

State of Michigan

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY



GRETCHEN WHITMER GOVERNOR LANSING

May 9, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

SUBJECT: Public comment period and public hearing for the Draft Multiple Discharger Variance for Mercury

The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) is seeking public input and comment for a Multiple Discharger Variance for Mercury (MDV) for Fiscal Years 2025-2029 prior to submittal to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Consistent with Section 303(c) of the Clean Water Act and federal regulations at 40 CFR 131 (Water Quality Standards) and 40 CFR 132 (Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System), a variance is a water quality standard and is submitted to the USEPA for review and approval. An MDV for Michigan was first approved by the USEPA in 2000 with approved by USEPA in 2004, 2009, 2015, and 2019.

A virtual public informational session and hearing will be held June 27, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. to provide an opportunity to ask questions and supply formal public comment. To attend the virtual informational session and hearing register at <u>https://bit.ly/4bmHVVz</u>.

Copies of the draft Variance will be available on or before May 27, 2024 at <u>Public Notice</u> -<u>Details</u> - <u>MiEnviro Portal (Michigan.gov)</u> or from Joshua Allison at <u>AllisonJ6@Michigan.gov</u> or 517-243-7260. The public comment period for the draft MDV will begin on May 28, 2024, and close July 1, 2024. Comments on the draft MDV may be submitted to <u>Public Notice</u> - <u>Details</u> -<u>MiEnviro Portal (Michigan.gov)</u>. Comments can also be submitted to Glen Schmitt, EGLE, Water Resources Division, P.O. Box 30273, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7773, by July 1, 2024. Copies of the MDV will also be available by contacting Mr. Joshua Allison by email at <u>AllisonJ6@Michigan.gov</u> or 517-243-7260.

For variance information please contact Mr. Glen Schmitt, Water Resource Division, <u>SchmittG1@Michigan.gov</u> or 517-290-6424.

Sincerely,

Umard Ball

Unit Supervisor Water Quality and Aquatic Nuisance Control Permits Unit Permits Section Water Resource Division