

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Request for Approval of Pretreatment Program Modification

Issued by: City of St. Helens

Notice Issued: August 1, 2018

Written Comments due by: August 30, 2018 (30 days)

WHAT IS PROPOSED: City of St. Helens proposes a revised Sewer Use Ordinance for the purposes of:

- (1) To address inconsistencies, conflicts, and redundancies in previous Ordinances;
- (2) Repeal and replace Ordinances 2570, 2576, 2584, 2623, 2630, and 3169;
- (3) To provide control of construction and use of the Publicly Operated Treatment Works (POTW);
- (4) To prevent the introduction of pollutants into the POTW that will interfere with operation of the system;
- (5) To prevent the introduction of pollutants into the POTW that will pass through the POTW, inadequately treated, into receiving waters, or otherwise be incompatible with the POTW;
- (6) To protect both POTW personnel who may be affected by wastewater and sludge in the course of their employment and to protect the health and safety of the general public;
- (7) To promote reuse and recycling of industrial wastewater and sludge from the POTW;
- (8) To provide requirements for permitting discharge of wastewater into the POTW, in accordance with local, state and federal requirements and standards;
- (9) To provide for fees for the equitable distribution of the cost of operation, maintenance, and improvement of the POTW in compliance with state and federal requirements; and
- (10) To assure the self-sufficiency of the POTW; and
- (11) To enable the City to comply with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit conditions, sludge use and disposal requirements, and any other federal or state laws to which the POTW is subject.

NEED FOR THE MODIFICATION: In accordance with federal regulations, the City is required to administer an industrial pretreatment program, one element of which is a requirement that the City establish through ordinance, statute, or agreement, the legal authorities necessary to enforce pretreatment program requirements. A pretreatment program audit performed by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality in February of 2016 determined that the City's current Sewer Use Ordinance(s) did not meet state or federal requirements.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS: The revised Ordinance includes the legal authority to develop and implement Sector Control Programs based on Best Management Practices (BMPs) and the authority to implement local limits. In addition, the current Ordinance(s) were reviewed and found to contain several inconsistencies, conflicts, and redundancies that have been addressed in the revised SUO. Many of the changes will affect regulatory oversight of non-domestic dischargers (businesses and industries) and will require modification and/or reissuance of existing wastewater discharge permits issued to Industrial Users by the City.

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCESS: This notice is intended to serve as the notice of request for approval of pretreatment program modification required by 40 CFR 403.18 (b)(1)(ii) and 403.11 (b)(1)(i). Anyone may submit comments to City of St. Helens within 30 calendar days. If there is significant public interest in this proposal (i.e. 10 or more persons request a hearing), a public hearing will be conducted by the City, pursuant to 40 CFR 403.11. The request for public hearing shall be filed within the comment period and shall indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Written comments on the proposed modification must be received by 5:00 pm on August 30, 2018 at the City of St. Helens City Hall, 265 Strand Street, in order to be considered. The mailing address is: City of St. Helens, PO Box 278, St. Helens, Oregon, 97051.

After the public notice process, the City will transmit the proposed modification and corresponding report to Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for final approval. After review DEQ will forward the proposed modification to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and, barring either public or EPA comments which warrant reconsideration, DEQ will issue a final approval and incorporate the modification into the City's NPDES permit.

WHERE TO FIND THE DOCUMENTS: The documents are available for examination at the City of St. Helens Wastewater Treatment Plant at 451 Plymouth Street, Oregon 97051. Telephone: (503) 397-2344. Office hours are 7:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday.