

# OPEN CHANNEL NEWS

MCES Industrial Waste & Pollution Prevention

Issue # 13 / April 2003

## Metropolitan Council Environmental Services

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) is one of three divisions of the Metropolitan Council, a regional public agency working for the seven-county metropolitan area.

MCES provides water resources management services to ensure that:

- (1) sufficient sewer capacity exists to serve planned development, and sufficient capital investments are made to preserve the region's water quality;
- (2) wastewater collection and treatment services are provided in a cost- and quality-competitive manner for 103 communities and more than 800 industrial clients;
- (3) local plans provide for adequate water supply and nonpoint source pollution prevention in the region; and
- (4) local action is catalyzed through water quality grants.

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To find out more about MCES visit us at

[www.metrocouncil.org/  
environment](http://www.metrocouncil.org/environment)

## Meet the New Council



*Chair Peter Bell*

**Peter Bell** is the new Council Chair, appointed by Governor Pawlenty in January. Bell is a native of Minneapolis with a long history of public and private-sector management and leadership experience. Bell is honored to lead this agency and to become part of a system of metropolitan governance that is the envy of the nation. Bell's perspective on the Council's role is to, "first and foremost, provide delivery of services, transit and wastewater treatment chief among them, on a regional basis"; secondly, "to engage in regional planning while finding a balance between the interests of the region as a whole and the interests of the individual communities."



*Regional Administrator  
Tom Weaver*

**Tom Weaver** is the new Regional Administrator. Weaver has a strong record of public service, as well as experience in the private sector. He is a former legislative director and legal counsel to former Governor Arne Carlson and was general counsel to the former Metropolitan Transit Commission. "The most immediate challenge," said Weaver in his first month in office, "is to manage our budget in a manner that minimizes impacts on our customers and services. Along with this challenge comes opportunities that include finding ways of doing things more efficiently, encouraging innovation, and recasting the Council as a collaborative body that works in close partnership with local communities."

The 16 Council members, appointed by the Governor in early March are: Roger Scherer, District 1; Tony Pistilli (2); Mary Hill Smith (3); Jules Smith (4); Russ Susag (5); Peggy Leppik (6); Annette Meeks (7); Lynette Wittsack (8); Natalie Steffen (9); Duane Arens (10); Marcel Eibensteiner (11); Chris Georgacas (12); Song Lo Fawcett (13); Glen Skovholt (14); Tom Egan (15); and Richard Aguilar (16).

"The Met Council has an important role to play in the quality of life in the metro area," Governor Pawlenty said. "Through innovation, reform and increased efficiency, it can improve service. By being a strong partner with communities, it can encourage and facilitate economic growth that protects the character of each community and is also good for the region as a whole. Along with Peter Bell's leadership, I'm confident this is the team to get the job done."

Visit our Web page at :<http://www.metrocouncil.org/about/members.htm> to read more about the Council members.

## Important Dates:

**May 29, 2003** – Industrial Waste Customer Forum

**July 15, 2003** – Liquid Waste Hauler reports are due at MCES offices

**July 30, 2003** - Regular and Special Discharge quarterly and semi-annual reports due at MCES offices

**August 14, 2003** – Transportation Equipment Cleaning final compliance date

**December 22, 2003** – Centralized Waste Treatment final compliance date

## Regulatory Updates

### MP&M Final Rule

On February 14, 2003, the final Metal Products and Machinery (MP&M) effluent limitations guidelines rule (40CFR Part 438) was signed. The rule applies only to direct dischargers in the Oily Wastes Subcategory; all recommended pretreatment standards for facilities that discharge to POTWs have been eliminated. Therefore, the final rule does not affect industries permitted by MCES.

The final rule was scaled back dramatically from the original rule that was proposed in January 2001, after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was deluged with two rounds of comments from both industry and POTWs. Many of the comments (including those submitted by MCES) pointed out errors in the EPA's assumptions and methodology that resulted in the overestimation of the benefits of the rule, while concurrently underestimating the costs to industry and POTWs. After correcting the errors, it became clear that the costs of the regulation far outweighed the benefits, which led the EPA to its decision to withdraw the numerical effluent limitations for indirect dischargers.

