



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality
Northwest Region Portland Office/Water Quality
700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600
Portland, OR 97232
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December 19, 2024

Josette Mitchell
City of Vernonia
1001 Bridge Street
Vernonia, OR 97064-1240

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7018 0680 0001 9369 5845
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE: Issuance of NPDES Permit no. 101094
File no. 92773
EPA no. OR0022560
Facility: Vernonia STP, 605 California Ave., Vernonia
Columbia County

Your National Pollutant Disposal Elimination System permit has been renewed and is enclosed. This permit is DEQ's final action on permit renewal application no. 968051. DEQ received comments during the public notice period. No changes were made to the proposed permit based on public comment. All the public comments are addressed in the response to comments memorandum included in your permit.

Your permit is effective on February 1, 2025. Please read your permit carefully. Compliance with your permit is required at all times.

If you are dissatisfied with the conditions of this permit, you have 20 days to request a hearing before the Environmental Quality Commission or its authorized representative. A request for a hearing must be made in writing and state the grounds for the request. Any hearing will be conducted as a contested case hearing in accordance with ORS 183.413 through 183.470 and OAR chapter 340, division 011. If a hearing is requested, the existing permit continues in effect until a final order is issued.

Please note that your treatment system will need to be supervised by an operator with at least a Grade II Operator Certificate and that your required operator certification levels are no longer listed on the face page of your permit. Pursuant to OAR chapter 340, division 049 your systems are classified as follows:

- Collection System: Class II
- Treatment System: Class II

If changes are made to your systems or if you have additional questions about operator certification requirements, please contact the DEQ Operator Certification program at opcirt@deq.state.or.us, call 503-229-5349, or visit the website: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/wqpermits/Pages/Wastewater-Operator-Certification.aspx>. Current classifications for all systems requiring certified operators may be found at <https://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/opcirt/Docs/OpcirtReport.pdf>.

If you are interested in upgrading your wastewater treatment infrastructure or need assistance with treatment system design, DEQ's Clean Water State Revolving Fund offers below-market rate loans for qualified applicants to finance the planning, design and construction of water quality improvement projects. DEQ updates interest rates are updated quarterly, and rates vary by loan term, type of loan and community economic conditions. DEQ works with borrowers to ensure access to the best rates available at the time of loan signature. To learn more about eligible water quality projects and application process, please visit the [Clean Water State Revolving Fund website at https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/cwsrf/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/cwsrf/Pages/default.aspx) or call 503-229-LOAN.

If you have any questions about your permit requirements, please contact Mike Pinney at 503-229-5310 or mike.pinney@deq.oregon.gov.

Sincerely,



Tiffany Yelton-Bram
Water Quality Manager
Northwest Region

TYB:th

Enclosure: Permit, Permit Fact Sheet, and Response to Comments

ec: Regional File, Portland DEQ
Mike Pinney, Portland, DEQ
Aliana Britson, Water Quality Division, DEQ
Jeff Burch, City of Vernonia
Chris Richardson, City of Vernonia
WQ Data Crew, DEQ w/permit
EPA, Seattle /permit
ORMS
DEQ Wastewater Operator Certification Program