

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES
RIPDES PROGRAM
235 PROMENADE STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02908-5767**

EXTENSION OF THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR A DRAFT RHODE ISLAND POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (RIPDES) PERMIT WHICH REGULATES DISCHARGES INTO THE WATERS OF THE STATE UNDER CHAPTER 46-12 OF THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS OF 1956, AS AMENDED.

On March 10, 2026, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) published notice of the proposed reissuance of the RIPDES permit for the Blount Fine Food (Blount) discharge to the Warren River related to the facility's production of soups. The RIPDES permit number for this discharge is RI0001121. The public notice was published in the Providence Journal and was also available on the DEM's website at www.dem.ri.gov/ripdes. The public comment period was scheduled to close on Friday, April 17, 2026.

During the initial public comment period, the DEM received a request from Blount asking for additional time to prepare and submit comments to DEM on its Public Notice Draft RIPDES Permit.

This Notice serves to inform the public that the DEM is extending the comment period to submit information regarding Blount's Public Notice Draft RIPDES Permit until 4:00 PM on Monday, May 18, 2026. This extension is being granted under 250-RICR-150-10-1.45 of the Regulations for the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (the RIPDES Regulations).

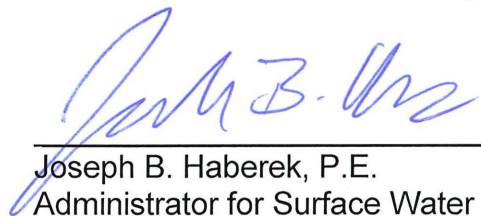
Public comments must be submitted to:

Samuel Kaplan, P.E.
Environmental Engineer II
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Water Resources
235 Promenade Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5767
(401) 537-4240
samuel.kaplan@dem.ri.gov

Following the close of the comment period, the Director will issue a final decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the permittee and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice. Within 30 days following the notice of the final decision, any interested person

may submit a request for a formal hearing in accordance with the requirements of 250-RICR-150-10-1.50 of the Regulations for the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

4/16/2026
Date



Joseph B. Haberek, P.E.
Administrator for Surface Water Protection
Office of Water Resources
Department of Environmental Management