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## **Wastewater Discharge Permit Great Lakes Production and Storage**

### **What are NPDES permits?**

Whenever a municipality, industry, or other entity wishes to discharge water to a surface water of Ohio, they must first obtain a permit called a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. NPDES permits regulate wastewater discharges by limiting the quantities of pollutants to be discharged and imposing monitoring requirements and other conditions. The limits and/or requirements in the permit help ensure compliance with Ohio's water quality standards and federal regulations, all of which were written to protect public health and the aquatic environment.

### **Which division of Ohio EPA manages NPDES permits?**

Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water manages the NPDES Program.

### **Who is applying for an NPDES permit?**

Tessenderlo Kerley Inc. (TKI) applied for the permit for the Great Lakes Production and Storage facility located at 1655 Plummer Dr, Defiance, Ohio 43512.

### **Why does TKI need an NPDES permit?**

TKI plans to manufacture fertilizer at this facility. The manufacturing process will create wastewater that TKI plans to discharge to the city of Defiance treatment facility. Stormwater will also be generated at the site, and the NPDES permit will cover its discharge to the Maumee River. The Clean Water Act requires TKI to secure an NPDES permit which contains limits, monitoring, and reporting requirements, and other provisions to ensure that the discharge complies with Ohio's environmental laws and regulations.

### **What impact will there be on the Maumee River watershed?**

The NPDES permit is designed to protect water resources, public health, and the environment, including the aquatic life that resides in our rivers and streams.

### **What happens if TKI doesn't operate properly or violates its permit?**

Ohio EPA has the legal authority to assess and enforce compliance with state and federal pollution laws as they are specified in the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code.

### **How can I comment on the draft NPDES permit?**

Comments on the application for an NPDES permit may be emailed to [epa.dswcomments@epa.ohio.gov](mailto:epa.dswcomments@epa.ohio.gov) or mailed to Ohio EPA DSW, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049. Comments will be accepted through Feb. 14, 2024. Ohio EPA's director will consider all comments submitted when deciding whether to issue a final permit.

### **Public Information Session and Public Hearing**

Ohio EPA will host an information session and public hearing regarding this application for a NPDES permit on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at the Northtowne Mall, Community Room (across from Dunham Sports in the mall), 1500 N. Clinton St., Defiance, Ohio 43512.

### **Additional Resources**

Click the links to access the [application](#) for the permit.