

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION**

NOTICE OF TENTATIVE DETERMINATION AND PUBLIC HEARING

Carroll County

Application for Indirect Potable Reuse Permit No. 24-IPR-01

The City of Westminster, 45 W. Main Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157, applied for an indirect potable reuse (IPR) permit to reuse 0.50 million gallons per day (MGD) of reclaimed water from the Westminster Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Pursuant to Section 9-303.2 of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, reclaimed water will be further treated by multi-stage IPR processes including reverse osmosis, UV disinfection, and advanced oxidation process at a new facility – Westminster PureWater Facility, located at 1117 Old New Windsor Pike, Westminster, MD 21158. The second round of treatment at the PureWater Facility will further remove contaminants and pathogens to meet the drinking water standards prior to discharging the purified water to the Cranberry Reservoir, which also receives water from Cranberry Branch. The purified water shall remain in the Cranberry Reservoir for at least 180 days before entering the City’s drinking water treatment plant.

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has reached a tentative determination to issue the permit with effluent limitations that ensure compliance with the applicable drinking water standards set forth in COMAR 26.04.01.06 - 26.04.01.10. Treatment at the PureWater Facility and Water Treatment Plant (WTP) shall meet or exceed 12-log for enteric virus reduction, 10-log for giardia cyst reduction, and 10-log cryptosporidium oocyst reduction.

Per MD Environmental Article § 1-602(a)(2), an EJ score was calculated for Westminster WRF. The EJ Score is 20. This score has been calculated considering a combination of the following factors: (1) Pollution Burden Exposure Percentile, (2) Pollution Environmental Effects Percentile, and (3) Sensitive Population and Populations Lacking Access Percentile. For more information on how the score was calculated, launch the MDEnviroScreen tool from this website- <https://mdewwp.page.link/EJ>.

The public hearing documents, including the permit application, draft permit, and Summary Report & Fact Sheets (SRFS), are available on MDE’s website at: https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/water_supply/pages/whatsnew.aspx. Information is located under Notice of Recent Applications Received – Indirect Potable Reuse Permit.

The Department has scheduled a public hearing on the tentative determination for this permit on **Thursday, June 18th, 2026, at 5:30pm at the Carroll County Public Library, Exploration Commons Large Meeting Room at Exploration Commons at 50 East Main Street, Westminster, MD 21157**. Use of library meeting space does not constitute endorsement of this organization, this program, or its content by the Carroll County Public Library. The public hearing will be conducted in-person. The hearing will be recorded and transcribed.

People who wish to present information regarding the tentative determination may speak at the public hearing, submit written comments at the public hearing, or submit a written statement to the Department no later than **5 p.m. on June 26, 2026**. All comments will be considered in making a final determination. Comments received via any submission mechanism will be given equal weight.

Written comments can be sent via email to Diana Kremer at **diana.kremer@maryland.gov** or by mail to the **Maryland Department of the Environment, Water and Science Administration, 1800 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1708, Attn: Diana Kremer, Division Chief, Drinking Water Policy Division**. The supporting information for the tentative determination, including the draft permit and fact sheet, can be found by visiting our website at:

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/water_supply/Pages/WhatsNew.aspx.

Information is located under Notice of Recent Applications Received- Indirect Potable Reuse Permit.

Hearing-impaired persons may request an interpreter at the public hearing by contacting Diana Kremer at the email listed above at least ten working days prior to the scheduled meeting.

This meeting location is accessible to individuals with disabilities as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Individuals who require reasonable accommodation or a language interpreter to participate in the meeting should contact MDE by email at mde.accommodations@maryland.gov or call 410-537-3152 (MD Relay TTY: 7-1-1) at least 5 business days in advance of the meeting.

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