

STATE CONSTRUCTION PERMIT
Permit Number: AR0052582C1

Permittee:

Big River Steel LLC
P.O. Box 707
Osceola, AR 72370

Consulting Engineer:

Andrew H. Rike, P.E.
Harbor Environmental
5800 Evergreen Drive
Little Rock, AR 72205

This permit allows the permittee listed above to modify the wastewater treatment system in accordance with the permit application and plans and specifications which were received on December 9, 2025, and all additional information received by February 11, 2026, under authority of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (Arkansas Code Annotated § 8-4-101 et seq. and Arkansas Code Annotated § 8-4-201 et seq.) and the following terms and conditions.

1. The treatment system shall be modified in accordance with the final plans and specifications as submitted to the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ). In case any statement or representation in the aforementioned documents is found to be incorrect, this approval may be revoked.
2. There shall be no deviation from the permitted plans and specifications unless the revisions have been submitted for review and written approval is received.
3. Within thirty (30) days of completion of the construction the permittee shall submit a Notice of Completion of Construction to the Division (Permits Branch of the Office of Water Quality) that the facility has been modified in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. The certification shall be signed by the Responsible Official as well as stamped and signed by a Professional Engineer (P.E.) licensed in the state of Arkansas. The Notice of Completion of Construction form is located at the following web link:

<https://www.adeg.state.ar.us/water/permits/npdes/individual/pdfs/state-construction-permit-completion-of-construction.pdf>

4. This permit is issued in reliance upon the statements and representations made in the application and the plans and specifications. Issuance of this State Construction Permit does not guarantee satisfactory performance of the treatment system. The permittee shall ensure that water quality standards are not violated. Any modifications to the treatment facility necessary to meet water quality standards are the responsibility of the permittee and would require a modification to this State Construction Permit.
5. A State Construction Permit for the modification of an existing wastewater treatment facility does not constitute an NPDES permit. Issuance of a State Construction Permit for modification of a treatment system in no way guarantees or assumes that an application for an NPDES permit to operate the system will be approved or an NPDES permit will be issued.
6. A complete "Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual" of the wastewater treatment system shall be updated by the facility consultant for the operator's use before the plant is in operation.
7. Failure to begin construction within one (1) year of the effective date may result in termination of this permit if a request for an extension is not submitted to the Division in a timely manner.
8. The permittee must submit notification of the start of construction within fifteen (15) days after construction has begun.

9. If a construction site will disturb greater than or equal to one (1) acre and less than five (5) acres, the permittee shall comply with the requirements in PC&EC Rule 6.203 for Stormwater discharge associated with a small construction site, as defined in PC&EC Rule 6. If the construction site will disturb five (5) acres or more, the permittee shall comply with the terms of the Stormwater Construction General Permit Number ARR150000 prior to the start of construction. BMPs must be implemented regardless of the size.
10. This facility is located as follows: Latitude: 35° 39' 14.43" N; Longitude: 89° 57' 15.78" W in Mississippi County, Arkansas.
11. The receiving water for this facility is the Mississippi River in Segment 6C of the Mississippi River Basin. The outfall is located at the following coordinates: Outfall 001: Latitude: 35° 39' 05.0" N; Longitude: 89° 54' 47.0" W.
12. The construction will include: for the treatment system that discharges through Outfall 001 - a 53,500-gallon concrete basin for collection of emulsified oily wastewater, a 26,500-gallon epoxy-lined concrete basin for collection of acid wastewater, a 26,500-gallon epoxy-lined concrete basin for collection of alkaline wastewater, a pH-adjustment system (including a 6,500-gallon fiberglass reinforced plastic tank for sodium hydroxide) for neutralizing acid wastewater, and associated pumps and piping. Neither the design flow, nor the treatment units of the existing treatment system, will be changed by the construction.
13. If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit. The complete application shall be submitted at least 180 days before the expiration date of this permit. The Director may grant permission to submit an application less than 180 days in advance but no later than the permit expiration date. Conditions of this permit will continue in effect past the expiration date pending issuance of a new permit if:
 - a. The permittee has submitted a timely and complete application as described in Rule 6.202(B); and
 - b. The Director, through no fault of the permittee, does not issue a new permit prior to the expiration date of this permit.

Effective Date: April 10, 2026

Expiration Date: March 31, 2031

Stacie R. Wassell
Deputy Director, Office of Water Quality
Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment
Division of Environmental Quality

April 9, 2026

Issue Date

STATEMENT OF BASIS

For State Construction Permit Number AR0052582C1.

The issuing office is:

Division of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118

The applicant is:

Big River Steel LLC
P.O. Box 707
Osceola, AR 72370

1. BASIS FOR PERMIT AND CONDITIONS

This permit is your authority to modify the wastewater treatment system in accordance with the permit application and plans and specifications which were received on December 9, 2025, and all additional information received by February 11, 2026. The issuance of this permit and conditions are based on the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (Arkansas Code Annotated § 8-4-101 et seq. and Arkansas Code Annotated § 8-4-201 et seq.), Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (PC&EC) Rule 6.202, codified at 8 CAR § 25-202, NPDES Discharge permit AR0052582, and 40 C.F.R. § 122.26.

Specific permit conditions and their sources are listed as follows:

Conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are self-explanatory. Condition 9 is based on 40 C.F.R. § 122.26. Conditions 10, 11, and 12 are based on the submitted application and Plans and Specifications. Condition 13 is based on Arkansas Code Annotated § 8-4-203(a).

2. PUBLIC NOTICE

The public notice of the draft permit was published for public comment on March 8, 2026. The last day of the comment period was thirty (30) days after the publication date. No public comments were received on the draft permit.

Copies of the draft permit and public notice were sent via email to the Corps of Engineers, the Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism, the EPA, and the Arkansas Department of Health.

3. PERMIT FEE

In accordance with PC&EC Rule 9.402(A), codified at 8 CAR § 12-302(b)(2), the fee for issuance of a state construction permit is \$500.

4. SOURCES

1. Application Form 1 and Plans and Specifications dated December 9, 2025, and all additional information received by February 11, 2026.
2. PC&EC Rules 6, 8, and 9, codified at 8 CAR Parts 25, 11, and 12, respectively.
3. A.C.A. § 8-4-217(b)(1)(C).
4. 40 C.F.R. § 122.26.

5. CONTACT PERSON

The DEQ contact person for submitting written comments, requesting information, or obtaining copies of the application, permit, and the Statement of Basis is:

Guy Lester, P.E.
Professional Engineer
NPDES Branch, Office of Water Quality
Division of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317
(501) 519-0304