

STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
PUBLIC NOTICE NO 20241021 – INJ000723– D
DATE OF NOTICE: October 21, 2024
DATE RESPONSE DUE: November 19, 2024

The Office of Water Quality proposes the following **DRAFT PERMIT**:

Operational – Modification:

Micropulse, Inc, Permit No. INJ000723, WHITLEY COUNTY, 5856 East State Road 14, Columbia City, IN. This facility manufactures medical devices. The permittee requests to include wastewater from the screen-printing wash bay as an allowed discharge to the Aqua Indiana Inc. – Midwest WWTP. This wastewater will not be treated prior to discharge. The facility has an average discharge of 0.006 MGD. IDEM proposes to include this waste stream in the permit with additional reporting requirements for TTOs to ensure the safety of the receiving WWTP. Permit Manager: Jodi Wray 317/447-4176, jwray@idem.in.gov. Posted online at <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>.

PROCEDURES TO FILE A RESPONSE

You are hereby notified of the availability of a 30-day public comment period regarding the referenced draft permit, in accordance with IC 13-15-5-1. The application and draft permit documents are available for inspection at IDEM, Office of Water Quality, Indiana Government Center North - Room 1255, 100 N. Senate Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46204 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday, (copies 10¢ per page). The Draft Permit is posted online on the above-referenced IDEM public notice web page. A courtesy copy has also been sent via email to the local County Health Department. Please tell others whom you think would be interested in this matter. For more information about public participation including your rights & responsibilities, please see <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>. You may want to consult our online Citizens' Guide to IDEM: <https://www.in.gov/idem/resources/citizens-guide-to-idem/>.

Comments: The proposed decision to issue a permit is tentative. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the draft permit. All comments must be delivered to IDEM or postmarked no later than the Response Due Date noted to be considered in the decision to issue a final permit. Deliver or mail all requests or comments to the attention of the Permit Manager at the above address.

To Request a Public Hearing: Any person may request a public hearing. A written request must be submitted to the above address on or before the Response Due Date. The written request shall include: the name and address of the person making the request, the interest of the person making the request, persons represented by the person making the request, the reason for the request and the issues proposed for consideration at the hearing. The Department will determine whether to hold a public hearing based upon the comments and rationale for the request. Public Notice of such a hearing will be circulated in at least one newspaper in the geographical area of the discharge and to those persons submitting comments and/or on the mailing list at least 30 days prior to the hearing.



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.

100 N. Senate Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46204
(800) 451-6027 • (317) 232-8603 • www.idem.IN.gov

Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

Brian C. Rockensuess
Commissioner

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

October 21, 2024

Brian Tucker, Facility Manager
Micropulse, Inc.
5865 East State Road 14
Columbia City, IN 46725

Dear Brian Tucker:

Re: Operational Permit No. INJ000723
Draft Permit Modification
Micropulse, Inc.
Columbia City, IN - Whitley County

Your request for a permit modification has been reviewed and processed in accordance with rules adopted under 327 IAC 5. The enclosed Pages 1 through 4 of 25 are intended to replace the corresponding pages of your existing Operational Permit No. INJ000723. An accompanying Briefing Memo itemizes and explains the rationale for the revisions.

Pursuant to IC 13-15-5-1, IDEM will publish the draft permit document online at <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>. Additional information on public participation can be found in the "Citizens' Guide to IDEM", available at <https://www.in.gov/idem/resources/citizens-guide-to-idem/>. A 30-day comment period is available to solicit input from interested parties, including the public.

Please review this draft permit modification and associated documents carefully to become familiar with the proposed terms and conditions. Comments concerning the draft permit modification should be submitted in accordance with the procedure outlined in the enclosed public notice form. We suggest that you meet with us to discuss major concerns or objections you may have with the draft permit modification.

Questions concerning this draft permit modification may be addressed to Jodi Wray of my staff, at 317/447-4176 or jwray@idem.in.gov.

Sincerely,

Richard Hamblin, Chief
Industrial NPDES Permits Section
Office of Water Quality

Enclosures

cc: Whitley County Health Department
Bill Combs, Seventh Generation HSE
Nick Ferguson, Aqua Indiana Inc.
Craig Williams, Aqua Indiana Inc.
William Boetcker, Aqua Indiana Inc.
Porfirio Ascencio, IDEM

STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
AMENDED AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE
OPERATIONAL PERMIT PROGRAM

In accordance with IDEM's permitting authority under IC 13-15, as amended (formerly IC 13-17), and 327 IAC 3-4.

MICROPULSE, INC.

is authorized to discharge from the medical device manufacturer located at 5865 East State Road 14, Columbia City, IN 46725 to Aqua Indiana, Inc.- Midwest, a semi-public wastewater treatment facility in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in Parts I and II hereof.

