

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION**

**NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING**

**Garrett County**

**Application for State Discharge Permit 15DP1422, NDPES Permit MD0055182:**

Mettiki Coal, LLC, 293 Table Rock Rd., Oakland, MD 21550 submitted an application for renewal of a permit to discharge an average of 8.5 million gallons per day of wastewater that includes acid mine drainage and stormwater from an underground coal mine, located at 293 Table Rock Road, Oakland, MD, to the North and South forks of Sand Run, Chestnut Ridge Run, and Dutch Run (all Use III-P waters) and 0.25 million gallons per day of metallic hydroxide sludges and alkaline coal combustion byproducts to ground waters of the State.

The Department proposes to reissue the permit with the following limits at surface water outfalls: total suspended solids (30 mg/L average, 45 mg/L maximum, 310.5 tons/year annual maximum load); total manganese (2.0 mg/L average, 4.0 mg/L maximum); total iron (Outfall 002: 1.0 mg/L average, 2.5 mg/L maximum; Other Outfalls: 3.0 mg/L average, 6.0 mg/L maximum); pH (Outfall 002: range of 6.5 to 9.0; Other Outfalls: range of 6.0 to 9.0); and chlorides (230 mg/L average, 860 mg/L maximum, at Outfall 002 only). The permit also allows alternate limits for settleable solids (0.5 mL/L maximum) during wet weather and pH (up to 10.0 for treatment of manganese at outfalls other than 002). Monitoring without limitations is proposed for conductivity (at 002 only), total dissolved solids, chloride (at outfalls other than 002), bromide, and sulfate.

Annual average limitations for groundwater discharges include arsenic (0.01 mg/L), beryllium (0.004 mg/L), cadmium (0.005 mg/L), total chromium (0.1 mg/L), and selenium (0.05 mg/L). Monitoring without limitations is proposed for several additional parameters.

The permit also proposes requirements for biomonitoring, an assessment of temperature impacts on the receiving stream, in-stream pH monitoring, best management practices, and a stormwater pollution prevention plan.

A copy of the application, tentative draft permit and fact sheet may be downloaded from the Department's website at <https://mdewwp.page.link/WWPPortal>. At that webpage, search for State Number "15DP1422", click "More Info," and then select the desired document(s) to download. Any questions regarding the proposed permit should be directed to Jonathan Rice at [Jonathan.Rice@Maryland.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Rice@Maryland.gov) or by telephone at 410-537-3323, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

The Department has received a request to hold a virtual public hearing on the draft permit. The hearing has been scheduled for **Wednesday, March 24, 2021, from 5 to 7 PM**. The hearing will be recorded and transcribed. Registered participants can provide oral comments during the public hearing.

You may sign up for the event by going to <https://mdewwp.page.link/PublicMeetings>. Then search for the registration link for 15DP1422. Alternatively, those who want to monitor the virtual hearing via telephone (they will be in a listen-only mode) can call **+1 (562) 247-8422**. The PIN is **914-677-056**. Any hearing impaired person may request an interpreter for the public hearing by contacting the Office of Fair Practices, at (410) 537-3964 at least ten working days prior to the scheduled hearing date. TTY users should contact the Maryland Relay Service at 1-800-201-7165.

Written comments can also be sent via U.S. mail, email to [Michael.Richardson@Maryland.gov](mailto:Michael.Richardson@Maryland.gov), or fax to (410) 537-3163. Mailed comments should be addressed to the **Maryland Department of the Environment, Water and Science Administration, 1800 Washington Blvd., Ste. 455, Baltimore, MD 21230-1708, Attn: Michael Richardson, Industrial and General Permits Division**. Faxed comments should be sent to the attention of **Michael Richardson**. All forms of comments should contain the following reference line: **Comments on Application 15DP1422**. Comments are being accepted through **5 PM, Wednesday, March 31, 2021**. No matter how comments are received they all have equal weight.

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