### Pharmaceutical Manufacturing

On March 13, 2003, the EPA published some direct revisions for the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing effluent limitations guidelines (40 CFR Part 439). The revisions are as follows:

- An amendment to the language better distinguishes Existing Sources from New Source facilities in order to enforce the Pretreatment Standards for New Sources (PSNS) established in the 1998 regulation.
- An error in the EPA's pass-through analysis prepared in support of the 1998 rule is corrected by deleting Methyl Cellosolve (2-methoxyethanol) from the pretreatment standards in two subcategories. Affected Industrial Users are those which are subject to Subcategories A and C.

### National Clean Water Industrial Regulations

On November 29, 2002 the EPA released a Draft Strategy for National Clean Water Industrial Regulations that describes a new process it may use to identify industries for which effluent limitations guidelines need to be revised or developed. These guidelines, which include categorical pretreatment standards, are technology-based national regulations that control the discharge of pollutants to surface waters and to publicly owned treatment works (POTWs). Comments on the draft strategy were due to EPA on February 27, 2003.

### Centralized Waste Treatment

The final compliance date for Centralized Waste Treatment (40 CFR Part 437) is December 22, 2003.

### Transportation Equipment Cleaning

The final compliance date for Transportation Equipment Cleaning (40 CFR Part 442) is August 14, 2003.

Further information regarding these regulatory updates can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/guide>

For questions on how these updates affect your industrial discharge permit, contact your MCES permit engineer.

## Industrial Waste Customer Forum

The third Industrial Waste Customer Forum will be held on Thursday, May 29, 2003, starting at 8 a.m. at the MCES meeting room. The meeting room is located at the Metro 94 Business Center, 455 Etna St., Suite 32, in St. Paul. All customers holding MCES industrial discharge permits are invited. Please RSVP before May 19 by calling 651-602-4711 and leaving a message. This forum will focus on the 2004 budget and rates, and will include other topics of interest.

## State Budget Deficit – Does it Affect MCES?

The answer is – yes, but not directly. Except for two state-funded water quality programs, MCES dollars come directly from ratepayers. Therefore, beyond the loss of these two programs and the two staff positions involved, the state budget cuts will not directly affect the Environmental Services Division of the Metropolitan Council. However, MCES will join other council divisions in sharing the burden of balancing the state budget. By cutting operating costs and trimming our own budget, we can minimize rate increases to the communities, who are definitely feeling the effects of the state deficit. This may allow communities to free up some of their money for other uses. Just exactly how we will adjust our budget for 2004 is now under consideration. Our immediate response to the state budget crisis in January included a Councilwide freeze on all hiring, out-of-area travel, and consultant contracts. For MCES, these restrictions have generally been continued. Staffing levels, as well as wage issues, will all be part of a strategy for the future. MCES intends to optimize the use of ratepayers' money while still maintaining the effectiveness and compliance of MCES operations. More information on this topic will be available at the next customer forum scheduled for May 29.

## 2002 Permittee Report Card and Five Year Compliance List

March 31 each year is the day when the general public finds out which MCES permitted industrial users, in the past year, have significantly violated pretreatment standards and requirements. On this day, a list of all permittees deemed in Significant Noncompliance (SNC), according to criteria established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is published in the metro-area newspapers. Publishing this list is a requirement of the EPA General Pretreatment Regulations. This year, 20 permitted industrial users were listed.

What doesn't get published every year is the large number of permittees that are not in SNC. In 2002, 832 industrial users held MCES permits, which means over 97 percent of our permittees did not make the SNC list! Of the 832 permittees, 18 percent received notice of violations and responded by appropriately correcting the problem. The rest, over 79 percent, were in compliance with their industrial discharge permit and other requirements. This shows that the vast majority of our permittees make a conscientious effort to follow the permit requirements and do the right thing.

In looking back, we found of the 611 industrial users that have held MCES permits for the past five consecutive years, 253 were in compliance all five years.

