

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ or Department) that will allow the construction and operation of a new surface water withdrawal intake to withdraw water from the James River in Fluvanna County, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: For 30 days, starting from the day after the notice is in the newspaper: August 24, 2023, to September 24, 2023.

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by DEQ pursuant to applicable water laws and regulations.

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: James River Water Authority (JRWA); 132 Main Street, Palmyra, VA, 22963; VWPP No. 22-1889

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The James River Water Authority (JRWA) proposes to construct a new raw water supply system on the James River, approximately 2.3 miles upstream of the confluence with the Rivanna River. The construction activities for the proposed project consist of the following: intake structure, pump station, electrical/control building, and installation of a raw water transmission pipe from the intake structure to Route 6 within the vicinity of the Rivanna River. The withdrawals will be used for municipal water supply. The proposed activity would affect 0.47 acres of wetlands and 1.60 acres (1,901 linear feet) of streams. The proposed activity will affect James River in the James River Basin watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. As compensation for 0.31 acres of permanent wetland impacts, the permittee shall purchase 0.41 wetland mitigation credits. As compensation for the projected 734 linear feet of permanent stream impacts, the permittee shall purchase 745 USM stream mitigation credits or Stream Condition Units (SCUs). 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 requester, 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: Allison Major; VA Dept. of Environmental Quality, Central Office, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218; Phone: 804-698-4087; E-mail: Allison.Major@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 above.