



NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes and/or the Clean Water Act, where applicable. The Administrator has received an application for a Groundwater Discharge, permit number NS0010018 from the following applicant:

TONOPAH PUBLIC UTILITIES
PO BOX 151
TONOPAH, NV - 89049

Permit NS0010018, TONOPAH AIRPORT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:

Tonopah Public Utilities operates the Tonopah Airport Wastewater Treatment Plant (TAWWTP), a domestic sewage treatment system located in Nye County, approximately 7.5 miles southeast of the town of Tonopah. The treatment plant was originally constructed in the early 1940s, with a portion of the plant being renovated in 1981. TAWWTP now consists of one Imhoff primary treatment tank, two sludge drying/emergency overflow basins, nine rapid infiltration basins (RIBs), and six concrete-lined septage drying beds. Treated effluent is discharged to groundwater of the State via percolation in the RIBs. TAWWTP is currently permitted for influent flows up to 0.095 million gallons per day (Mgal/d); however, there are fewer than 10 service connections, and influent flows to the treatment system have averaged less than 1,000 gallons per day (0.001 Mgal/d). This facility is also permitted to receive up to 200,000 gallons per year of domestic septage and/or sewage sludge. The septage and/or sludge is dried in the concrete-lined drying beds prior to disposal. Tonopah Public Utilities limits usage of these beds for drying domestic septage and/or sewage sludge received from Nye County-based haulers only. Under normal operating and maintenance conditions no degradation of the groundwater of the State is anticipated.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes, as amended, and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to issue Permit NS0010018 to discharge for a five (5) year period, subject to certain effluent limitations.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance should submit their comments or request, in writing, hand delivered or postmarked no later than 5:00 P.M. on 05/26/2025, either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, NV 89701

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. All comments or objections received within the thirty (30) day period will be considered in the formulation of final determination(s) regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date.

If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected

State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator of EPA Region IX 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 determined to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The applications, proposed permits, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by contacting Melissa Hanson, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, at (775) 687-9315 or at mhanson@ndep.nv.gov. The office facsimile number is (775) 687-4684. For further information, the fact sheet for this project can be viewed at the following website: <https://ndep.nv.gov/posts/category/water>.

Please bring the forgoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.