



REGION 5

CHICAGO, IL 60604

Draft 11/19/2024

Grant of Water Quality Certification Without Conditions

Lac Vieux Desert WWF

Permit No. MI-0055204-5

The Lac Vieux Desert Wastewater Facility (WWF) is located within the Lac Vieux Desert Indian Reservation, Watersmeet, Michigan, Gogebic County. The Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 5 is issuing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. MI-0055204-5, under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), authorizing the discharge from the Lac Vieux Desert WWF. The discharge from this facility is located within the exterior boundaries of the Lac Vieux Desert Indian Reservation. The receiving water for the discharge is an unnamed wetland area that drains to Bonifas Creek.

The State in which the discharge originates is responsible for issuing the CWA Section 401 certification pursuant to CWA Section 401(a)(1). When a NPDES permit is issued within Indian Country, the Tribe is the certifying authority where the Tribe has been approved by EPA for Treatment as a State (TAS) pursuant to CWA Section 518(e) and 40 C.F.R. § 131.8. Where a Tribe does not have TAS, EPA is the certifying authority. The Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians does not have TAS for the reservation where the discharge occurs. Therefore, EPA is responsible for issuing the CWA Section 401 Certification for this permit.

EPA hereby certifies that the discharge, as authorized by the NPDES permit for the Lac Vieux Desert WWF will comply with applicable water quality requirements, as defined at 40 C.F.R. § 121.1(j).

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