

Farmer, Sandra

From: Farmer, Sandra
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 2:26 PM
To: 'Steve Dufresne'
Cc: Darel Manus; James Dunn
Subject: RE: NPDES AR0021482 Follow up July/August 2015 DMR/NCR

Thank you Steve

From: Steve Dufresne [<mailto:steve@vbm.armacoxmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 2:22 PM
To: Farmer, Sandra
Cc: Darel Manus; James Dunn
Subject: NPDES AR0021482 Follow up July/August 2015 DMR/NCR

Mrs. Sandra
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

Re: VBMU Main Plant, Permit: AR0021482, AFIN: 17-00062, Ammonia Nitrogen July/August 2015

Sandy: Per our telephone conversation this morning, Monday February 22, 2006

Ammonia Nitrogen Exceedences were reported on DMR for the months of July and August 2015. Effluent Samples taken on July 31, 2015 and August 4, 2015 exceeded permitted discharge limits. During the period of July 20, 2015 – August 5, 2015. Ammonia Nitrogen sample results were observed to be higher than normal. Ammonia Nitrogen levels returned to normal after August 5, 2015.

During this time VBMU staff consulted with Hawkins-Weir Engineers, Inc. to investigate possible causes of the isolated exceedences.

Potential causes discussed were:

- Erroneous sample results
- Possible Influent - Nitrification inhibitors (chemical compounds)
- Possible Uneven mixing – Aeration Basin
- Possible MLSS escaping through Aeration Basin Baffle curtains

A testing plan as recommended by HWEI has been continually followed, and no adverse results have been discovered, in addition; VBMU's Pretreatment Coordinator has visited with the Poultry Plants inquiring of potential discharges of Quaternary Ammonium (Quat) Ammonium. Ongoing testing of the influent has not detected levels of Quat. Also, since August of 2015, VBMU has expended approximately \$40,000 in repairs/upgrades to the Main Plant's Air Diffuser System, Aeration Basin Baffle Curtain System, and Clarifier.

Discharge Ammonia Nitrogen levels returned to normal after August 5, 2015. Since that time no exceedences have been reported and the plant has continued to remain in compliance.

Please note that a CORRECTED DMR has been submitted on NetDMR for August 2015.

If you need further information please let me know.

Sincerely,

Steve Dufresne
Director of Utilities
Van Buren Municipal Utilities
vbmu.org

