

## PUBLIC NOTICE

September 13, 2024

### REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON A PROPOSED MODIFICATION TO OKLAHOMA'S WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR IDABEL WATER TREATMENT PLANT & A REVISION TO THE LOWER RED RIVER-LITTLE RIVER BASIN STUDY AREA TMDL

Public Comment Period Begins: September 13, 2024

**Public Comment Period Ends: October 28, 2024**

**Permittee:** Idabel Public Works Authority (IPWA), 201 E. Main Street, Idabel, OK 74745. (Latitude: 33° 56' 2.35" North; Longitude: 94° 49' 38.28" West)

**Receiving waters and location:** [Little River](#) (OK410200010200\_10) (Latitude: 33° 56' 4.71" North; Longitude: 94° 49' 36.58" West).

The Idabel Public Works Authority has requested permission to discharge backwash wastewater with a design flow of 111,000 gallons per day (gpd). This wastewater would go into holding ponds before being discharged to the Little River (OK410200010200\_10) in McCurtain County.

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) conducted a waste load allocation (WLA) study which determined the maximum amount of pollutants in treated wastewater which can safely be discharged into a waterbody without adversely affecting its water quality. The Oklahoma Pollutant Discharge Elimination System's (OPDES) general permit for backwash facilities requires that new potable water treatment plants, or expanding existing facilities that discharge wastewater from filter backwash operations, cannot exceed a monthly average limit of 20 mg/L Total Suspended Solids (TSS) in their effluent. However, the 2014 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) report for Lower Red River-Little River Basin indicated that Cool Water Aquatic Community (CWAC) turbidity standard of 10 NTU in the Little River (OK410200010200\_10) was estimated to be equivalent to 6.9 mg/L TSS based on the relationship between turbidity and TSS. No dissolved oxygen (DO)-demanding substances will be discharged. The limits established for dissolved iron, aluminum, and manganese are judged to represent the level of treatment attainable through the application of the Best Available Technology (BAT) that is economically achievable. The IPWA will be required to discharge according to the OPDES permit with a design flow of 111,000 gpd. The proposed discharge limits for IPWA are shown below:

### Idabel Public Works Authority

Design flow: 0.111 MGD  
 Receiving stream: Little River (WBID: OK410200010200\_10)  
 WLA: Year Round: TSS: 6.9 mg/L TSS  
 Dissolved Iron: 1.0 mg/L  
 Dissolved Aluminum: 1.0 mg/L  
 Dissolved Manganese: 1.0 mg/L  
 pH: 6.5 – 9

These limitations are minimum requirements and the TSS WLA will be added to the existing TMDL (2014 Bacterial and Turbidity TMDLs for the Oklahoma Lower Red River-Little River Basin Study Area). If an additional or revised Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is approved for the stream, any more stringent limitations contained in the TMDL will apply. The comment period will be open for 45 days. If you have any concerns regarding these proposed limits, please submit your comments in writing by the end of the workday on **October 28, 2024** to:

Soojung Lim  
 Water Quality Division  
 Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality  
 P.O. Box 1677  
 Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1677  
 (405) 702-8195  
 E-mail: [Water.Comments@deq.ok.gov](mailto:Water.Comments@deq.ok.gov)

You may also request a public meeting in writing. If there is a significant degree of public interest, DEQ will schedule a public meeting. After evaluating comments received and making any necessary changes, the WLA will be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for final approval.

