

NPDES authorization to discharge to waters of the United States, Permit No. NM0024066

The applicant's mailing address is:

Town of Taos Wastewater Treatment Facility
P.O. Box 250
Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557

The facility is located at 182 Los Cordovas Road, Ranchos de Taos, Taos County, New Mexico 87557. Under the SIC code 4952, the discharge is from a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) with a design capacity of 2.0 MGD serving Town of Taos, Taos Pueblo, El Valle de Los Ranchos and El Prado, having a population of 10,377. The effluent from the treatment plant is discharged into Unnamed Arroyo (Rio Pueblo de Taos to Taos WWTP – AU ID No. NM-99A_005) that flows for approximately 2.8 miles and then drains into the reach of the Rio Pueblo de Taos (Arroyo del Alamo to R Grande del Rancho – AU ID No. NM-2119_30) in Waterbody Segment 20.6.4.122 NMAC. The designated uses of the Rio Pueblo de Taos receiving water are coldwater aquatic life, fish culture, irrigation, wildlife habitat, livestock watering, and primary contact. The designated uses of Unnamed Arroyo include: Warmwater aquatic life, livestock watering, wildlife habitat and primary contact.

This is a new permit. The existing NPDES permit was initially issued on May 10, 2018, with an effective date of July 1, 2018, and an expiration date of June 30, 2023. The EPA did not receive a complete permit renewal application prior to the previous permit expiration date (June 30, 2023). This prevented the previous permit from being Administratively Continued under 5 U.S.C. 558(c).

A fact sheet is available.

State Certification

The notice also serves as Public Notice of the intent of the New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau to consider issuing Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification. The purpose of such certification is to reasonably ensure that the permitted activities will be conducted in a manner that will comply with applicable New Mexico water quality standards, including the antidegradation policy, and the statewide water quality management plan. The NPDES permit will not be issued until the certification requirements of Section 401 have been met.

If you want to comment on State Certification submit written comments within the 30-day period to:

Susan A. Lukas-Kamat
Program Manager-PSRS
New Mexico Environment Department
Surface Water Quality Bureau (N2050)
1190 Saint Francis Drive
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