# Congratulations for five consecutive years of compliance go out to:

## Regular Standard Permittees

Listed by permit number and facility name

348	3M Co –3M Center	350	3M Co.
924	3M Co.	56	AaCron Inc.
1102	ABW Plating Service	539	Acme Tag and Label
1003	ADM Milling	995	Alpha Ceramics
41	Ameripride Services	960	Anchor Glass Container
401	Andersen Corp.	996	APG Cash Drawer
1096	ATMI Packaging Inc.	926	Aveda Corp.
491	Banta Catalog Group	944	Banta Catalog Group
187	Bauer Welding&Metal	291	Beckman Coulter Inc.
957	Bell Lumber & Pole	590	Best Brands Inc.
843	Boston Scientific–Scimed	1070	Brady Worldwide Inc.
723	Brechet & Richter Co.	801	Brenntag Great Lakes
1082	Bureau of Engraving	919	Burnsville Sales & Mfg
1066	C&H Chemical	434	Canadian Pacific Rlwy
874	Cargill Dow Polymers	379	Cargill Research Center
363	Central Livestock	127	Century Circuits
287	Certainteed Corp	575	Chaska Chemical Co.
964	Chemrex Inc	517	Children’s Hospital Mpls
203	Cinch New Hope	902	City of Coon Rapids
852	City of Fridley	959	City of New Brighton
856	City of Plymouth	18	City of Robbinsdale
709	City of St. Louis Park	1016	City of St. Louis Park
1004	City of Wayzata	845	Clariant Corp
556	Colorhouse/Mail Well	389	Community Hospital Linen
868	Container Graphics	134	Co-Operative Plating
770	Covanta Energy	895	Custom Business Forms
814	Cypress Semi-Conductor	428	Dakota Growers Pasta Co
1105	Dayton Rogers Mfg Co	572	Deburring Inc.
88	Diamond Products Co	379	DiaSorin Inc.
474	District Energy St Paul	694	Douglas Corp
277	Ecolab Inc	487	Ecowater Corp
947	Engineered Finishing	323	Everfresh Food Corp
507	Fairview Medical Center	384	Flame Metals Proc.
268	Fremont Industries	1107	FSI International Inc
415	GAF Materials Corp	221	General Dynamics
777	General Mills	849	General Mills
362	General Mills Technology	326	Glenwood-Inglewood
626	Gopher Resource Corp	358	Graco Inc
360	Graco Inc	1024	Green Bay Pkg Inc
181	Gross-Given Mfg	412	Guidant
937	HB Fuller Company	1104	Haagen-Dazs R&D
1084	Happy’s Potato Chip Co	370	Hardcoat Inc
479	Herff Jones Inc	122	Honeywell Electronics
66	Honeywell Inc	727	Honeywell Inc
422	Hospital Linen Svcs Inc	1094	Huebsch Laundry Co.
167	IMI Cornelius Inc	1125	Intek Plastics Inc
1121	Interstate Detroit Diesel	735	Invest-Cast Inc
1133	Japs-Olson Co	303	Johnson Screens Inc
663	Kangas Enameling Inc	476	Kodak Processing Lab
969	Kohl & Madden Printing	909	Kurt Die Cast Co
746	Kurt Mfg Co	790	Kurt Mfg Co
1110	LeJeune Bolt Co	55	Lifetouch Inc
562	Litho Technical Service	871	MagStar Technologies
942	McGlynn Bakeries	792	McLaughlin Gormley King
438	Med Tek Inc	607	Medtronic Inc
608	Medtronic Inc	1010	Mentor Corp MN
499	Metal Treaters Inc.	32	Metal-Matic Inc
643	Metal-Tronics Inc	514	Methodist Hospital
611	Metro Transit – St.Paul	613	Metro Transit – Mpls
614	Metro Transit – Richfield	615	Metro Transit – Brklyn Ctr
616	Metro Transit - Mpls	993	Meyers Printing Co
126	Micro Parts Inc	900	Minneapolis Energy Ctr
922	Minneapolis WaterWorks	597	MN Correctional Facility
998	Modern Tool	691	Morrissey Inc

## Regular Standard Permittees continued

1106	North Star Steel MN	765	Northern Screw Mach.
59	Northern Star Co	328	Northland Aluminum
50	Northwest Airlines Inc	634	Novartis Nutrition
873	Novartis Nutrition	824	NSP - Xcel Energy
319	Onan – Technical Center	73	Packaging Corp of Am
566	Pechiney Plastic Pkg Inc	1062	Penske Truck Leasing
1059	Performance Ind Coating	1075	PGI Companies
1032	Phillips & Temro Ind Inc	484	Qualex Inc
1124	Quality Manufacturing Inc	703	Quality Metals Inc
835	R&D Systems Inc	36	Rahr Malting Co
522	Regina Medical Center	526	Regions Hospital
371	Release Coatings Inc	533	Ridgeview Medical Ctr
962	RMS Company	107	Rosemount Inc.
878	Rosemount Inc	819	Schawk Minneapolis
373	Schumacher Whlsl Meats	205	Seagate Technology
858	Sexton Printing Inc	445	Smead Manufacturing
409	Smurfit Stone Container	1020	Smurfit Stone Container
829	St. John’s Hospital NE	973	St. Jude Medical Inc
803	Star Tribune	388	Stone Container Corp
646	Tapemark Co	283	Tennant Co
876	The Specialty Mfg Co	255	Thomas Engineering Co
466	Timmerman Finishing	380	Tiro Industries Inc
833	Tiro Industries Inc	430	Toro Company
190	Twin City Plating Co	1017	UofM-Animal Waste
114	United Sugars Corp	110	Univar USA Inc
1022	Valmont/Lexington	273	Van Hoven Co Inc
753	Versa Iron Machine	591	Waldorf/Rock-Tenn Co
1025	Web Label, Ltd	91	West Group
704	Western Container Co	1051	Westlund’s Provisions
138	Wolkerstorfer Co Inc	219	World Aerospace Corp
369	Ziegler Inc	1129	Zomax Optical Media

