NOTICE OF PERMIT ISSUANCE

The Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (DWEE) proposes to reissue, with changes, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/Nebraska Pretreatment Program (NPDES/NPP) permit to Behlen Manufacturing Company, 4025 East 23rd Street, Columbus, NE (NPDES #NE0000647; SIC 3448, 3496, 3499, and 3542). The metal fabrication company discharges single-pass, noncontact cooling water, treated wastewater, and storm water through Outfall 001, 002, and 003 to the Loup River Canal, Segment LP1-21800 in the Lower Platte River Basin. When maintenance is being performed on the Behlen wastewater treatment system or flow is too low in the Loup River Canal, Outfall 004 can replace Outfall 003. Outfall 004 discharges to the Loup River, Segment LO1-10000 in the Loup River Basin, via the City of Columbus Wastewater Treatment Facility. The permit would be issued for a period of up to five years and would restrict pollutant discharges to comply with the requirements of Department regulations. The draft permit, fact sheet, and other public information are available for review and copying at DWEE's Lincoln Office, 245 Fallbrook Boulevard, Suite 100, Lincoln, Nebraska 68521 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (CT), weekdays, excluding holidays. To request copies of the draft permit and other information, call 402 471-3557. Individuals requiring special accommodations or alternate formats of materials should notify the Department by calling 402-471-2186. TDD users should call 800-833-7352 and ask the relay operator to call the Department at 402-471-2186. Written comments, objections, and/or hearing requests concerning permit issuance may be submitted to NPDES and State Permits Section, Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment, 245 Fallbrook Boulevard, Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68521; before the comment period ending date of December 24, 2026. A determination to hold a hearing will be based upon factual environmental or regulatory consideration. The Nebraska DWEE does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, or sex in administration of its programs or activities, and DWEE does not intimidate or retaliate against any individual or group because they have exercised their rights to participate in or oppose actions protected/prohibited by 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7, or for the purpose of interfering with such rights.