



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF WATER
Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program

PO Box 111800
Juneau, Alaska 99811-1800
Main: 907.465.5180
Fax: 907.465.5070

Since it has been almost a year, I am resending this letter as a reminder that we are still working on this general permit and that we are almost ready to go out for the notice of review.

June 28, 2022

Subject: **Early notification** of wastewater discharge permit for General Permit AKG320000 – Statewide Oil and Gas Pipelines

Dear Local and Tribal Government Leaders:

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) proposes to reissue an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) General Permit AKG320000 – Statewide Oil and Gas Pipelines (Permit). This permit would regulate wastewater discharges to freshwaters located in the State of Alaska from significant oil and gas pipeline construction, operation, and maintenance activities and facilities.

Description of Discharge

Coverage under the General Permit will be limited to discharges resulting from large oil and gas pipeline construction and O&M to fresh surface waters and land in Alaska. The General Permit will establish limits and conditions for discharges including, but not limited to the following:

- Drilling Fluids and Drill Cuttings,
- Domestic Wastewater,
- Gravel Pit Dewatering,
- Excavation Dewatering,
- Hydrostatic Test Water,
- Storm Water, and
- Mobile Spill Response.

General Permit Additional Information

Any operator that meets the eligibility requirements of the general permit will be authorized to discharge after filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) with DEC so long as all conditions of the permit are met. The public has an opportunity to comment and provide information for this general permit; however, public notice will not be issued for individual NOIs submitted by qualified facilities. The general permit will expire five years after the effective date.

Opportunities for tribal and local government participation in this permitting decision

DEC recognizes rural Alaska has unique needs and considerations with regard to wastewater discharges and strives to issue permits that reflect a full understanding of local conditions. This letter is intended as an **early notice** to assist you in determining whether your community may be affected and inform you of the opportunity to provide

traditional, cultural, or other local information that DEC should consider as part of this permit reissuance. DEC would like to know how your area and resources may be affected by this permitting action.

Next Steps

After the permit is drafted, there will be a **10-day applicant review period** of the preliminary draft permit. Following the applicant review period, there will be a **30-day public review and comment period**. I will provide a copy of the public notice for the permit by mail or e-mail at the start of the public comment period. After the public review and comment period, there will be a **5-day applicant review period** of the final draft permit before the permit is issued.

If requested, I can also provide notice of the preliminary draft and proposed final applicant review periods. Due to the short timeframes for those reviews, notices are sent by email or fax. Please provide an e-mail address or fax number if you would like to receive notices for the preliminary draft and proposed final applicant review periods.

If you would like more information or would like to provide DEC with information about this permit, please do not hesitate to contact me at (907) 465-5272 or at gina.shirey@alaska.gov. For technical questions about the permit, you may also directly contact the permit writer, Bre Lambert, by phone at (907) 465-5171, or via email at Bre.Lambert@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,



Gina Shirey
Local and Tribal Government Coordinator

cc: Potentially Affected Local Governments
Potentially Affected Federally-recognized Indian Tribes