

NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FACT SHEET

(Pursuant to NAC 445.42525)

Permittee Name: Montello Sewerage Disposal
Elko County Public Works
155 South 9th Street
Elko, NV 89801
Elko County

Permit Number: NEV30003

Location:

The Montello Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) is located approximately a half mile northeast of the Town of Montello, in the northeast quadrant of Elko County, Nevada.

Latitude: 41° 15' 52.94" N
Longitude: 114° 11' 22.16" W
(Latitude and Longitude at Headworks)
Township 39 N, Range 69 E, Section 17

General:

Montello operates a wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) that serves approximately 150 residents of the community. Montello is located on Nevada State Highway 233, approximately 50 miles northwest of West Wendover, Nevada, in Elko County. The WWTF consists of a facultative primary lagoon with an operating area of 0.9 acres, followed by an evaporation/percolation basin of approximately 0.75 acre. The facultative lagoon is soil lined. The percolation basin has not shown an appreciable depth of effluent during its operational life. The facility is currently permitted for 0.045 MGD. There are no town water supply or domestic water supply wells listed in the NDEP Water Resources database. The town water supply is from a spring-fed source, located approximately 9.4 miles west of and upgradient from the WWTF. There are no monitoring wells associated with this permit. Union Pacific Railroad owns eight (8) monitor wells within the same section as the Montello WWTF, which are in place due to requirements regarding remediation of hydrocarbon-contaminated soils.

A sludge depth measurement was conducted in 2007 and reported a reading of 0.6 feet of settled sludge. This is not at a level of concern for removal at this point. Another reading will be required in 2012 in the renewed permit.

Receiving Water Characteristics:

Groundwater in the area of the WWTF is estimated to be approximately 40 feet below ground surface. The groundwater in the area of Montello has been highly impacted from decades of hydrocarbon spillage and leakage from the railroad yard, as well as from residents' septic tanks and cesspools. Measures have been taken to reduce the impacts to the shallow groundwater, including construction of the sewer system and the WWTF.

Effluent Characteristics:

The discharge from the wastewater treatment plant is post-primary treated effluent. For the year 2009, the average effluent values are: 85 mg/l Total Suspended Solids (TSS), 30 mg/l Inhibited Biological Oxygen Demand (CBOD₅), 0.031 MGD (31,000 gallons/day) Average Flow. The effluent overflows from the facultative pond to the percolation basin, which distributes the effluent into the groundwater of the State.

The facility has a design capacity of 0.045 MGD (45,000 gallons/day). The facility is currently permitted for the following flow limitations:

Flow: 0.045 MGD Average Monthly Flow.

Procedures for Public Comment:

The Public Notice states the Division's intent to issue, with modification, a permit authorizing the facility to discharge secondary-treated effluent into groundwaters of the State, subject to the conditions contained within the permit is being sent to the **Elko Daily Free Press** for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of the public notice in the newspaper. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator. All written comments are to be hand-delivered, postmarked (via mail) or transmitted to the Division via fax (775.687.9431) or e-mail (jmaez@ndep.nv.gov) **by 5:00 P.M. on April 15, 2010.**

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator or any interested agency, person or group of persons.

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

Proposed Determination:

The Division has made the tentative determination to **issue the permit with modification** for a period **which will expire on April 15, 2015.**

Proposed Effluent Limitations, Schedule of Compliance and Special Conditions

Discharges from the WWTF to groundwaters of the State will be limited as follows:

Table 1: Plant Discharge Limitations

PARAMETER	DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
	30-Day Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow, MGD (Influent)	0.045	Monitor & Report	Weekly	Recorder
CBOD ₅ , mg/L (Effluent)	45	60	Quarterly	Discrete
TSS, mg/L (Effluent)	90		Quarterly	Discrete

Schedule of Compliance:

The Permittee shall implement and comply with the provisions of the schedule of compliance after approval by the Administrator, including in said implementation and compliance, any additions or modifications, which the Administrator may make in approving the schedule of compliance.

1. By June 30th, 2012, the Permittee shall submit results of a sludge depth survey, and a schedule and plan for sludge removal, if necessary.

Rationale for Permit Requirements:

The Division's rationale for the proposed monitoring conditions is as follows:

- Flow: Flow is tracked to ensure that the design capacity of the treatment pond is not exceeded, and that the proper monitoring regimen is followed when the facility nears design capacity.
- CBOD₅: The Division requires the monitoring of effluent Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD₅ or Inhibited BOD) as an indicator of treatment performance in the pond. The limitations are set under special conditions of post-primary treatment.
- TSS: The TSS limit is set at 90 mg/L, at the standard expected for waste stabilization ponds. Other similarly operated waste stabilization ponds within the State meet the 90-mg/l standard.

Prepared by: Joseph L. Maez
 Staff Engineer III
 Bureau of Water Pollution Control
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