The permit, as issued on June 1, 2022, is hereby amended, as contained herein. The amended provisions shall become effective _____. All terms and conditions of the permit not modified at this time remain in effect. Further, any existing condition or term affected by the amendments will remain in effect until the amended provisions become effective. This permit may be revoked for the nonpayment of applicable fees in accordance with IC 13-18-20.

This permit and the authorization to discharge, as amended, shall expire at midnight May 31, 2027. In order to receive authorization to discharge beyond the date of expiration, the permittee shall submit such information and forms as are required by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management no later than 180 days prior to the date of expiration.

Issued on _____ for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

Jerry Dittmer, Chief
Permits Branch
Office of Water Quality

PART I

A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

- (1) During the period beginning on the effective date of this permit, the permittee is authorized to discharge from Outfall 001[1][2]. Outfall 001 is located at the discharge from the new pH neutralization treatment tank (Latitude 41.08094° N, Longitude, 85.37786°W) to Aqua Indiana, Inc. – Midwest. Such discharge shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

Table 1

Discharge Limitations Monitoring Requirements

<u>Parameter</u> [3]	<u>Daily</u> <u>Maximum</u>	<u>Monthly</u> <u>Average</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Measurement</u> <u>Frequency</u> [5]	<u>Sample</u> <u>Type</u> [4]
Flow [6]	Report	Report	MGD	1 X Daily	24-Hr. Estimate
Cadmium [Cd]	0.11[8]	0.07 [8]	mg/l	1 X Monthly	Grab
T. Chromium [Cr(T)]	2.77[8]	1.71[8]	mg/l	1 X Monthly	Grab
Copper [Cu]	3.38[8]	2.07[8]	mg/l	1 X Monthly	Grab
Lead [Pb]	0.69[8]	0.43[8]	mg/l	1 X Monthly	Grab
Nickel [Ni]	3.98[8]	2.38[8]	mg/l	1 X Monthly	Grab
Silver [Ag]	0.43[8]	0.24[8]	mg/l	1 X Monthly	Grab
Zinc [Zn]	2.61[8]	1.48[8]	mg/l	1 X Monthly	Grab
Phosphorus	----	Report	mg/l	1 X Monthly	Grab
T. Cyanide [CN(T)][10]	1.20[8]	0.65[8]	mg/l	1 X Monthly	Grab
TTO [11][12]	2.13[8]	----	mg/l	2 X Annually [5]	Grab
Oil and Grease [O&G]	Report	Report	mg/l	1 X Daily	Grab

Table 2

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Daily</u> <u>Minimum</u>	<u>Daily</u> <u>Maximum</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Measurement</u> <u>Frequency</u>	<u>Sample</u> <u>Type</u>
pH [7]	5.5[9]	9.0[9]	s.u.	1 X Daily	Grab

- [1] Outfall 001 shall be designated as the combined wastestream at the point of discharge to WWTP.
- [2] The discharge shall not exceed the local limits in the Aqua Indiana, Inc. – Midwest contract upon entering the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- [3] All metals shall be analyzed as Total Recoverable Metals.
- [4] Grab samples will be allowed in lieu of 24-Hour Composites due to the brief nature of the discharge.

- [5] Parameters that are to be monitored twice per year shall be reported during the months of June and December. If, however, two other months are more appropriate, the permittee may request to report in two alternate months, or the State may require the permittee to report during two alternate months. In situations of intermittent or batch discharge, all parameters required to be monitored should be sampled during the first representative discharge occurring during the monitoring period and then reported on the appropriate state and federal forms at the end of the monitoring period.
If a representative discharge occurs at any time during the monitoring period as identified for that individual parameter, then it is a violation of this permit to not collect a sample and report those results. At the first opportunity that a representative discharge occurs during the monitoring period, it should be sampled for all the required parameters during that monitoring period. Waiting to collect a sample until the end of a monitoring period risks missing a representative sample collection opportunity, and it is considered a violation of this permit to not collect a sample, analyze and report those results, when there was a discharge for that monitoring period.
- [6] Flow may be estimated by using the batch tank volume and number of discharges per day.
- [7] If the permittee collects more than one grab sample on a given day for pH, the values shall not be averaged for reporting daily maximums or daily minimums. The permittee must report the individual minimum and the individual maximum pH value of any sample during the month on the Monthly Monitoring Report form.
- [8] Based on categorical standards [40 CFR 433.17]. The Standard is concentration-based (mg/l).
- [9] Based on National pretreatment standards: Prohibited discharges [40 CFR 403.5] and Pretreatment standards for prohibited discharges [327 IAC 5-18-2].
- [10] The CN(T) parameter includes all cyanide, chelated (bound to heavy metals) and unchelated (free). The Metal Finishing Standard for CN(T) applies only to the CN-bearing flows prior to mixing with the non-CN Metal Finishing flows.
- [11] The Total Toxic Organics (TTO) parameter is defined as the sum of all the quantifiable concentration values above .01 mg/l for the toxic organic compounds that constitute this parameter under the applicable categorical standard. See part I.D. ("TTO MONITORING REQUIREMENTS") of this permit.
- [12] The permittee must conduct a TTO scan every permit cycle for the wastewater from the screen printing wash bay area. This is in order to determine the quality of the effluent and ensure protection of the receiving WWTP.



