

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING FOR TPDES PERMIT FOR INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER

AMENDMENT

PERMIT NO. WQ0005283000

APPLICATION. Steel Dynamics Southwest, LLC, 8534 Highway 89, Sinton, Texas 78387, which operates the Sinton Mill, an iron and steel manufacturing and coil coating facility, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a major amendment without renewal of Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0005283000 to remove the domestic sewage treatment facility (domestic sewage is routed to the City of Sinton main WWTF), to reduce daily average flow from 1.56 MGD to 1.2 MGD, to incorporate a constructed wetland into the final effluent discharge pathway, to move Outfall 001 and add new Outfall 101, and to add a second paint and galvanizing line to the plant. The draft permit authorizes the discharge of treated process wastewater, utility wastewater, and previously monitored effluent (PME; treated wastewater via Outfall 101 and coil coating process wastewater via Outfall 201) at a daily average flow not to exceed 1,200,000 gallons per day via Outfall 001, and industrial storm water on an intermittent and flow variable basis via Outfalls 002, 003, and 004.

The facility is located at 8534 Highway 89, northeast of the City of Sinton, in San Patricio County, Texas 78387. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and is not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application.

<https://tceq.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=db5bac44afbc468bbddd36of8168250f&marker=-97.49638%2C28.056111&level=12>

The effluent is discharged via pipe to a constructed wetland (not a water in the state) to Outfall 001 to Ditch 3, thence Ditch 4; or when the constructed wetland is undergoing maintenance the discharge route is via pipe directly to Outfall 001 to Ditch 3, thence to Ditch 4; via Outfall 002 to Ditch 1, thence to Ditch 4; and via Outfalls 003 and 004 to Ditch 3, thence to Ditch 4, thence all outfalls to Chiltipin Creek; thence to Chiltipin Creek Tidal, thence to Aransas River Tidal, thence to Aransas River Tidal in Segment No. 2003 of the San Antonio-Nueces Coastal Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are minimal aquatic life use for the Ditches (1, 3, and 4), limited aquatic life use for Chiltipin Creek, and high aquatic life use for Chiltipin Creek Tidal. The designated uses for Segment No. 2003 are primary contact recreation and high aquatic life use.

In accordance with Title 30 Texas Administrative Code Section 307.5 and TCEQ's *Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards* (June 2010), an antidegradation review of the receiving waters was performed. A Tier 1 antidegradation review has preliminarily determined that existing water quality uses will not be impaired by this permit action. Numerical and narrative criteria to protect existing uses will be maintained. A Tier 2 review has preliminarily determined that no significant degradation of water quality is expected in Chiltipin Creek Tidal, which has been identified as having high aquatic life use. Existing uses will be maintained and protected. The preliminary determination can be reexamined and may be modified if new information is received.

The TCEQ executive director reviewed this action for consistency with the Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) goals and policies in accordance with the regulations of the General Land Office and has determined that the action is consistent with the applicable CMP goals and policies.

The TCEQ executive director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The executive director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. A public meeting will be held and will consist of two parts, an Informal Discussion Period and a Formal Comment Period. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing under the Administrative Procedure Act. During the Informal Discussion Period, the public will be encouraged to ask questions of the applicant and TCEQ staff concerning the permit application. The comments and questions submitted orally during the Informal Discussion Period will not be considered before a decision is reached on the permit application and no formal response will be made. Responses will be provided orally during the Informal Discussion Period. During the Formal Comment Period on the permit application, members of the public may state their formal comments orally into the official record. A written response to all timely, relevant and material, or significant comments will be prepared by the Executive Director. All formal comments will be considered before a decision is reached on the permit application. A copy of the written response will be sent to each person who submits a formal comment or who requested to be on the mailing list for this permit application and provides a mailing address. Only relevant and material issues raised during the Formal Comment Period can be considered if a contested case hearing is granted on this permit application.

The Public Meeting is to be held:

**Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 7:00 PM
San Patricio County Fairgrounds & Event Center
Civic Center Building
219 W 5th St
Sinton, TX 78387**

INFORMATION. Members of the public are encouraged to submit written comments anytime during the meeting or by mail before the close of the public comment period to the Office of the Chief Clerk, TCEQ, Mail Code MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment. If you need more information about the permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. *Si desea información en Español, puede llamar 1-800-687-4040.* General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov>.

The permit application, executive director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at Sinton Public Library, 100 North Pirate Boulevard, Sinton, Texas. Further information may also be obtained from Steel Dynamics Southwest, LLC at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Jon Ritter, Environmental Engineer, at 361-424-6315.

Persons with disabilities who need special accommodations at the meeting should call the Office of the Chief Clerk at (512) 239-3300 or 1-800-RELAY-TX (TDD) at least five business days prior to the meeting.

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