



A R K A N S A S
Department of Environmental Quality

May 21, 2019

Honorable Kevin Smith, Mayor
West Helena Water Utilities
P.O. Box 248
Helena, AR 72342

**RE: NPDES Permit Number: AR0022021, AFIN: 54-00086
Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Lab Error**

Dear Mayor Smith:

The Department has conducted a review of the Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) tests performed by American Interplex Corporation from September 2016 to January 2019. The review revealed that acute WET tests for *Pimephales promelas* and *Daphnia pulex* conducted for Outfall 001 during November 29, 2016, December 22, 2016, January 10, 2017, July 11, 2017, October 10, 2017, and April 4, 2017, as required by NPDES Permit No. AR0022021 (Permit) deviated from the 48-hour test duration specified in EPA-821-R-02-012. These tests have been deemed invalid.

Please correct the TX1-Q Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) for December 31, 2016, March 31, 2017, June 30, 2017, September 30, 2017, and December 31, 2017 to reflect "NODI M – Laboratory Error" and attach this letter as your non-compliance report. These corrections should be made by June 1, 2019.

Reporting Laboratory Error on your DMR is a violation of Part I, Section A of your Permit. The Department has elected not to take formal enforcement action for these violations of your Permit.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact Bailey Taylor at 501-682-0639, or by e-mail at bailey.taylor@adeq.state.ar.us.

Sincerely,



Richard Healey
Enforcement Branch Manager
Office of Water Quality

cc: Jack Ross, Manager, West Helena Water Utilities, (jross@hwhwater.com)
John Overbey, Lab Director, American Interplex (joverbey@americaninterplex.com)