

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Environmental Permits**

NYSDEC Region 7 Headquarters  
5786 Widewaters Pkwy  
Syracuse, NY 13214-1867  
(315) 426-7438



November 12, 2025

ONONDAGA COUNTY  
1100 CIVIC CTR  
421 MONTGOMERY ST  
SYRACUSE, NY 13202

Re: DEC ID # 7-3124-00018/00001  
OAK ORCHARD WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Dear Applicant :

Please be advised that your application for a DEC permit(s) is complete and a technical review has commenced. Notice and the opportunity for public comment is required for this application. Enclosed is a Notice of Complete Application for your project. Please have the Notice published in the newspaper identified below once during the week of 11/10/2025 on any day Monday through Friday.

The official newspaper of the Town (City) of CLAY.  
Contact the Town (City) Clerk's office to confirm the official newspaper.

On the Notice of Complete Application, that information presented between the horizontal lines, on the enclosed page(s) should be published. Do not print this letter or the information contained below the second horizontal line. Please request the newspaper publisher to provide you with a Proof of Publication for the Notice. Upon receipt of the Proof of Publication promptly forward it to this office. You must provide the Proof of Publication before a final decision can be rendered on your application. You are responsible for paying the cost of publishing the Notice in the newspaper.

Notification of this complete application is also being provided by this Department in the NYSDEC Environmental Notice Bulletin.

This notification does not signify approval of your application for permit. Additional information may be requested from you at a future date, if deemed necessary to reach a decision on your application. Your project is classified major under the Uniform Procedures Act. Accordingly, a decision is due within 90 days of the date of this notice unless a public hearing is held, which may extend this time frame. If a public hearing is necessary, you will be notified.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the above address or phone number above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trendon P. Choe".

TRENDON P CHOE  
Division of Environmental Permits

**THIS IS NOT A PERMIT**



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**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Notice of Complete Application**

*Date:* 11/12/2025

*Applicant:* ONONDAGA COUNTY  
1100 CIVIC CTR  
421 MONTGOMERY ST  
SYRACUSE, NY 13202

*Facility:* OAK ORCHARD WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
4300 OAK ORCHARD RD  
Clay, NY 13041

*Application ID:* 7-3124-00018/00001; 7-3124-00018/02005; 7-3124-00615/00001; 7-3124-00615/00002; 7-3124-00618/00001; 7-3124-00618/00002; 7-3554-00280/00001; 7-3554-00280/00002

*Permits(s) Applied for:* Municipal SPDES – Surface Discharge, Environmental Conservation Law (ECL), Article 17 Titles 7 & 8; Freshwater Wetlands, ECL, Article 24, (implemented by 6 NYCRR Parts 663); Water Quality Certifications (401 certifications), Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, U.S.

*Project is located:* in CLAY in ONONDAGA COUNTY

*Project Description:*

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has prepared a draft permit and has made a tentative determination, subject to public comment or other information, to issue a renewal and modification to the Oak Orchard Wastewater Treatment Plant State Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (SPDES) permit (NY#0030317) which discharges treated municipal wastewater to the Oneida River, a class B water. The permit modification includes an increased surface discharge from 10 mgd to 30.8 mgd average design flow at full build out via: Outfall 001 of treated sanitary and process wastewater, Internal Outfall 01A of municipal treatment train (MTT) treated sanitary and process effluent wastewater to Outfall 001, Internal Outfall 01B of industrial treatment train (ITT) treated process effluent wastewater to Outfall 001, Outfall 006 of MTT effluent reuse wastewater to Micron, and Outfall 007 of ITT effluent reuse wastewater to Micron.

Treatment at the facility consists of advanced secondary treatment using a high purity oxygen activated sludge process which includes, aerated grit chambers, automatic screen rakes, primary clarifier tanks, high purity oxygen aeration tank, secondary clarifier tanks, aerated lagoons, disinfection tanks using sodium hypochlorite, and sodium bisulfite for dechlorination. Solids are removed via tanker truck to the Metropolitan Syracuse wastewater treatment plant for further treatment.

DEC proposes to incorporate the following modifications to the SPDES permit: Outfalls 01A, 01B, 006, and 007 have been added. Upgrades to the existing MTT include improvements to the headworks with expanded automated screening and grit removal, addition of two primary clarifiers, new fine screening, replacement of high purity oxygen system with a membrane bioreactor system, replacement of chlorine disinfection with closed-vessel ultraviolet (UV) disinfection, a new biosolids handling facility, and a new effluent reuse facility with reverse osmosis (RO) treatment. Construction of a new ITT includes equalization and diversion tanks, influent screening, biological treatment in mixed anoxic tanks followed by aeration tanks, membrane bioreactors, UV disinfection, centrifugal solids dewatering, effluent reuse with ion exchange resin (IX) and RO treatment. The Permittee will seek coverage under Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Outfalls 002, 003, 005 to the Oneida River, and 004 to Mud Creek. Upgrades to the MTT and construction of the ITT will result in 0.79-acres of permanent impacts to wetlands and 3.29-acres of permanent impacts to its associated 100-foot adjacent area.

The applicant also proposes the construction of a new wastewater/reclaimed water conveyance corridor for the purposes of providing Micron with industrial wastewater treatment and reclaimed water for cooling and ultrapure water for production and sanitary uses. This corridor will be located within a new, 99-foot-wide easement and collocated within the right-of-way of Verplank Rank extending between the WWTP and the Micron. The construction of the corridor will result in 3.7-acres of permanent impacts to wetlands.