|   |   |  |                       |                  |
|---|---|--|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>FACILITY 208:</b>                      | <b>Idabel Water Treatment Plant (WTP)</b>         |  | <b>CITY/TOWN:</b>     | Idabel           |
| <b>LEGAL LOCATION**:</b>                  | ¼SW, ¼SW, ¼NW S20 T07S R24E                       |  | <b>COUNTY:</b>        | McCurtain        |
| <b>POD LOCATION:</b>                      | ¼NW, ¼SW, ¼NW S20 T07S R24E                       |  | <b>SEGMENT:</b>       | 410200           |
| <b>POD LATITUDE:</b>                      | 33° 56' 4.71" N                                   |  | <b>POD LONGITUDE:</b> | 94° 49' 36.58" W |
| <b>OPDES #:</b>                           | <b>Pending</b>                                    |  | <b>FACILITY ID #:</b> | <b>Pending</b>   |
| <b>CURRENT TREATMENT PROCESS:</b>         | Filter Backwash                                   |  |                       |                  |
| <b>PRESENT AVG. DAILY FLOW (MGD):</b>     | N/A   | <b>2020 CENSUS POPULATION:</b>         | 6,965                 |                  |
| <b>DESIGN AVG. DAILY FLOW (MGD):</b>      | <b>0.111</b>                                      | <b>YEAR 2045 PROJECTED POPULATION:</b> |                       |                  |
| <b>RECEIVING STREAM:</b>                  | Little River (OK Waterbody ID: OK410200010200_10) |  | <b>Stream Class:</b>  | <b>Perennial</b> |
| <b>7-day 2-year low flow in MGD (7Q2)</b> | <b>ANNUAL 7Q2</b>                                 | <b>6.7 MGD</b>                         | <b>SPRING 7Q2</b>     | <b>181.0 MGD</b> |
|   | <b>SUMMER 7Q2</b>                                 | <b>6.8 MGD</b>                         | <b>WINTER 7Q2</b>     | <b>54.2 MGD</b>  |
| <b>DMA:</b>                               | City of Idabel / Idabel Public Works Authority    |  | <b>DMA STATUS:</b>    | Approved         |

|   |   |                   |               |
|---|---|-------------------|---------------|
| <b>FACILITY 208:</b>  | <b>Idabel Water Treatment Plant (WTP)</b>   | <b>CITY/TOWN:</b> | <b>Idabel</b> |
| <b>WASTELOAD ALLOCATION:</b>  | <b>*TSS: 6.9 mg/L TSS</b><br><b>Dissolved Iron: 1.0 mg/L</b><br><b>Dissolved Aluminum: 1.0 mg/L</b><br><b>Dissolved Manganese: 1.0 mg/L</b><br><b>pH: 6.5 - 9</b> |                   |               |
| Recommended Treatment Alternatives:   |   |                   |               |
| A)  | Upgrade   |                   |               |
| EPA Approval Date:  |   |                   | Pending       |
| Record Last Updated:  |   |                   | 7/31/24       |
| *2014 Bacterial and Turbidity TMDLs for the Oklahoma Lower Red River-Little River Basin Study Area (OK410100, OK410200, OK410210, OK410300, OK410310) |   |                   |               |

TMDL Revision to accommodate new TSS WLA for Idabel WTP:

| Revision      | Waterbody ID & Waterbody Name                         | OPDES Permit No. | Name                   | Average Monthly Flow (mgd) | Effluent TSS Target (mg/L) | TSS limit (mg/L)            | Wasteload Allocation (lb/day) |
|---------------|---|------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
|               | Unnamed tributary to Little River (OK410200010200_10) | OKR050878        | Meridian Aggregates Co | 0.01                       | 40.0                       | <b>Monthly Average 25.0</b> | 2.1                           |
| 2024 Revision | Little River (OK410200010200_10)                      | Pending          | Idabel WTP             | 0.111                      | 6.9                        | <b>Daily Maximum 6.9</b>    | 6.4                           |

The updated sections in the 2014 TMDL report are Executive Summary, Section 3, Section 5, Appendix B, and Appendix F. Revised TMDL report can be available in [DEQ website](#).



You are receiving this notice because you are either on DEQ's list to receive all public notices about proposed Waste Load Allocations or you are located downstream in an affected watershed. If you are receiving this notice in error, are getting multiple notices, or do not want to receive future notices, please let us know. In addition to notices about new or changes in 208 Plans for facilities, DEQ's Modeling, TMDL, 208 & 303(d) Section sends out public notices about proposed changes in the Integrated Report, proposed TMDLs, 404 projects, 401 Certification requests, and proposed changes in the CPP.

If you would like to receive any or all of these public notices via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to [Water.Comments@deq.ok.gov](mailto:Water.Comments@deq.ok.gov). Also, please let us know if you want to receive notices for the entire State or just for your watershed. **By receiving PDF public notices via e-mail, you will help save money and the environment by reducing the**

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