



ARKANSAS
Department of Environmental Quality

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FINAL PERMIT DECISION

This is our response to comments received on the subject draft permit in accordance with regulations promulgated at 40 CFR Part 124.17.

Permit No. : AR0021211
Applicant : City of Mountain Home
Prepared by : Marysia Jastrzebski, P. E.
Permit Action : Final permit decision and response to comments received on the draft permit publicly noticed on February 11, 2005.
Date Prepared : March 9, 2005

The following comments have been received on the draft permit.

Letter from Johnny Moore, Director Water/Wastewater Department, City of Mountain Home to Jastrzebski dated March 3, 2005.

I. Response to issues raised

ISSUE #1

The permittee requested that testing for Nitrate+Nitrite Nitrogen be changed from three times per week to one per week for the following reason:

“We noticed that the testing for nitrate + nitrite-nitrogen(N-NO₃) is being retained at 3 times per week. It is our understanding that this decision is due to recent Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR) showing N-NO₃ levels close to the permit limit (10 monthly average, 15 mg/l weekly average). We feel confident that these higher levels were in most part due to the fact that we were still receiving leachate from the RLH landfill at that time. We have since ceased receiving leachate from RLH and you will notice, based on our last few DMR’s that the N-NO₃ levels have dropped substantially. We request that testing be considered for one (1) time per week, similar to the other parameters to be tested in the draft permit.”

RESPONSE #1

Conceptually, the Department agrees. However, only five monthly DMRs have been provided which show these reduced concentrations. The amount of available data is not sufficient based on EPA's "Interim Guidance for Performance – Based Reductions of NPDES Permit Monitoring Frequencies". The final permit has been modified to add the following special condition to Part III of the permit:

"Monitoring Frequency Reduction

The permittee may apply in writing for a testing frequency reduction for Nitrate + Nitrite Nitrogen upon the successful completion of the additional twelve months of testing. If granted, the monitoring frequency for this pollutant may be reduced to not less than once per week. Upon review and acceptance of this information the Department will issue a letter of confirmation of minor modification of the monitoring frequency. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to the Permit Compliance System section to update the permit reporting requirements."

ISSUE #2

"We believe that recent copper levels in our effluent are due to domestic pass through conditions and may have also come from the leachate we were previously receiving from RLH. Some recent testing we have done did indicate some increased copper levels in areas of new and ongoing construction on the northeast side of town. However, recent tests have indicated a reduction in these copper levels.

It is our desire to report the copper levels as it is noted in the draft permit and to see if the copper levels remain at the current lower levels. We may want to consider instituting a Standards Change test on Hicks Creek, to see if the actual water hardness and other creek parameters influence the copper effect on the water quality, if it appears feasible and in our best interest"

RESPONSE #2

The Department acknowledges this comment. However, any changes to the Arkansas Water Quality Standards for Copper must comply with Regulation No. 2, Section Reg. 2.303- Use Attainability Analysis.

**AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER
THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM AND
THE ARKANSAS WATER AND AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ACT**

In accordance with the provisions of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (Act 472 of 1949, as amended, Ark. Code Ann. 8-4-101 et seq.), and the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.),

City of Mountain Home WWTP
720 South Hickory Street
Mountain Home, AR 72653

is authorized to discharge from a facility located at

537 Hicks Road, approximately 1/2 mile east of Arkansas Hwy 201 South, on the south side of Hicks Road and just west of confluence of Hicks Creek and Dodd Creek, in Section 21, Township 19 North, Range 13 West in Baxter County, Arkansas.

Latitude: 36° 18' 02"; Longitude: 92° 22' 53"

to receiving waters named:

Hicks Creek, thence to Big Creek, thence to the White River in Segment 4F of the White River Basin.

The outfall is located at the following coordinates:

Outfall 001: Latitude: 36° 17' 48"; Longitude: 92° 23' 04"

Discharge shall be in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in Parts I, II, III, and IV hereof.

This permit shall become effective on May 1, 2005.

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, April 30, 2010.

