

January 23, 2015

Miles Johnson, Enforcement Coordinator
Water Division / Enforcement Branch
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118

RE: NPDES Permit No. AR0036498, AFIN 63-00063
CAO LIS 11-069 / SSES Review

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This letter constitutes the City of Benton's wastewater collection system 2014 annual report. It addresses our efforts towards the goal of eliminating sanitary sewer overflows and infiltration and inflows.

We have pursued this goal by (1) gravity line repair, (2) manhole rehabilitation and repair, (3) addition of equipment, (4) upgrades and rehabilitation of lift stations, and (5) proactive / preventative maintenance. Some 2,517 feet of gravity sewer was pipe-burst. While one section of 412 feet was done in Basin 5, the majority of this work (2,202 feet) was done in the area of our highest priority which is Basin 10. A significant reduction in infiltration and inflow was noted through this effort. Moreover, repetitious overflows in this same area have ceased. This department also made 21 point repairs to the City sewer mains.

An important component of our plan to reduce SSO's is manhole rehabilitation and repair. In Benton's Sewer System Evaluation Study (SSES), 336 manholes were identified as needing repairs and rehabilitation work. In 2014, 130 manholes were repaired and/or rehabilitated by the use of the Quadex rehab equipment that was purchased in July of 2010. Some of the worst are planned to be addressed this year, and we are confident that all these targeted manholes will be completed before the end of 2016. Out of the 130 manholes that were repaired and rehabilitated, 120 were in Basin 10, 7 were in Basin 5, and 3 were in Basin 3.

Two sizable lift stations were upgraded in 2014 to ensure capacity demands are met. The Hurricane Lake Estates (Main) Lift station was upgraded from two, 60-horsepower submersible pumps to two, 150-horsepower pumps. A complete upgrade of this station was done including new electrical, valves, an epoxy lining of the wet well, and other improvements. The Dogwood Lake Lift Station was also upgraded with new 50-horsepower pumps replacing the old 30 horsepower pumps. All new electrical, valves, and plumbing were installed ensuring adequacy into the future.

Several areas of equipment additions and improvements are noted. First in installing a new, larger generator at the above mentioned lift station in Hurricane Lake Estates, the generator that was taken offline was moved to the Heritage Farms Lift Station where there was not one. A portable 6" x 4," high head, portable bypass pump was also purchased for emergency overflows and for bypass pumping required for maintenance and new construction. A boom truck that was inoperative in the fleet was repaired and put back into service for pulling pumps and responding to emergency, mechanical crises.

A state-of-the-art push camera was also purchased to assist in line evaluation and repairs. Then in December, work was begun and finished this week in repairing and reconditioning a GMC, jet rodder truck. By putting this sizeable unit back into service with a reach of 600 feet, this gives this department the ability to handle multiple line blockages as well as redundancy should our primary unit be down.

From a preventative or proactive standpoint, much work was accomplished to reduce infiltration and prevent overflows. Please note the following:

- 101,045 feet of sewer line was cleaned.
- 6,072 inspections were made of the City's lift stations
- 347 cleanings were performed on lift stations with the jet-vac truck.
- 468 inspections were made of grease traps within the City.
- 6,018 feet of line was evaluated through video sewer camera.
- 51 sewer main blockages were cleared.
- 157 repairs to the City's lift stations were performed
- 204 manholes were treated with chemical degreasers and root killer.
- And again, 130 manholes were repaired and rehabilitated and 2,517 feet of line was replaced.

One other development is noteworthy. This department has secured permission from Little Rock Wastewater to use their proprietary program with logos entitled, "Can the Grease". Moreover, Jacksonville Wastewater Utility has granted the use of their "Wipe Out" campaign logo and published information to help curtail the problem with wipes and other items that contribute to system blockages. Benton's Collection System Department will partner with the Wastewater Treatment Department to educate our customer base by means of newspaper publications, signage, mail-outs, etc.

As you can see, this department is working diligently to significantly reduce both system overflows and infiltration and inflow. We will continue to give due priority to the basins that have been cited in the Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Study. Moreover, we will strive to constantly improve the integrity and efficiency of Benton's sanitary sewer collection system.

Please feel free to contact me at 501-776-5984, or you may email me at jwbuff@bentonar.org with any questions or comments concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Buff
Wastewater Manager

Cc: Terry McKinney
Byron Hicks
Matthew Vinyard
Randy Hawkins