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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION
FOR SEWAGE SLUDGE PROCESSING PERMIT

RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0003893000

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. K-3 Resources, L.P., P.O. Box 2236, Alvin, Texas 77512, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of Texas Pollution Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Sludge Permit No. WQ0003893000 (EPA I.D. No. TXL005010) to authorize the processing of wastewater treatment plant sludge. This permit will not authorize a discharge of pollutants into waters in the State. TCEQ received this application on March 12, 2019.

The sludge processing facility is located approximately 0.9 mile southwest of the intersection of Farm-to-Market Road 362 and Farm-to-Market Road 529, approximately 8 miles north of the City of Brookshire, in Waller County, Texas 77423. The facility is located in the drainage area of Bessies Creek in Segment No. 1202 of the Brazos River Basin.

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. The permit application, technical summary and Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at the Waller County Courthouse, Office of the County Clerk, 836 Austin Street, Hempstead, Texas. This link to an electronic map of the facility's location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application. <https://tceq.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=db5bac44afbc468bbddd36of816825of&marker=-95.967777%2C29.914444&level=12>

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name; address, phone number; applicant's name and permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; and the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are germane to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission will only grant a contested case hearing on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised in timely filed comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for the land application of sludge without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.