

Application Type Renewal
Facility Type Sewage
Major / Minor Minor

**NPDES PERMIT FACT SHEET
SECOND DRAFT**

Application No. PA0063878
APS ID 820637
Authorization ID 1256885

Applicant and Facility Information

Applicant Name	<u>Northeastern Schuylkill Joint Municipal Authority</u>	Facility Name	<u>Northeastern Schuylkill Joint Municipal Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant</u>
Applicant Address	<u>P.O. Box 170, 6 Holly Road Barnesville, PA 18214-0170</u>	Facility Address	<u>6 Holly Road (T-856) Barnesville, PA 18214-0170</u>
Applicant Contact	<u>Nathan Shock, Authority Chairman</u>	Facility Contact	<u>Patrick O'Boyle, WWTP Operator</u>
Applicant Phone	<u>(570) 467-2176</u>	Facility Phone	<u>(215) 256-0042</u>
Client ID	<u>121066</u>	Site ID	<u>497001</u>
SIC Code	<u>4952</u>	Municipality	<u>Rush Township</u>
SIC Description	<u>Trans. & Utilities - Sewerage Systems</u>	County	<u>Schuylkill</u>
Date Published in PA Bulletin	<u>November 14, 2020</u>	EPA Waived?	<u>Yes</u>
Comment Period End Date	<u>December 14, 2020</u>	If No, Reason	<u>-</u>
Purpose of Application	<u>Renewal of NPDES permit for discharge of treated sewage.</u>		

Internal Review and Recommendations

A first draft of this application appeared in the PA Bulletin on Saturday, November 14, 2020.

The purpose of this second draft for Northeastern Schuylkill Joint Municipal Authority's (Authority) NPDES permit renewal is due to a comment letter from Systems Design Engineering, Inc. (SDE) on behalf of the Authority. The letter is dated November 18, 2020 and was received by the Department on December 1, 2020. The letter offered two comments for the Department's consideration:

Comment #1 – Part A.1.B - Total Copper:

"This requirement is a new requirement for the Authority. The Authority has very limited data on this specific parameter. They only data collected to date is the weekly sampling collected from 03/11/2020 through 05/14/2020. The Authority understands that the reporting requirement in Part A.1.A for Total Copper is provided to collect additional samples to assist in determining if plant modifications are required to meet this limit. If plant modifications are needed to address this parameter, it will take time to design, permit, construct, and implement any modifications. The Authority is requesting that the reporting requirement for Total Copper in Part A.1.A be extended for the full duration of the permit period. A determination of the need for plant modifications can be made at the end of the second year and sufficient time would remain to design, permit, and construct any necessary improvements prior to the expiration of the permit."

Response – Regulations do not allow for a five-year period before a limit comes into effect without a compliance document. The permit's chief, Amy Bellanca, and SDE consultant, Matt Peleschak, further discussed this comment via phone on March 4, 2021. A reporting period of four years and six months for Total Copper was agreed upon. The second draft NPDES permit was updated to reflect the change. This change provides an extra year and a half for the Authority to design, permit, and construct any modifications that may be needed to meet the proposed limitations.

Approve	Return	Deny	Signatures	Date
X			/s/ Allison Seyfried / Environmental Engineering Specialist	March 4, 2021
X			/s/ Amy M. Bellanca, P.E. / Environmental Engineer Manager	3-8-21

Internal Review and Recommendations

Comment #2 – Part A.1.C – Dissolved Oxygen:

“This requirement is a new requirement for the Authority. While the Authority did intermittently collect Dissolved Oxygen readings as part of their operational data, they never collected samples on a long-term basis. Since issuance of the draft NPDES Permit, the Authority has collected a daily Dissolved Oxygen sample. Refer to the table below:

	DATE	FLOW (GPD)	D.O.
October	28	102,000	2.63
	29	298,100	4.37
	30	133,700	3.65
	31	117,700	4.94
November	1	150,900	5.40
	2	138,900	3.61
	3	131,400	3.61
	4	63,300	5.52
	5	122,100	3.86
	6	107,000	3.42
	7	105,000	4.81
	8	94,100	3.63
	9	66,400	3.78
Average		125,431	4.09
Minimum		63,300	2.63
Maximum		298,100	5.52

The Authority is requesting that Part A.1.A include a reporting requirement for Dissolved Oxygen rather than implementing a minimum instantaneous value for a period of three years. With daily collection of Dissolved Oxygen samples, this will provide the Authority sufficient time to evaluate current conditions during different seasons; as well as, evaluate structural alternatives, obtain permits, and construct the necessary facilities to meet the requirement.”

Response – A report only requirement for Dissolved Oxygen has been added for a period of three years. The 5.0 Instantaneous Minimum limitation for D.O. will come into effect for the remaining of the permit period.

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



SDE_CommentLetter_NJSMA.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.