Signed this 31st day of March 2005

Martin Maner, P.E.
Chief, Water Division
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

**PART I
PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

SECTION A. INTERM EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS: OUTFALL 001-municipal wastewater

During the period beginning on effective date and lasting for three years after the effective date of the permit, the permittee is authorized to discharge from outfall serial number 001. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

<u>Effluent Characteristics</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>			<u>Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	Mass (lbs/day, unless otherwise specified)	Concentration (mg/l, unless otherwise specified)		Frequency	Sample Type
		Monthly Avg.	Monthly Avg.		
Flow ¹	N/A	Report	Report	Once/day	Totalizing meter
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5)	417	10	15	Once/week	6-hr composite
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	625.5	15	23	Once/week	6-hr composite
Ammonia Nitrogen (NH3-N)	83.4	2	3	Once/week	6-hr composite
Nitrate+ Nitrite-Nitrogen (NO2+NO3-N)	417	10	15	Three/week	Grab
Dissolved Oxygen ²	N/A	7.0 (Min.)	N/A	Once/week	Grab
Fecal Coliform Bacteria (FCB)		(colonies/100ml)			
(Apr-Sept)	N/A	200	400	Once/week	Grab
(Oct-Mar)	N/A	1000	2000	Once/week	Grab
Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) ³	N/A	<0.1 mg/l (Inst. Max.)		Once/week	Grab
Copper, Total Recoverable ⁴	Report	Report µg/l	Report µg/l	Once/week	Grab
pH	N/A	<u>Minimum</u> 6.0 s.u.	<u>Maximum</u> 9.0 s.u.	Once/week	Grab
Chronic Biomonitoring ⁵	N/A	N/A	N/A	Once/quarter	24-hr composite
<u>Pimephales promelas (Chronic)</u> ⁵ Pass/Fail Lethality (7-day NOEC) TLP6C Pass/Fail Growth (7-day NOEC)TGP6C Survival (7-day NOEC) TOP6C Coefficient of Variation TQP6C Growth (7-day NOEC) TPP6C		<u>7-Day Average</u> Report (Pass=0/Fail=1) Report (Pass=0/Fail=1) Report % Report % Report %		Once/quarter Once/quarter Once/quarter Once/quarter Once/quarter	24-hr composite 24-hr composite 24-hr composite 24-hr composite 24-hr composite
<u>Ceriodaphnia dubia (Chronic)</u> ⁵ Pass/Fail Lethality (7-day NOEC) TLP3B Pass/Fail Growth (7-day NOEC)TGP3B Survival (7-day NOEC) TOP3B Coefficient of Variation TQP3B Growth (7-day NOEC) TPP3B Reproduction		<u>7-Day Average</u> Report (Pass=0/Fail=1) Report (Pass=0/Fail=1) Report % Report % Report % Report %		Once/quarter Once/quarter Once/quarter Once/quarter Once/quarter	24-hr composite 24-hr composite 24-hr composite 24-hr composite 24-hr composite

- 1 Report monthly average and daily maximum as MGD.
- 2 Monthly Average Minimum.
- 3 See Condition No. 11 of Part III.
- 4 See Condition No. 10 of Part III
- 5 See Condition No. 8 of Part III

There shall be no discharge of distinctly visible solids, scum or foam of a persistent nature, nor shall there be any formation of slime, bottom deposits or sludge banks. No visible sheen (Sheen means an iridescent appearance on the surface of the water).

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the discharge from the final treatment unit.

**PART I
PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

SECTION A. FINAL EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS: OUTFALL 001-municipal wastewater

During the period beginning three years from the effective date and lasting until date of expiration, the permittee is authorized to discharge from outfall serial number 001. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

<u>Effluent Characteristics</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>			<u>Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	Mass (lbs/day, unless otherwise specified)	Concentration (mg/l, unless otherwise specified)		Frequency	Sample Type
		Monthly Avg.	Monthly Avg.		
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(Apr-Sept)	N/A	200	400	Once/week	Grab
(Oct-Mar)	N/A	1000	2000	Once/week	Grab
Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) ³	N/A	<0.1 mg/l (Inst. Max.)		Once/week	Grab
Copper, Total Recoverable ⁴	1.7	41.4 µg/l	83.1 µg/l	Once/week	Grab
pH	N/A	<u>Minimum</u> 6.0 s.u.	<u>Maximum</u> 9.0 s.u.	Once/week	Grab
Chronic Biomonitoring ⁵	N/A	N/A	N/A	Once/quarter	24-hr composite
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- 3 See Condition No. 11 of Part III.
- 4 See Condition No. 10 of Part III.
- 5 See Condition No. 8 of Part III

There shall be no discharge of distinctly visible solids, scum or foam of a persistent nature, nor shall there be any formation of slime, bottom deposits or sludge banks. No visible sheen (Sheen means an iridescent appearance on the surface of the water).

