

State of Michigan
Department of Environmental Quality

Water Resources Division
Kalamazoo District Office
7953 Adobe Road, Kalamazoo, MI, 49009-5025
269-567-3500

Site Name: Austin Lake South Bay Aeration Proj-Portage: 12-39-0002-P
Submission Number: HN5-196H-X6A9H
Date: June 16, 2017

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Austin Lake Governmental Lake Board, Attn: Brian Johnson, Chairman, 7900 South Westnedge Avenue, Portage, Michigan 49002, has applied to this office for a permit under authority of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended. The applicant seeks reauthorization of a previously permitted and installed laminar flow aerator system in the South Bay of Austin Lake for the purpose of remediating organic nutrients and improving water quality and aquatic habitat. The previously permitted system consists of twenty-seven 12-inch diameter ceramic diffusers installed on the lake bottom throughout the 245-acre treatment area and connected to three air compressors. The compressor cabinets are located in uplands at 3059 Woodhams Avenue, 2266 Woody Noll Avenue, and at the City of Portage property between 10035 and 10041 Woodlawn Avenue. The 27 rubber lines, totaling 28,500 feet, extend out into the lake at distances varying from 450 feet to a maximum of 1,925 feet and are located at depths of up to 8 feet. The project is located in T3S, R11W, Section 35, City of Portage, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, in accordance with plans attached to this notice.

THIS NOTICE IS NOT A PERMIT

The proposed project may also be regulated by one or more additional parts of the NREPA that are administered by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Water Resources Division (WRD). The requirements of all applicable parts are considered in determining if a permit can be issued. When a permit application is received requesting authorization to work in or over the inland waters of the State of Michigan, pursuant to Part 301 of the NREPA, the NREPA provides that the DEQ submit copies for review to the department of public health; the city, village, or township and county where the project is to be located; the local soil conservation district; and any local watershed council organized under Part 311, Local River Management, of the NREPA. Additional notification is provided to certain persons as required by statute or determined by the DEQ.

Those persons wanting to make comments on the proposed project shall furnish this office with their written comments no later than 20 days from the date of this notice. Written comments will be made part of the record and should reference the above application number. Objections must be factual, specific, and fully describe the reasons upon which any objection is founded. Unless a written request is filed with the DEQ within the 20-day public comment period, the DEQ may make a decision on the application without a public hearing. The determination as to whether a permit will be issued or a public hearing held will be based on an evaluation of all relevant factors, including the public comments received and the effect of the proposed work on the public trust or interest, including navigation, fish, wildlife, and pollution. The specific permit decision criteria can be found in the parts of the NREPA applicable to this application and listed above. Copies of these parts of the

NREPA are available on the public notice Web site. Public comments received will also be considered.

The entire copy of the public notice package may be viewed at the WRD's district office listed on the top of this public notice or online at:

<https://miwaters.deq.state.mi.us/miwaters/#/external/publicnotice/search>. To access the public notice page online, search for the public notice by location or applicant name, and view by clicking on the "Documents" tab. Comments may be sent electronically by clicking on the "Add Comment" tab. A hard copy of the public notice may be requested by calling the above number.

cc:

- Brian Johnson, Applicant
- DNR, Wildlife Division, Plainwell
- DNR, Fisheries Division, Plainwell
- Kalamazoo County Clerk
- City of Portage Clerk
- Kalamazoo County Drain Commissioner
- Kalamazoo County Health Department
- Kalamazoo County Conservation District
- Local Postmaster
- John Tucci, Lake Savers, LLC
- Austin Lake South Basin Landowners (see spreadsheet)