



State of Utah

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DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
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Director

June 5, 2026

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY UTAH DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO RENEW A UPDES PERMIT

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this public notice is to declare the Director of the Division of Water Quality's intention to renew a Utah Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (UPDES) Permit under the authority of the Utah Water Quality Act, Utah Code § 19-5-106(2)(g). The draft Permit and the Fact Sheet (collectively, the draft Permit documents) are available for review and comment.

PERMIT INFORMATION

PERMITTEE NAME:	Washington County Water Conservancy District
FACILITY NAME:	Sand Hollow Groundwater Treatment Plant
MAILING ADDRESS:	533 East Waterworks Drive, St. George, Utah 84770
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	(435) 637-3617
FACILITY LOCATION:	Sand Hollow Road, Washington County
UPDES PERMIT NO.:	UT0026131
PERMITTED OUTFALLS:	001
OUTFALL LOCATION:	Latitude 37° 06' 52.0" and longitude 113° 23' 18.0".
RECEIVING WATER:	Sand Hollow Reservoir

BACKGROUND

The Sand Hollow Groundwater Treatment Plant (Facility) is a drinking water facility designed primarily to treat arsenic and manganese in raw groundwater. The main treatment process involves pre-oxidation with chlorine, coagulation (ferric chloride), and pressure filtration with sand and anthracite media and air scour capabilities, followed by post-chlorination. Backwash flows are pumped to a backwash clarifier. Water within the clarifier is decanted and returned to the front of the plant. Wastewater from filter backwashing is pumped into solar drying beds. Periodically, the sludge in the tank bottom is removed through a blowdown process and pumped to the drying beds for further processing. Water within the drying beds is primarily removed through evaporation. However, if water production exceeds the evaporation rate, decanted water will be discharged to the west dam drain to Sand Hollow Reservoir. The discharge is not expected to be year-round, but only during periods of low evaporation and high water production. See the draft Permit documents for more information. Due to the increase in flow with this renewal, a Level II Antidegradation Review was required; it is attached to this Public Notice package and is available for comment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pursuant to Utah Admin. Code R317-8-6(6.6), any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit documents and may request a public hearing if no hearing has already been scheduled. A request for a public hearing shall be in writing and shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. All comments will be considered in making the final decision and shall be answered as provided in Utah Admin. Code R317-8-6(6.12).

Commenters have an affirmative obligation to raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably available arguments and factual grounds supporting their position, including all supporting material. Supporting material must be included in full and may not be incorporated by reference, unless the material is already part of the administrative record.

Public comments are invited any time prior to the deadline of the close of business on **July 6, 2026**. Written public comments can be submitted to: Lindsay Cowles, UPDES Individual Permits Section, Utah Division of Water Quality, PO Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870 or by email at: lcowles@utah.gov.

After considering public comments, the Director of the Division of Water Quality will issue a final Permit decision. The draft Permit documents are available for public review under “Public Participation” at www.waterquality.utah.gov/. Additionally, if internet access is not available, a copy may be obtained by calling Lindsay Cowles at (385) 414-0311.