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the discharge from the final treatment unit.

SECTION B. SCHEDULE OF COMPLIANCE

The permittee shall achieve compliance with the effluent limitations specified for discharges in accordance with the following schedule:

Interim Limits:

Compliance is required on the effective date of the permit.

Final Limits:

The permittee shall submit progress reports addressing the progress towards attaining the final effluent limits for Copper (Total Recoverable):

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>
Progress Report	One (1) year from effective date
Progress Report	Two (2) years from effective date
Achieve Final Limits	Three (3) years from effective date

Compliance with final limits for Copper is required three (3) years from the effective date of the permit. The permittee has the option to undertake any study deemed necessary to meet the final limitations during the interim period. Any additional treatment must be approved and construction approval granted prior to final installation.

PART II STANDARD CONDITIONS

SECTION A – GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Duty to Comply

The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the federal Clean Water Act and the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or for denial of a permit renewal application. **Any values reported in the required Discharge Monitoring Report which are in excess of an effluent limitation specified in Part I shall constitute evidence of violation of such effluent limitation and of this permit.**

2. Penalties for Violations of Permit Conditions

The Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act provides that any person who violates any provisions of a permit issued under the Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be subject to imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or by both such fine and imprisonment for each day of such violation. Any person who violates any provision of a permit issued under the Act may also be subject to civil penalty in such amount as the court shall find appropriate, not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each day of such violation. The fact that any such violation may constitute a misdemeanor shall not be a bar to the maintenance of such civil action.

3. Permit Actions

This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause including, but not limited to the following:

- a. Violation of any terms or conditions of this permit; or
- b. Obtaining this permit by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts; or
- c. A change in any conditions that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge; or
- d. A determination that the permitted activity endangers human health or the environment and can only be regulated to acceptable levels by permit modification or termination.
- e. Failure of the permittee to comply with the provisions of APCEC Regulation No. 9 (Permit fees) as required by condition II A.10 herein.

The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition.

4. Toxic Pollutants

Notwithstanding Part II. A.3., if any toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is promulgated under Regulation No. 2, as amended, (regulation establishing water quality standards for surface waters of the State of Arkansas) or Section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act for a toxic pollutant which is present in the discharge and that standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitations on the pollutant in this permit, this permit shall be modified or revoked and reissued to conform to the toxic effluent standards or prohibition and the permittee so notified.

The permittee shall comply with effluent standards, narrative criteria, or prohibitions established under Regulation No. 2 (Arkansas Water Quality Standards), as amended, or Section 307 (a) of the Clean Water Act for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that establish those standards or prohibitions, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.

5. Civil and Criminal Liability

Except as provided in permit conditions on “Bypassing” (Part II.B.4.a.), and “Upsets” (Part II.B.5.b), nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance. Any false or materially misleading representation or concealment of information required to be reported by the provisions of this permit or applicable state and federal statutes or regulations which defeats the regulatory purposes of the permit may be subject the permittee to criminal enforcement pursuant to the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (Act 472 of 1949, as amended).

6. Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under Section 311 of the Clean Water Act.

7. State Laws

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties established pursuant to any applicable State law or regulation under authority preserved by Section 510 of the Clean Water Act.

8. Property Rights

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of Federal, State or local laws or regulations.

9. Severability

The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit, or the application of any provisions of this permit to any circumstance is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit, shall not be affected thereby.

10. Permit Fees

The permittee shall comply with all applicable permit fee requirements for wastewater discharge permits as described in APCEC Regulation No. 9 (Regulation for the Fee System for Environmental Permits). Failure to promptly remit all required fees shall be grounds for the Director to initiate action to terminate this permit under the provisions of 40 CFR 122.64 and 124.5 (d), as adopted in APCEC Regulation No. 6 and the provisions of APCEC Regulation No. 8.

