the date of receipt of the final permit. **You may only file an appeal on the modified portions of the permit.** The appeal process is governed by chapter 43.21B RCW and chapter 371-08 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 P.C.H.B. (see addresses below). Filing means actual receipt by the P.C.H.B. during regular business hours.
- Serve a copy of your appeal and this permit on Ecology in paper form, by mail or in person at the addresses below.

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

### ADDRESS AND LOCATION INFORMATION

#### Deliver in person

Department of Ecology  
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk  
300 Desmond Drive SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

Pollution Control Hearings Board  
1111 Israel Road Southwest, Suite 301  
Tumwater, Washington 98501

#### Deliver by mail

Department of Ecology  
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk  
P.O. Box 47608  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7608

Pollution Control Hearings Board  
P.O. Box 40903  
Olympia, Washington 98504-0903

Effective February 17, 2015, you can file by email with the PCHB at the following address provided you follow-up with required hard copies postmarked the same day they are e-mailed (See WAC 371-08-305(6) and 335(3)); [PCHB-SHBappeals@elaho.wa.gov](mailto:PCHB-SHBappeals@elaho.wa.gov).

Ecology only accepts copies of appeals by hand delivery or by mail. Email is not accepted.