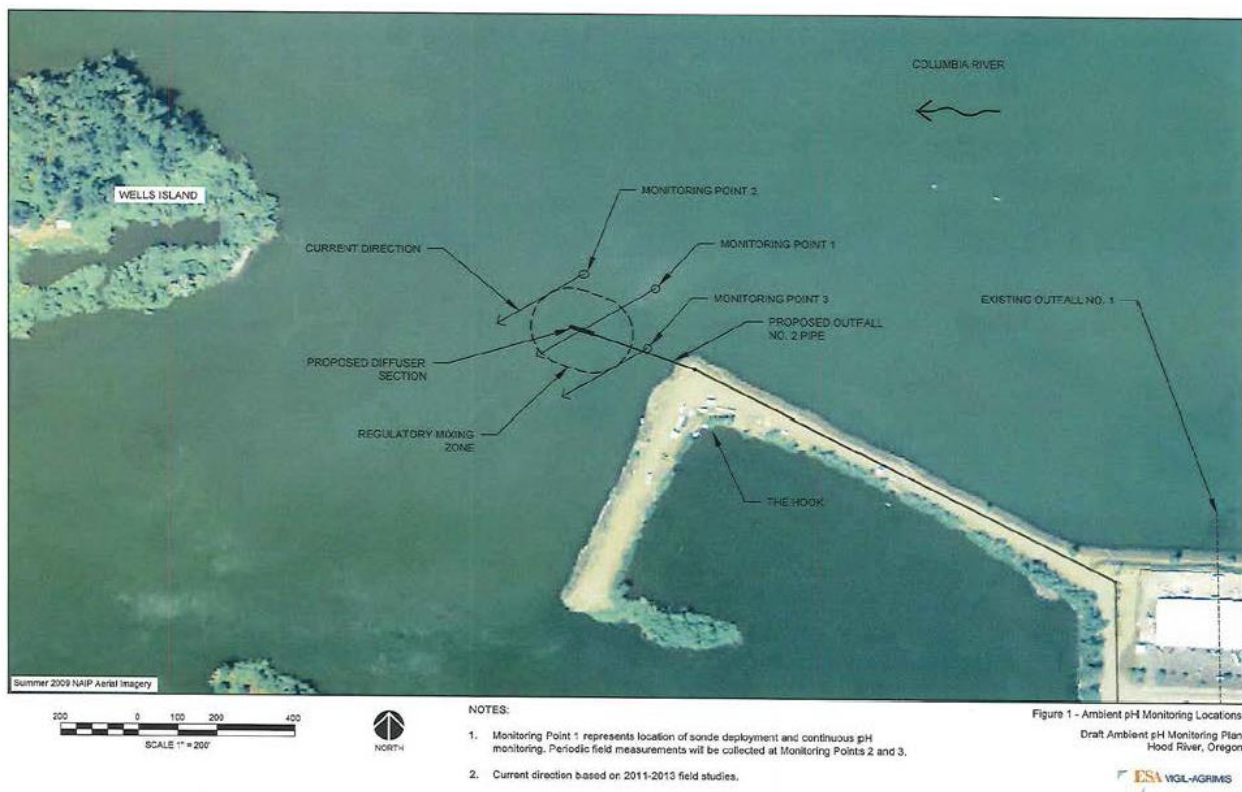




## Tips for Weighing-in on the City of Hood River Wastewater Treatment Plant Pollution Discharge Permit

### What is Proposed?

The Oregon Department of Environmental (DEQ) proposes reissuing the City of Hood River's water pollution discharge permit. The City operates a wastewater treatment plant just west of the Waterfront Park. The facility discharges pollution to the Columbia River. Pollutants include *E. coli* bacteria, toxins, and ammonia. As part of this permit renewal, the City proposes building a new pollution discharge pipe between Wells Island and the Hook and, for the most part, ending discharges from the existing outfall. The City's current outfall is located just downstream of the Waterfront Park beach. A slow moving eddy carries water discharged by the pipe upstream.



### Suggested Public Comments

- Explain how you use the Hood River waterfront and why you value clean water.
- Describe any observations you have about water quality along the waterfront.

- Describe your opinion and experiences smelling odor from the wastewater treatment plant. Ask DEQ and the City to do more to reduce foul odors from the plant.
- Ask DEQ to use its full authority to reduce toxic pollution—particularly bioaccumulative toxic pollution—from every facility along the Columbia River, including the City’s wastewater plant.
- Tell DEQ that dilution is not the solution to pollution. Nearly every permit DEQ issues allows polluters to violate water quality standards—the standards designed to protect salmon and public health—in a section of river known as a “mixing zone.” For the City’s discharge pipe, the mixing zone spans a 100-foot radius from the end of the pipe. Mixing zones rely on bad science. For example, DEQ allows mixing zones for bioaccumulative toxic pollutants. Eight Great Lakes states banned the use of mixing zones for bioaccumulative toxic pollutants. Oregon should too. It’s time for Oregon rely on sound science and end the era of toxic mixing zones.
- Urge DEQ and the City to post educational signs along the waterfront near the new pollution discharge pipe. The public deserves to know where facilities discharge pollution to the Columbia, especially when the pollution plume is in a popular recreation area.
- Ask DEQ to require the City to monitor water quality in the Columbia River near the pollution discharge pipe.

## **Stand Up for Clean Water**

### **Join Riverkeeper at the Public Hearing**

Tuesday, July 7, 6:00 pm  
Hood River City Hall  
City Council Chambers  
211 Second St.

### **Submit Public Comments**

Deadline: July 10, 5:00 pm  
Email: [ray.jackie@deq.state.or.us](mailto:ray.jackie@deq.state.or.us)  
Mail: ODEQ c/o Jackie Ray  
800 SE Emigrant, Ste. 300  
Pendleton, OR 97801

*For more information, contact Columbia Riverkeeper’s Staff Attorney, Lauren Goldberg, at [lauren@columbiariverkeeper.org](mailto:lauren@columbiariverkeeper.org) or 541.965.0985.*