**Operational Permit
Briefing Memo for
Micropulse, Inc.
Draft modification: October 2024
Final modification: TBD**

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

100 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 232-8603
Toll Free (800) 451-6027
www.idem.IN.gov

Permittee:	Micropulse, Inc. 5865 East State Road 14 Columbia City, IN, 46725
Existing Permit Information:	Permit Number: INJ000723 Expiration Date: May 31, 2027
Facility Contact:	Brian Tucker, Facility Manager 260-625-4681, btucker@micropulseinc.com
Facility Location:	5865 East State Road 14 Columbia City, Indiana 46725 Whitley County
Receiving WWTP:	Aqua Indiana Inc.-Midwest 6811 Engle Road Fort Wayne, IN 46804 NPDES Permit #IN0042391
GLI/Non-GLI:	Non-GLI
Proposed Permit Action:	Modify
Date Application Received:	September 6, 2024
Source Category	Minor – Operational
Permit Writer:	Jodi Wray (317) 447-4176, jwray@idem.in.gov

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) received a request from Micropulse, Inc. on September 6, 2024 to modify Permit INJ000723. The current five year permit was issued with an effective date of June 1, 2022 in accordance with 327 IAC 5-2-6(a). The permit was subsequently modified on February 17, 2023.

Operational permits are regulated by the provisions of 327 IAC 3-4. 327 IAC 3-4-3 provides the general regulatory authority under which IDEM administers the operational permit program. This rule states that the operational permit must contain the terms and conditions necessary to assure that the water pollution control facility will be operated in such a manner that any pollutants released or threatened to be released by the facility into the environment will not cause or contribute to violations of applicable water quality standards, or otherwise cause a significant adverse impact on the environment or the public health.

More specifically, 327 IAC 3-4-4(b) requires that the procedures for the issuance of NPDES permits under 327 IAC 5-3-2, 327 IAC 5-3-3, 327 IAC 5-3-6, 327 IAC 5-3-7, 327 IAC 5-3-14, 327 IAC 5-3-15, and 327 IAC 5-3-16, apply to the issuance of the operational permit. These rules address the application requirements, permit modifications, tentative permit decisions, briefing memos, permit issuance and effective dates, response to comment procedures, and judicial reviews applicable to the operational permit. 327 IAC 5-3-6 (applicable under 327 IAC 3-4-4(b) above) requires that the basic NPDES requirements addressed in 327 IAC 5-2-6, 327 IAC 5-2-8, 327 IAC 5-2-9, 327 IAC 5-2-10, 327 IAC 5-2-13, 327 IAC 5-2-14, and 327 IAC 5-2-15 be incorporated in the operational permit. Finally, 327 IAC 3-5 provides the regulatory authority specific to operational permits for various miscellaneous administrative provisions including enforcement, penalties and fees.

The operational permit includes NPDES regulatory citations where applicable as described above. In some instances, an NPDES regulation not directly applicable to the operational permit has been cited as applicable under the general regulatory authority of 327 IAC 3-4-3.

IDEM has determined that an Operational Permit is necessary for Micropulse, Inc. in order to protect the receiving privately owned treatment works from upset, pass through, or interference; prevent negative impact on the privately owned treatment works' ability to meet the limits in NPDES Permit #IN0042391, and ultimately protect the receiving stream to which the privately owned treatment works discharges.

This Briefing Memo was prepared in order to document the factors considered in the development of Operational Permit effluent limitations. The technical basis for the Briefing Memo may consist of evaluations of promulgated effluent guidelines, existing effluent quality, receiving water conditions, and wasteload allocations to meet Indiana Water Quality Standards. Decisions to award variances to Water Quality Standards or promulgated effluent guidelines are justified in the Briefing Memo where necessary.

2.0 Modification Request

On September 6, 2024, IDEM received a modification request from the permittee to include wastewater from the screen printing wash bay as an allowed discharge. This wastewater will not be treated prior to discharge.

