

Application Type Renewal  
Facility Type Industrial  
Major / Minor Minor

**NPDES PERMIT FACT SHEET  
INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRIAL WASTE (IW)  
AND IW STORMWATER**

Application No. PA0062138  
APS ID 705801  
Authorization ID 1317845

**Applicant and Facility Information**

Applicant Name	<u>Airgas Specialty Products, Inc.</u>	Facility Name	<u>Airgas Specialty Products</u>
Applicant Address	<u>2530 Sever Road, Suite 300</u> <u>Lawrenceville, GA 30043</u>	Facility Address	<u>900 Delaware Avenue</u> <u>Palmerton, PA 18071</u>
Applicant Contact	<u>Mark Keller</u>	Facility Contact	<u>Nate Peiffer</u>
Applicant Phone	<u>(346) 764-2519</u>	Facility Phone	<u>(610) 826-3760</u>
Client ID	<u>276756</u>	Site ID	<u>254118</u>
SIC Code	<u>5169</u>	Municipality	<u>Palmerton Borough</u>
SIC Description	<u>Wholesale Trade - Chemicals and Allied Products, NEC</u>	County	<u>Carbon</u>
Date Application Received	<u>June 16, 2020</u>	EPA Waived?	<u>Yes</u>
Date Application Accepted	<u>January 4, 2021</u>	If No, Reason	<u>-</u>
Purpose of Application	<u>Renewal of NPDES permit.</u>		

**Summary of Review**


The applicant is requesting renewal of an NPDES permit to discharge industrial wastewater to Aquashicola Creek, a TSF/MF designated receiving stream in state water plan basin 02-B (Middle Lehigh River). As per the Department's current existing use list, the receiving stream does not have an existing use classification that is more protective than its designated use.

All three permitted outfalls discharge to an existing underground stormwater drain that was installed before Airgas began operations at the site. The drain discharges directly to Aquashicola Creek, but the origin and the path of the conveyance before it passes through the Airgas site is unknown.

Cooling tower blowdown is discharged through Outfall 001 at an average rate of 0.0005 MGD. Outfall 002 is listed as inactive but will be kept in the permit in the event it becomes active during the permit cycle. Outfall 003 discharges reverse osmosis reject water at an average rate of 0.021 MGD. As in the previous renewal, the discharge at Outfall 003 was modeled using a discharge rate of 0.025 MGD. The effluent limits and monitoring frequencies for all outfalls will be carried over from the previous permit. The Part C.I.E. special condition regarding sampling at outfalls when discharging stormwater/groundwater is carried over from the previous renewal.

The Toxics Management Spreadsheet and WQM 7.0 were run to determine if more stringent limitations are needed and neither model recommended more stringent limitations. Data from downstream gage 01450500 (Aquashicola Creek near Palmerton, PA) was used to develop a representative low flow yield (LFY). The resulting LFY is 0.22 cfs/mi<sup>2</sup>. RMI values for modeling inputs were obtained using the Department's eMapPA, drainage areas were delineated using USGS's StreamStats interactive map, and elevations were obtained using the elevation profile tool in StreamStats.

Hypersperse MDC700, a chemical additive to control scaling on the reverse osmosis membranes, was identified as the only chemical additive utilized at the facility during the previous two renewals. The permittee may continue utilizing the additive at their previously identified usage rate.

Approve	Deny	Signatures	Date
X		 Brian Burden, E.I.T. / Project Manager	August 12, 2024
X		Amy M. Bellanca (signed) Amy M. Bellanca, P.E. / Program Manager	8-13-24

Summary of Review

There are no open violations for this client that would warrant withholding the issuance of this permit.



WQM  
Modeling.pdf



TMS PA0062138  
001.pdf



TMS PA0062138  
003.pdf



Watershed  
Information.pdf



WQ Protection  
Report.pdf

Public Participation

DEP will publish notice of the receipt of the NPDES permit application and a tentative decision to issue the individual NPDES permit in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* in accordance with 25 Pa. Code § 92a.82. Upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*, DEP will accept written comments from interested persons for a 30-day period (which may be extended for one additional 15-day period at DEP’s discretion), which will be considered in making a final decision on the application. Any person may request or petition for a public hearing with respect to the application. A public hearing may be held if DEP determines that there is significant public interest in holding a hearing. If a hearing is held, notice of the hearing will be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* at least 30 days prior to the hearing and in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the geographical area of the discharge.

**Discharge, Receiving Waters and Water Supply Information**

Outfall No.	001, 002, 003	Design Flow (MGD)	0.0005 (001) 0.002 (002) 0.025 (003)
	40° 48' 34" (001)		-75° 35' 7" (001)
	40° 48' 32" (002)		-75° 35' 6" (002)
Latitude	40° 48' 34" (003)	Longitude	-75° 35' 6" (003)
Quad Name	Palmerton	Quad Code	1241
Wastewater Description: IW Process Effluent without ELG			

Receiving Waters	Aquashicola Creek (TSF, MF)	Stream Code	3776
NHD Com ID	26290083	RMI	2.1
Drainage Area	69.6 mi <sup>2</sup>	Yield (cfs/mi <sup>2</sup> )	0.22
Q <sub>7-10</sub> Flow (cfs)	15.3	Q <sub>7-10</sub> Basis	Gage 01450500
Elevation (ft)	400	Slope (ft/ft)	0.0013
Watershed No.	2-B	Chapter 93 Class.	TSF, MF
Existing Use	-	Existing Use Qualifier	-
Exceptions to Use	-	Exceptions to Criteria	-
Assessment Status	Attaining Use(s)		
Cause(s) of Impairment	-		
Source(s) of Impairment	-		
TMDL Status	-	Name	-

Background/Ambient Data	Data Source
pH (SU)	-
Temperature (°F)	-
Hardness (mg/L)	-
Other:	-

Nearest Downstream Public Water Supply Intake	Northampton Borough Municipal Authority
PWS Waters	Lehigh River
PWS RMI	24.8
	Flow at Intake (cfs)
	195
	Distance from Outfall (mi)
	~13.5