

JOINT NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

by the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Navajo Nation EPA
NPDES Program
P.O. Box 339
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Public Notice #: NN-W-16-01
Public Notice Date: October 28, 2015
Comment Period Closes: November 27, 2015

The U.S. EPA is issuing a notice of proposed action under the Clean Water Act. The USEPA is proposing to issue a renewal to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES Permit No. NN0022195) to:

Ramah Navajo School Board, Inc.
Pine Hill School
P.O. Box 340
Pine Hill, New Mexico 87357

The Pine Hill School wastewater treatment facility is located in Pine Hill, Western Cibola County, New Mexico, within the southwestern portion of the Navajo Nation, approximately 35 miles southwest of Gallup, New Mexico. The facility serves a population of over 1000 and receives domestic sewage with an estimated average flow of 0.035 million gallons per day.

Treatment consists of a two-cell unlined facultative lagoon system that covers an area of 1.23 acres with a holding capacity of approximately 7.44 million gallons. There is settling, evaporation, and natural die-off of fecal coliform bacteria in both cells. There is one solar-powered aerator in each lagoon that provides minimal aeration. Disinfection is achieved using a stack-fed or tablet fed-chlorinator and de-chlorination occurs directly after by flowing through a stack-fed or tablet-fed dechlorination box prior to discharge to receiving waters. The proposed permit will regulate the discharge of treated effluent to an unnamed dry wash, a tributary to Terrero Draw, a tributary to Jaralosa Draw, a tributary to Zuni River, an eventual tributary to the Little Colorado River.

EPA is soliciting comments on the proposal. EPA will consider all comments received during comment period before taking final action. To submit comments, or to obtain additional information including the proposed permits and administrative records, please contact:

Linh Tran, (415) 972-3511; email: Tran.Linh@epamail.epa.gov
EPA Region IX (WTR-2-3)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/npdes/pubnotices.html>