SECTION B – OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF POLLUTION CONTROLS

1. Proper Operation and Maintenance

- a. The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which are installed by a permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.
- b. The permittee shall provide an adequate operating staff which is duly qualified to carryout operation, maintenance and testing functions required to insure compliance with the conditions of this permit.

2. Need to Halt or Reduce not a Defense

It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit. Upon reduction, loss, or failure of the treatment facility, the permittee shall, to the extent necessary to maintain compliance with its permit, control production or discharges or both until the facility is restored or an alternative method of treatment is provided. This requirement applies, for example, when the primary source of power for the treatment facility is reduced, is lost, or alternate power supply fails.

3. Duty to Mitigate

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment, or the water receiving the discharge.

4. Bypass of Treatment Facilities

a. Bypass not exceeding limitation.

The permittee may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions of Part II.B 4.b.and 4 c.

b. Notice

- (1) Anticipated bypass. If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice, if possible at least ten days before the date of the bypass.
- (2) Unanticipated bypass. The permittee shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in part II.D.6 (24-hour notice).

c. Prohibition of bypass

- (1) Bypass is prohibited and the Director may take enforcement action against a permittee for bypass, unless:
 - (a) Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;
 - (b) There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if the permittee could have installed adequate backup equipment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal or preventive maintenance; and
 - (c) The permittee submitted notices as required by Part II.B.4.b.
- (2) The Director may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Director determines that it will meet the three conditions listed above in Part II.B.4.c(1).

5. Upset Conditions

a. Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology base permit effluent limitations if the requirements of Part II.B.5.b of this section are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review.

- b. Conditions necessary for demonstration of upset. A permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:
 - (1) An upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the specific cause(s) of the upset.
 - (2) The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated.
 - (3) The permittee submitted notice of the upset as required by Part II.D.6.: and
 - (4) The permittee complied with any remedial measures required by Part II.B.3.
- c. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding the permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

6. **Removed Substances**

Solids, sludges, filter backwash, or other pollutants removed in the course of treatment or control of waste waters shall be disposed of in a manner such as to prevent any pollutant from such materials from entering the waters of the State. Written approval must be obtained from the ADEQ for land application only.

7. **Power Failure**

The permittee is responsible for maintaining adequate safeguards to prevent the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated wastes during electrical power failure either by means of alternate power sources, standby generators, or retention of inadequately treated effluent.

SECTION C: MONITORING AND RECORDS

1. **Representative Sampling**

Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge during the entire monitoring period. All samples shall be taken at the monitoring points specified in this permit and, unless otherwise specified, before the effluent joins or is diluted by any other waste stream, body of water, or substance. Monitoring points shall not be changed without notification to and the approval of the Director. Intermittent discharges shall be monitored.

2. **Flow Measurement**

Appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices shall be selected and used to insure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. The devices shall be installed, calibrated and maintained to insure the accuracy of the measurements are consistent with the accepted capability of that type of device. Devices selected shall be capable of measuring flows with a maximum deviation of less than +/- 10% from true discharge rates throughout the range of expected discharge volumes and shall be installed at the monitoring point of the discharge.

3. **Monitoring Procedures**

Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136, unless other test procedures have been specified in this permit. The permittee shall calibrate and perform maintenance procedures on all monitoring and analytical instrumentation at intervals frequent enough to insure accuracy of measurements and shall insure that both calibration and maintenance activities will be conducted. An adequate analytical quality control program, including the analysis of sufficient standards, spikes, and duplicate samples to insure the accuracy of all required analytical results shall be maintained by the permittee or designated commercial laboratory. At a minimum, spikes and duplicate samples are to be analyzed on 10% of the samples.

4. **Penalties for Tampering**

The Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate, any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under the Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be subject to imprisonment for not more than one (1) year or a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or by both such fine and imprisonment.

