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Region 7

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City of Rockaway Beach, Rockaway Beach, MO

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

In accordance with Section 309(g)(4)(A) of the Clean Water Act ("CWA"), 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(4)(A), and 40 C.F.R. § 22.45 of the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, Issuance of Compliance or Corrective Action Orders, and the Revocation, Termination or Suspension of Permits ("Consolidated Rules"), the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") is providing notice of a proposed Administrative Penalty Assessment against the City of Rockaway Beach, a municipal corporation that owns and operates a Wastewater Treatment Plant ("WWTP") located at 1000 Boys Camp Road, Rockaway Beach, Taney County, Missouri 65740, for alleged CWA violations at the WWTP.

Under Section 309(g) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g), the EPA is authorized to issue orders assessing civil penalties for various violations of the Clean Water Act. The EPA may issue such orders after filing a Complaint commencing a Class I penalty proceeding. The EPA provides notice of the proposed assessment of a Class I civil penalty pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(4)(A). Class I proceedings are conducted under EPA's Consolidated Rules, 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

In this case, the EPA alleges that Respondent discharged pollutants from its WWTP into the waters of the United States and failed to comply with its National Pollution Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") Permit in violation of Sections 301 and 402 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1311 and 1342. The EPA alleges that Respondent failed to comply with its NPDES Permit by allowing bypasses to occur, among other things. Respondent has reached agreement with EPA on the terms of a proposed Consent Agreement/Final Order which would resolve this matter. Under the proposed Consent Agreement/Final Order, Respondent will pay a civil penalty of four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500) which takes into account the ability of Respondent to pay. Final approval of the proposed Consent Agreement/Final Order is subject to the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 22.45.

The EPA will receive written comments on the proposed Administrative Penalty Assessment for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice. The procedures by which the public may submit written comments on a proposed Class I order or participate in a Class I proceeding, and the procedures by which a respondent may request a hearing, are set forth in the Consolidated Rules. Persons wishing to receive a copy of EPA's Consolidated Rules, review the Consent Agreement/Final Order, comment upon the proposed penalty assessment, or otherwise participate in the proceeding should contact Kathy Robinson, Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 901 N. Fifth Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101. Please reference Docket No. CWA-07-2010-0069. In order to provide opportunity for public comment, EPA will issue no final order assessing a penalty in this proceeding prior to forty (40) days from the date of this notice.

03/11/2010
Date

/s/ Karen A. Flourney for
William A. Spratlin
Director
Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division
U.S. EPA, Region 7