

Governor

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Department of **Environmental Quality**

Kimberly D. Shelley Executive Director

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY Erica Brown Gaddis, PhD Director

August 26, 2021

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

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO DECLARE THE STATE OF UTAH'S INTENTION TO REISSUE A UTAH POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (UPDES) PERMIT UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE UTAH WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT, SECTION 19-5-104(9) AND 107(2), UTAH CODE ANNOTATED 1953, AS AMENDED. SAID "PERMIT" REFERS TO THE UPDES PERMIT AND THE FACT SHEET STATEMENT OF BASIS (INCLUDING TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS (TMDL'S)) IF APPLICABLE, AS PER SECTION 303(D) OF THE FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA)].

PERMIT INFORMATION

PERMITTEE NAME: Compass Minerals Ogden, Inc.

765 North 10500 West, Ogden UT 84404 **MAILING ADDRESS:**

(801) 732-3212 TELEPHONE NUMBER: UT0000647 **UPDES PERMIT NO.:**

Outfalls 001, 001b, 002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007, 008 and 009 PERMITTED OUTFALLS

RECEIVING WATER: The Great Salt Lake, Bear River Bay, Gunnison Bay

BACKGROUND

Compass Minerals Ogden, Inc (Compass) removes water from the Great Salt Lake (GSL), and by the process of evaporation, concentrates and removes salt, potash, and magnesium chloride. During this process, more sodium chloride is produced than any other product, but the potash and magnesium chloride are many times more valuable per ton than sodium chloride. In fact, the Company has a large amounts of sodium chloride left in the ponds after harvesting which must, by contract with the State, be returned to the Great Salt Lake (GSL). The salt is returned to the lake by the facility pumping water from the Bear River Bay of the Great Salt Lake, dissolving the remaining salt found in the evaporation ponds and returning them to Bear River Bay.

The solar evaporation mineral mining operation has been operating on the shores of the Great Salt Lake west of Ogden, Utah since approximately 1968 and has been owned and operated by Compass Minerals since 1993. The facility extracts minerals from the GSL by pumping lake water through a series of solar evaporation ponds where salts are precipitated, harvested, and processed to produce three saleable products. The primary product is potassium sulfate (K₂SO₄) or sulfate of potash (SOP), a primary ingredient in many fertilizers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

During the public comment period provided under R317-8-6.5, any interested person may submit written comments on the draft permit 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 Page 2 Compass Minerals Ogden Public Notice

raised in the hearing. All comments will be considered in making the final decision and shall be answered as provided in R317-8-6.12. Public comments are invited any time prior to the deadline of the close of business on September 27, 2021. Written public comments can be submitted to: Lonnie Shull, UPDES Surface Water Section, Utah Division of Water Quality, PO Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870 or by email at: lshull@utah.gov. After considering public comment the Utah Division of Water Quality may execute the permit issuance, revise it, or abandon it. The permit is available for public review under "Public Notices" at www.waterquality.utah.gov/. If internet access is not available, a copy may be obtained by calling Lonnie Shull at 801-536-4394.

DWQ-2021-015290