



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

December 16, 2019

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 November 2019 exceeded the following permit limit, one seven-day average exceedance for ammonia, 12.3 mg/l average for week two of the month. The problem was caused by one of our three trains having a defective motive pump in our anoxic tank. Our aeration system pushes air through our Jet Aeration header from one direction and liquid from the anoxic tank. If the pump that moves water from the anoxic tank is not running or in this case fails. Air is pushed back into the anoxic tank by the blower, causing a coarse bubble to come out of the defective pump, causing incomplete aeration in that train.

We had the spare part or pump on hand, this pump due to its location must be pulled with a crane. Due to scheduling of the crane we went about a week before we could get the crane to Decatur to pull the pump. We have never had this problem getting a crane before, but due to NWA construction we had problems this time.

The defective pump is being repaired, and we are looking for ways to speed up replacement of these large pumps in the future.

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