

# Request for Comments

## Proposed Renewal of NPDES Permit for Evraz Oregon Steel

The purpose of this notice is to invite you to provide written comments on this proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit renewal.

### DEQ's Role:

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is responsible for protecting and enhancing Oregon's water and air quality, for cleaning up spills and releases of hazardous materials, and for managing the proper disposal of hazardous and solid wastes. One way DEQ does this is by requiring permits for certain activities. DEQ issues permits to regulate the type and amount of discharge produced at a regulated facility.

### Comments due:

Written comments due: 5 p.m., January 4, 2010

### Where can I send my comments?

Nancy Stellmach, Northwest Region DEQ  
Water Quality Permit Coordinator  
2020 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 400  
Portland, OR 97201-4987  
(503) 229-5438  
Fax: (503) 229-6957  
Stellmach.Nancy@deq.state.or.us

### Where can I get technical information?

Rob Burkhart, Water Quality Specialist  
2020 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 400  
Portland, OR 97201-4987  
(503) 229-5566  
Fax: (503) 229-6957  
BURKHART.Robert@deq.state.or.us

### Where can I get background information?

Information about this project is viewable online by clicking the following link(s):

[Draft Permit](#)  
[Draft Fact Sheet](#)

You can review hard copies of the draft permit and related documents at DEQ's Northwest Regional office in Portland. For a review appointment, call Marjorie Holland at (503) 229-6826.

### What is proposed?

DEQ proposes to renew a NPDES permit for Evraz Oregon Steel and is inviting public comment on the proposed permitting action.

During the comment period the public is invited to make comments related to specific conditions within the proposed permit.

### Permit expiration

Oregon law requires facilities with a NPDES permit to renew that permit every 5 years. Upon renewal, this permit will be effective for approximately 5 years.

### Who is the applicant?

Evraz Inc. NA  
Evraz Oregon Steel  
P. O. Box 2760  
Portland, OR 97208

### Where is the facility located?

14400 N. Rivergate Blvd.  
Portland, OR 97203

### Who might have an interest?

People who work, live, and recreate in the area.

### What does Evraz do that affects water quality?

Evraz operates a steel plate and pipe manufacturing plant adjacent to the Willamette River at about River Mile 2.7. Cooling and process water is cycled through the plant where it is continuously routed through a treatment system. As water is reused, the dissolved solids level in the water increases. Periodically, Evraz discharges a portion of the wastewater to the Willamette River.

### What legal requirements apply?

DEQ is issuing this permit pursuant to the Clean Water Act, Section 402, Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 468B.050 and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR), Chapter 340, Division 041.

### How does DEQ determine what requirements go in the permit?

Various federal and state regulations apply to a facility depending on the type of industry, the type and amount of wastewater and pollutants discharged, and the location of the facility. All applicable regulations must be contained in the permit, including the appropriate recordkeeping, monitoring, and reporting requirements to ensure compliance with these rules.

The permit may be reopened and modified if conditions change at the facility.



State of Oregon  
Department of  
Environmental  
Quality

### NWR Water Quality

2020 SW 4<sup>th</sup>, Suite 400  
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[www.oregon.gov/DEQ](http://www.oregon.gov/DEQ)

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[subscriptions@deq.state.or.us](mailto:subscriptions@deq.state.or.us)

Please include your full name, e-mail address and mailing address so that we can purge you from our print mailing list, thus saving trees and taxpayer dollars.

Notice Issued: 11/25/09  
By: Nancy Stellmach

**How are the permitted substances measured?**

The permitted substances are required to be measured according to state approved standard methods.

**Compliance history:**

During the current permit period (starting June 2004) EOS has consistently complied with the conditions in the NPDES permit with two exceptions. In September of 2004 the Department issued a notice of noncompliance to Evraz (Oregon Steel Mills at the time) for the exceedances of an effluent limit for oil & grease. Also, EOS received a warning letter for a violation in 2007 of the permit requirements pertaining to whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing.

**What are the special conditions of this permit?**

There are ten (10) special conditions in Schedule D of the permit. These relate to specific requirements regarding toxicity testing, specific management activities, requirement to discharge sanitary wastewater to the city's sanitary system, and other issues.

**What other DEQ permits are required?**

In addition to this NPDES permit for process wastewater discharges, Evraz also has general NPDES stormwater permit (1200Z).

**What similar activities take place in the vicinity of the facility?**

The area where the facility is located includes various other industrial and commercial facilities. Some of these also discharge

wastewater to the Columbia Slough under NPDES permits.

**What happens next?**

DEQ will schedule a public hearing if one is requested by 10 or more people, or by an authorized person representing an organization of at least 10 people. An additional public notice will be published to advertise the public hearing.

If a public hearing is not requested, DEQ will consider and provide responses to all comments received at the close of the comment period. DEQ may modify provisions in the proposed permit, but the permit writers can only modify conditions of the permit in accordance with the rules and statutes under the authority of DEQ. Participation in the rulemaking or the legislative process is the only way to change the rules or statutes. Ultimately, if a facility meets all legal requirements, DEQ will issue the facility's NPDES permit following EPA review.

**Accessibility information**

DEQ is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. Please notify DEQ of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in large print, Braille or another format. To make these arrangements, contact DEQ Communications & Outreach (503) 229-6488 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-4011; fax to 503-229-6762; or e-mail to [deqinfo@deq.state.or.us](mailto:deqinfo@deq.state.or.us).

People with hearing impairments may call Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at (800) 735-2900.