



EPA is Extending the Public Comment Period for Three Draft Discharge Permits and Three Draft Variances for Silver Valley Wastewater Treatment Plants

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is extending the comment period on three draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits and three draft variances for wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) in the Silver Valley. Two permits are to the South Fork Coeur d'Alene River Sewer District for discharges from the Page WWTP and Mullan WWTP. The third permit is to the City of Smeltonville for discharge from its WWTP. The original public comment period expiration date of October 15, 2002 was extended an additional 45-days to expire on November 29, 2002 and has been extended an additional 45-days to expire on January 13, 2003. This extension is in response to three written requests.

NPDES permits are required under the Clean Water Act for all point sources discharging pollutants into waters of the United States. These permits update the facilities' existing wastewater permits.

Written comments will be accepted on the permits and variances until January 13, 2003. EPA will consider all comments before reissuing the final permits and issuing the metals variances. Comments on permits and/or the variances should be addressed to: Office of Water Director at U.S. EPA, Region 10, 1200 Sixth Avenue, OW-130, Seattle, WA 98101. Please indicate whether you are commenting on the permits, variances or both.

The draft permits, supporting permit fact sheets, and supporting variance document is available for review on EPA's website www.epa.gov/r10earth/water.htm and at:

Idaho Dept. of Environ. Quality
Coeur d'Alene Regional Office
2110 Ironwood Parkway
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, 83814
(208) 769-1422

Wallace Public Library
415 River Street
Wallace, Idaho 83872-2260
(208) 752-4571

For information about the draft permits, contact Kelly Huynh, at 206-553-8414; for information about the draft variances, contact Lisa Macchio, at 206-553-1834; for general information, contact Marianne Deppman at 1-800-424-4372, extension 1237.