3.0 IDEM's Proposed Modification

IDEM proposes to include this wastestream into the permit with additional reporting requirements for TTOs in order to ensure the safety of the Receiving POTW.

4.0 Discharge Description

The permittee discharges wastewaters from the following sources to the WWTP:

<u>Source</u>	<u>Flow (GPD)</u>
Process Wastestream #1:	25 (1)
Process Wastestream #2:	725 (2)
Process Wastestream #3:	185 (3)
Process Wastestream #4:	170 (4)
Process Wastestream #5:	2641 (5)
Process Wastestream #6:	~21 (6)
Sanitary:	2500

- (1) Process Wastestream #1 is wastewater from various rinse tank operations. The wastewater is neutralized and temperature adjusted before sent to the outfall.
- (2) Process Wastestream #2 is wastewater from various washing operations including screen printing, graymills, Getinge washer, and water jets. The wastewater is discharged to the sewer untreated.
- (3) Process Wastestream #3 is wastewater from the ultrasonic cleaning process. The wastewater is temperature adjusted before sent to the outfall.
- (4) Process Wastestream #4 is wastewater from the company car washing process. The wastewater is filtered through a grease trap before sent to the outfall.
- (5) Process Wastestream #5 is wastewater from the abrasive tumbling system. The wastewater is treated by flocculation and sent to the outfall.
- (6) Process Wastestream #6 is wastewater from the screen printing wash bay area. The expected volume of water discharged from this area is around 150 gallons per week. This wastewater is discharged to the sewer untreated.

5.0 Summary of Limits and Basis for Each:

Outfall 001

The table below summarizes the permit limits at the designated sample site (Outfall 001) [1][2]. Outfall 001 is located at the discharge from the new pH neutralization treatment tank (Latitude 41.08094° N, Longitude, 85.37786°W) to Aqua Indiana, Inc. – Midwest. Such discharge shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

Table 1

<u>Parameter</u> [3]	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>		<u>Unit</u>	<u>Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	<u>Daily Maximum</u>	<u>Monthly Average</u>		<u>Measurement Frequency</u> [5]	<u>Sample Type</u> [4]
Flow [6]	Report	Report	MGD	1 X Daily	24-Hr. Estimate
Cadmium [Cd]	0.11[8]	0.07 [8]	mg/l	1 X Monthly	Grab
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pH [7]	5.5[9]	9.0[9]	s.u.	1 X Daily	Grab

- [1] Outfall 001 shall be designated as process wastewaters and contains no dilution streams.
- [2] The discharge shall not exceed the local limits in the Aqua Indiana, Inc. – Midwest contract upon entering the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- [3] All metals shall be analyzed as Total Recoverable Metals.
- [4] Grab samples will be allowed in lieu of 24-Hour Composites due to the brief nature of the discharge.

- [5] Parameters that are to be monitored twice per year shall be reported during the months of June and December. If, however, two other months are more appropriate, the permittee may request to report in two alternate months, or the State may require the permittee to report during two alternate months.

In situations of intermittent or batch discharge, all parameters required to be monitored should be sampled during the first representative discharge occurring during the monitoring period and then reported on the appropriate state and federal forms at the end of the monitoring period.

If a representative discharge occurs at any time during the monitoring period as identified for that individual parameter, then it is a violation of this permit to not collect a sample and report those results. At the first opportunity that a representative discharge occurs during the monitoring period, it should be sampled for all the required parameters during that monitoring period. Waiting to collect a sample until the end of a monitoring period risks missing a representative sample collection opportunity, and it is considered a violation of this permit to not collect a sample, analyze and report those results, when there was a discharge for that monitoring period.

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- [7] If the permittee collects more than one grab sample on a given day for pH, the values shall not be averaged for reporting daily maximums or daily minimums. The permittee must report the individual minimum and the individual maximum pH value of any sample during the month on the Monthly Monitoring Report form.
- [8] Based on categorical standards [40 CFR 433.17]. The Standard is concentration-based (mg/l).
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- [11] The Total Toxic Organics (TTO) parameter is defined as the sum of all the quantifiable concentration values above .01 mg/l for the toxic organic compounds that constitute this parameter under the applicable categorical standard.
- [12] The permittee must conduct a TTO scan every permit cycle for the wastewater from the screen printing wash bay area. This is in order to determine the quality of the effluent and ensure protection of the receiving WWTP.

6.0 Permit Processing/Public Comment

Pursuant to IC 13-15-5-1, IDEM will publish the draft permit document online at <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>. Additional information on public participation can be found in the "Citizens' Guide to IDEM", available at <https://www.in.gov/idem/resources/citizens-guide-to-idem/>. A 30-day comment period is available to solicit input from interested parties, including the public.