

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF MODIFICATION OF NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT (GAS000200) FOR DISCHARGES FROM AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTYS MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) TO THE WATERS OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA.

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (Division) is considering the issuance of a modification of an NPDES permit for the following permittee, subject to specific permit requirements:

<u>Permittee</u> <u>Permit Number</u>

Augusta-Richmond County GAS000200

The <u>proposed NPDES permit</u> will authorize the discharge of stormwater from the municipal separate storm sewer system to waters of the State. This NPDES permit will expire April 11, 2027.

To support the development of the permit modification, information used to develop the draft permit is also available for review. The information includes the alternate protocol for evaluating the impact of the MS4 on bacteria loads in impaired waters (Impaired Waters Plans for <u>Spirit Creek</u>, <u>Butler Creek</u> and <u>Rocky Creek</u>) as submitted by Augusta-Richmond County to be considered under Permit Part 3.3.7.

Public Review

The draft permit and other information are available electronically upon request or on the Division's website at https://epd.georgia.gov/watershed-protection-branch/stormwater/municipal-stormwater. In addition, the draft permit and other information are available for review at 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, West Tower, Balcony, Suite 418, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. If you are interested in reviewing those files, please contact our office to schedule an appointment. To set an appointment, email gorarequest.water@dnr.ga.gov with your name, email, and phone number and an associate will reach out to you. Copies may also be requested by contacting Kristopher Ballou of the Municipal Stormwater Team at kristopher.ballou@dnr.ga.gov or (470) 604-9319.

Public Comments

Persons wishing to comment on the draft permit template can submit written comments by the close of business on May 17, 2024, to EPDComments@dnr.ga.gov or by mail to the following Division address:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division Nonpoint Source Program, Municipal Stormwater Team 2 MLK Jr. Drive, Suite 1462 East Atlanta, Georgia 30334

The words "Augusta-Richmond County MS4 Permit (GAS000200)" should be placed at the top of the first page of comments and in the email subject line (if sent via email) to ensure that your comments will be forwarded to the appropriate staff. All comments received or postmarked prior to the deadline will be considered.