## Special Discharge Permittees

2059	Bell Lumber & Pole Co	2001	BFI Waste Systems
2040	Bongards Creameries	2207	Brighton Development
2220	Burlington Northern	2212	Canadian Pacific Rlwy
2178	City of Fergus Falls	2045	City of St. Louis Park
2140	Cottonwood County Landfill	2223	Darlington International
2043	Honeywell Inc	2180	Interplastic Corp
2016	Kurt Manufacturing Co	2191	Lyon County Landfill
2134	Metro Transit – Bklyn Ctr	2216	Mobil Business Resource
2174	MPCA - Tellijohn Landfill	2192	MPCA-Washington Cty
2169	MPCA – WDE Landfill	2143	MPCA – Winona Cty
2005	MPCA – Woodlake Landfill	2213	MPCA/Hopkins Landfill
2141	Nobles County Landfill	2202	NRG Energy – Becker
2190	Pope Douglas Solid Waste	2105	Renville County
2195	Sinclair Marketing Co	2227	Sinclair Marketing Co
2060	SKB Management Corp	2160	Spruce Ridge Inc
2226	Stewart Lumber Co	2142	Superior Plating
2203	Superior Plating	2070	TPI Unit 9155
2055	TPI Unit 9158	2231	U of M MLAC
2154	US Navy	2020	United Defense/FMC
2049	United Defense/FMC	2067	Waste Management
2061	Whirlpool Reynolds Metals	2228	WLSSD
2229	Ziegler Inc		

## Liquid Waste Hauler Permittees

4102	A&B Sanitation Services	4026	A Northern Cesspool Co
4001	A-1 Sewer Service	4047	Biffs Inc
4061	Bob Freiermuth Sanitation	4076	B’s Pumping
4007	C&B Excavating/Sewer	4008	Dan’s Sewer Service
4068	Duane’s Septic Service	4065	LaRoche’s Inc
4017	Laverne’s Pumping Service	4091	Nature Calls Inc
4027	Olsen’s Sewer Service	4063	On Site Sanitation Inc
4028	Pinky’s Sewer Service	4072	Pioneer Tank Lines Inc
4056	Smilies Sewer Service	4073	Stan’s Line Cleaning
4039	Thaemert Cesspool & Septic	4040	Tom’s Sewer Service

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## New Medina Interceptor

MCES has begun an interceptor construction project that will provide a permanent method for serving eastern Medina. A four-mile Medina leg of the Elm Creek Interceptor will run from northeastern Medina, through northwestern Plymouth, and connect to the existing Elm Creek Interceptor in southwestern Maple Grove. Construction is expected to be complete in 2004.



Workers assemble a 16-foot-diameter steel cylinder that will form the wall of a vertical shaft extending 76 feet underground. At the bottom of the shaft, another crew will bore a tunnel through the ground and install the new sewer pipe.

Currently, MCES pumps wastewater from Medina into Plymouth's local sewer system. From there it goes into an MCES interceptor sewer located in the southeastern corner of Plymouth. MCES and the cities have always considered this an interim solution, utilizing extra capacity that was available in Plymouth's sewer system. By 2005, Plymouth will need that extra capacity to handle its own increasing flow of wastewater.

With the new interceptor in place, wastewater from Medina will flow by gravity through the system, allowing MCES to close its wastewater pumping station in Medina and save on operation and maintenance costs. While the new sewer pipe initially will serve Medina, it will be large enough to carry wastewater from the northwest part of Plymouth if the need should develop.