



# ARKANSAS

## ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

February 15, 2023

Honorable Jim Fincher  
Mayor, City of Alma  
811 Fayetteville Avenue, Suite A  
Alma, AR 72921

EMAIL: [jim@cityofalma.org](mailto:jim@cityofalma.org)

**RE: NPDES Permit No. AR0021466, AFIN 17-00059  
Sanitary Sewer Overflows: Manholes #62 at 829 Maple Shade Road, Alma  
Request for Corrective Action Plan**

Dear Mayor Fincher:

The Division of Environmental Quality, Office of Water Quality (OWQ) has conducted a file review of the City of Alma NPDES Permit AR0021466 for the period of February 22, 2018 through October 10, 2022. The review reveals the City of Alma has reported five (5) Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) totaling over 1,039,800 gallons at or near manhole #62, located at 829 Maple Shade Road in Alma. The untreated sewage from these SSOs discharged into an unnamed tributary then to Little Frog Bayou, a water of the state. Each SSO is an unpermitted discharge, and each SSO is a separate violation of the federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a) *et seq.*; Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-101 *et seq.*; Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission Rule 6; and NPDES Permit AR0021466.

Raw sewage contains high levels of Fecal Coliform Bacteria and *E. coli*, both of which are harmful to human health and the environment, in addition to other pollutants of environmental concern. Because of the ongoing SSOs and the close proximity to a residential neighborhood and waters of the state, DEQ requests the following immediate action:

- **By the close of business on March 17, 2023**, the City of Alma shall submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP), developed and stamped by a Professional Engineer licensed in the state of Arkansas, to address the SSOs. The CAP shall, at minimum:
  - Detail the work that is being done or will be done to identify and correct the cause of the ongoing SSOs and include a milestone schedule and expected date of completion;
  - Include an evaluation of each SSO in the attached list to identify the cause of the recurring SSOs; and

- Identify collection line segments and manholes requiring remediation, repair, or replacement and develop a priority schedule for those collection line segments and manholes.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 501-682-0640 or at [Richard.Healey@adeq.state.ar.us](mailto:Richard.Healey@adeq.state.ar.us).

Sincerely,



Richard C. Healey  
Enforcement Branch Manager  
Office of Water Quality, DEQ  
5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118

Cc: Mark Yardley, Director of Public Works, City of Alma, [mark@cityofalma.org](mailto:mark@cityofalma.org)  
Terry Paul, Environmental Health Branch Chief, ADH, [terry.paul@arkansas.gov](mailto:terry.paul@arkansas.gov)  
Alan York, Associate Director, OWQ  
Stacie Wassell, Deputy Associate Director, OWQ  
Jason Bolenbaugh, Compliance Branch Manager, OWQ

| NPID      | FacilityName  | Location  | DateSSOFormReceived |
|-----------|---------------|---|---------------------|
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | Collum Ln West Manhole 50-2 to 50-3 Ran into ditch  | 1/10/2023 0:00      |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | intersection of Maple Shade and Northwoods. Over flow went into ditch Lat 35.499622 Lon -94.235212 (the search function to find exact location is broken and glitched)      | 10/10/2022 0:00     |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | Column Ln and Heather St manhole 50-3   | 4/4/2022 0:00       |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | 122 evergreen rd. alma ar, 72921. manhole # 50-10.  | 11/29/2021 0:00     |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | 829 maple shade rd. alma ar 72921, Manhole #62 in residents back yard.  | 11/15/2021 0:00     |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | A manhole on HWY. 64 East,north side of road. It entered a ditch.   | 10/14/2021 0:00     |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | 829 MAPLE SHADE rd alma ar 72921, manhole #62, in residents back yard.  | 6/8/2021 0:00       |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | 829 MAPLE SHADE RD. ALMA AR 72921 , MANHOLE #62, In a residents backyard.   | 5/24/2021 0:00      |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | 109 Maple Shade Rd., Manhole #50-12 traveled from yard into ditch. Very overgrown. No debris.   | 4/14/2018 0:00      |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | manhole #46 heather Lane,   | 2/22/2018 0:00      |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | 829 maple shade road, manhole #62, overflow ran into the back yard no damage was done we will clean up  | 2/22/2018 0:00      |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | East of Harris Dr. in Field-Manhole # 17-2. Overflow partially flowed into a Stock Pond with a volume of approx. 1.8 million gallons at a flow rate of 2gpm sewer overflow. | 1/18/2018 0:00      |
| AR0021466 | ALMA, CITY OF | 37 Collum Lane East - Meadors Motel (lift station behind) Lift Station controls issue caused overflow into creek near lift station.   | 2/25/2013 0:00      |