

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the operation of a water withdrawal from the South Fork of the Shenandoah River and the continued operation of surface water withdrawals from the North River and the Dry River in **Rockingham County**, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: For 30 days, starting from the day after the notice is in the newspaper: **May 28, 2016** to **June 27, 2016** at 5:00 p.m.

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: The City of Harrisonburg; 2155 Beery Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22801; VWPP No. 16-0730

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City of Harrisonburg has applied for a permit reissuance for operation of a surface water withdrawal from the South Fork of the Shenandoah River. The project will allow the integration of surface water withdrawals from this location with those from separate surface water intakes on the North River near Bridgewater and the Dry River near Rawley Springs, both in Rockingham County. Therefore, the proposed project incorporates the three surface water intakes as an integrated surface water withdrawal system. The draft permit limits total withdrawals from the system to meet public water supply demands to a daily maximum volume of 15.33 million gallons and an annual maximum volume of 4348 million gallons. The activity proposed in the permit will affect the Dry River, the North River and the main stem of the South Fork of the Shenandoah River within the South Fork of the Shenandoah River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. DEQ's preliminary decision is to issue the permit.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requestor, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Brian McGurk; VA Dept. of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218; Phone: 804-698-4180; E-mail: Brian.McGurk@deq.virginia.gov; The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed below.