Onondaga County and RES Environmental Operating Company, LLC proposes to restore, and enhance wetlands on one property within Onondaga County, and one property within Oswego County, to compensate for the loss of wetlands resulting from the proposed project. The freshwater wetland permits required for wetland mitigation activities are under the following DEC ID #s:

- 7-3124-00618/00001; Youngs Creek Mitigation Site - OOWWTP, 274 Peter Scott Rd (Tax ID: 290.00-02-55), Town of Clay, Onondaga County
- 7-3554-00280/00001; Fish Creek Mitigation Site - OOWWTP, Mud Mill Rd (Tax ID: 048.-01-10.0), Town of Schroepel, Oswego County

Onondaga County has applied to DEC for a 401 Water Quality Certification associated with the proposed discharges of fill into the water of the U.S. and the associated U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permit application. Under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, a federal agency may not issue a permit or license to conduct any activity that may result in any discharge into waters of the United States unless a Section 401 water quality certification is issued.

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 7(2) of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), the Department has requested and received information regarding the project's consistency with the CLCPA.

*Availability of Application Documents:*

Filed application documents, and Department draft permits where applicable, are available for inspection during normal business hours at:

NYSDEC Region 7 office located at 5786 Widewaters Parkway, Syracuse, NY 13214. To ensure timely service at the time of inspection, it is recommended that an appointment be made by calling 315-426-7401.

- Onondaga County Central Library, 447 South Salina St., Syracuse, NY 13202-2494
- Northern Onondaga Public Library (NOPL) Cicero Branch, 8686 Knowledge Lane, Cicero, NY 13039
- Northern Onondaga Public Library (NOPL) North Syracuse Branch, 100 Trolley Barn Lane, North Syracuse, NY 13212
- Northern Onondaga Public Library (NOPL) Brewerton Branch, 5440 Bennett St, Brewerton, NY 13029

The draft SPDES permit with fact sheet are available online at <https://dec.ny.gov/fs/projects/draftpermits>. The draft permit files are contained within regional folders and named by the SPDES number contained in this notice.

Electronic copies of the application material are available at: <https://onondaga.gov/wep/public-review-documents/>

*State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Determination*

New Oak Orchard Wastewater Treatment Plant industrial treatment train, industrial wastewater/reclaimed water conveyance corridor, wetland mitigation:

SEQR Lead Agency: Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (OCIDA)

SEQR Lead Agency Determination: Positive Declaration

The Proposed Project, and associated connected actions, are subject to review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This project is a Type 1 action for SEQR, and a SEQR lead agency was coordinated.

On June 25, 2025, OCIDA, as joint lead agency with the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) Program Office (CPO) created by the United States Department of Commerce, accepted for public review and comment the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) for the proposed Micron New York Semiconductor Manufacturing Project. The Notice of Acceptance of the Draft EIS and a link to the Draft EIS, can be found by accessing DEC's Environmental Notice Bulletin:

<https://dec.ny.gov/news/environmental-notice-bulletin/2025-06-25/seqr/town-of-clay-micron-new-york-semiconductor-manufacturing-project>

Oak Orchard Wastewater Treatment Plant municipal treatment train upgrades:

SEQR Lead Agency: Onondaga County

SEQR Lead Agency Determination: Negative Declaration

The proposed project is subject to review under the SEQRA. This Project is a Type I action for SEQR, and a SEQR lead agency was coordinated. A Negative Declaration is on file.

*SEQR Lead Agency* Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (OCIDA), Onondaga County

*State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA) Determination*

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Department of Commerce is the lead federal agency consulting with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation as well as potentially affected Tribal Nations for the proposed Micron Main Campus, Rail Spur, Childcare Center, and connected actions. The USACE is the lead federal agency for the proposed wetland and waterbody mitigation sites and is evaluating the undertaking for effects to historic properties as required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

*DEC Commissioner Policy 29, Environmental Justice and Permitting (CP-29)*

It has been determined that the proposed action is not subject to CP-29.

*Public Comment Hearing:*

Persons wishing to comment on the permit applications will have the opportunity to make a statement at public comment hearings. Two virtual public comment hearing sessions will be held before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), beginning at 2pm on December 16, and 6pm on December 17. The virtual hearing sessions will be conducted electronically via the Webex Webinar platform as indicated below. Attendees wishing to comment must register using the registration links below, which are also available on the NYSDEC website at <https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/hearings/hearing-notices>.

*Written Public Comment:*

Individuals and parties may mail written comments to the Contact Person listed below or may submit comments electronically to [Comments.OakOrchard2025@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Comments.OakOrchard2025@dec.ny.gov). All comments submitted by mail must be postmarked by December 23, 2025. All comments submitted electronically must be received by 4:45pm on December 23, 2025. EQUAL WEIGHT IS GIVEN TO WRITTEN COMMENTS AND STATEMENTS MADE AT PUBLIC COMMENT HEARINGS.

*Availability For Public Comment*

Comments on this project must be submitted in writing to the Contact Person no later than 12/23/2025.

*Contact Person*

TRENDON P CHOE  
NYSDEC  
5786 Widewaters Pkwy  
Syracuse, NY 13214-1867  
(315) 426-7401  
[Comments.OakOrchard2025@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Comments.OakOrchard2025@dec.ny.gov)

NYS EFC

NYS DOS

NYS SHPO

US. Army Corps of Engineers

NYS EPA

Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (OCIDA)

Barclay Damon LLP

Carollo

Brown & Caldwell

EDR

RES