Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of treated wastewater into a water body in the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: July 19, 2024 to August 19, 2024

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit – Wastewater issued by DEQ pursuant to applicable water laws and regulations.

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: City of Fredericksburg; PO Box 7447, Fredericksburg, VA 22404; VA0025127.

FACILITY NAME AND LOCATION: Fredericksburg Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP); 700 Beulah Salisbury Rd, Fredericksburg, VA 22401.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City of Fredericksburg has applied for reissuance of a permit for the public Fredericksburg Wastewater Treatment Plant. The applicant proposes to release treated sewage wastewaters from residential areas at a rate of 4.5 million gallons per day into a water body with a future expansion tier of 6.0 million gallons per day. Sludge from the treatment process will be transported to the Rappahannock Regional Landfill for disposal. The facility proposes to release the treated sewage in the Rappahannock River in the City of Fredericksburg in the Rappahannock River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. The permit will limit the following pollutants to amounts that protect water quality: physical and chemical properties, nutrients, organic matter, solids and bacteria. This facility is registered for coverage under the Nutrient GP with other facilities under common ownership or operation in the Rappahannock River watershed.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing on the draft permit by hand-delivery, email or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. DEQ must receive hand-delivery and postal mail by close of business and email comments by 11:59 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses or email addresses of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Alison Thompson; DEQ-Northern Regional Office; 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193; Phone: (571) 866-6083; Email: Alison.Thompson@deq.virginia.gov. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.