



310 Maple Avenue • Box 247  
Phone: (479) 752-3912

Michelle Bolenbaugh  
Enforcement Analyst  
ADEQ  
5301 Northshore Drive  
North Little Rock, AR 72118

RE: Decatur Permit Violations Permit Number AR0022292, AFIN 04-00052

Dear Ms. Bolenbaugh,

The Decatur WWTP in August 2019 exceeded the following permit limit, two seven-day average exceedance for phosphorus, and the phosphorus pounds per day exceedance, because of the two weeks that we had high results. We believe we had issues starting the second week of August for the reasons listed below...

1. Phosphorus numbers seemed to increase as water temperatures warmed above the 80-degree point.
2. Our influent phosphorus went up steadily as the summer months went on, making it hard to treat. We are investigating why this may have occurred, a new car wash may be one possibility.
3. Because our new treatment plant reacts differently and is run differently, we had drastically reduced our chemical usage from the previous methods, and that had been working fine until we ran into the reasons listed above. We now have the ability to feed phosphorus reducing chemical as needed and are doing so now.

We learned a lot from what happened to us during the high weeks. We have a couple more seasons to go through with our new facility, but feel like with what we have learned so far already, we have a better chance of success the next time numbers start going up.

If you have any questions or concerns please give me a call at 479-752-3912.

Sincerely,

James Boston  
Public Works Manager  
City of Decatur