5. **Reporting of Monitoring Results**

Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form (EPA No. 3320-1). Permittees are required to use preprinted DMR forms provided by ADEQ, unless specific written authorization to use other reporting forms is obtained from ADEQ. Monitoring results obtained during the previous calendar month shall be summarized and reported on a DMR form postmarked no later than the 25th day of the month, following the completed reporting period to begin on the effective date of the permit. Duplicate copies of DMR's signed and certified as required by Part II.d.11 and all other reports required by Part II.D. (Reporting Requirements), shall be submitted to the Director at the following address:

NPDES Enforcement Section
Water Division
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
8001 National Drive
P.O. Box 8913
Little Rock, AR 72219-8913

If permittee uses outside laboratory facilities for sampling and/or analysis, the name and address of the contract laboratory shall be included on the DMR.

6. **Additional Monitoring by the Permittee**

If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this permit, using test procedures approved under 40 CFR 136 or as specified in this permit, the results of this

monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR. Such increased frequency shall also be indicated on the DMR.

7. **Retention of Records**

The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Director at any time.

8. **Record Contents**

Records and monitoring information shall include:

- a. The date, exact place, time and methods of sampling or measurements, and preservatives used, if any;
- b. The individuals(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
- c. The date(s) analyses were formed;
- d. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
- e. The analytical techniques or methods used; and
- f. The measurements and results of such analyses.

9. **Inspection and Entry**

The permittee shall allow the Director, or an authorized representative, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

- a. Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- c. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit, and
- d. Sample, inspect or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Clean Water Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

SECTION D – REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. **Planned Changes**

The permittee shall give notice and provide plans and specification to the Director for review and approval prior to any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required only when:

For Industrial Dischargers

- a. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR Part 122.29(b).
- b. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements under 40CFR Part 122.42 (a)(1).

For POTW Dischargers:

Any change in the facility discharge (including the introduction of any new source or significant discharge or significant changes in the quantity or quality of existing discharges of pollutants) must be reported to the permitting authority. In no case are any new connections, increased flows, or significant changes in influent quality permitted that cause violation of the effluent limitations specified herein.

2. **Anticipated Noncompliance**

The permittee shall give advance notice to the Director of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.

3. **Transfers**

The permit is nontransferable to any person except after notice to the Director. The Director may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the permit to change the name of the permittee and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the Act.

4. **Monitoring Reports**

Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals and in the form specified in Part II.C.5. (Reporting). **Discharge Monitoring Reports must be submitted even when no discharge occurs during the reporting period.**

5. **Compliance Schedule**

Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this permit shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date. Any reports of noncompliance shall include the cause of noncompliance, any remedial actions taken, and the probability of meeting the next scheduled requirement.

6. **Twenty-four Hour Report**

- a. The permittee shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain the following information:
 - (1) a description of the noncompliance and its cause;
 - (2) the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and
 - (3) steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.
- b. The following shall be included as information which must be reported within 24 hours:
 - (1) Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit;
 - (2) Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit and
 - (3) Violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the Director in Part III of the permit to be reported within 24 hours.
- c. The Director may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.

7. **Other Noncompliance**

The permittee shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Part II.D.4,5 and 6, at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed at Part II.D.6.

8. **Changes in Discharge of Toxic Substances for Industrial Dischargers**

The permittee shall notify the Director as soon as he/she knows or has reason to believe:

- a. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, in a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the “notification levels” described in 40 CFR Part 122.42(a)(1).
- b. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in any discharge, on a non-routine or infrequent basis, of a toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit if that discharge will exceed the highest of the “notification levels” described in 40 CFR Part 122.42(a)(2).

9. **Duty to Provide Information**

The permittee shall furnish to the Director, within a reasonable time, any information which the Director may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit, or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee shall also

furnish to the Director, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit. Information shall be submitted in the form, manner and time frame requested by the Director.

10. **Duty to reapply**

If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit. The complete application shall be submitted at least 180 days before the expiration date of this permit. The Director may grant permission to submit an application less than 180 days in advance but no later than the permit expiration date. Continuation of expiring permits shall be governed by regulations promulgated in APCEC Regulation No. 6.

11. **Signatory Requirements**

All applications, reports or information submitted to the Director shall be signed and certified

a. All permit applications shall be signed as follows:

(1) For a corporation: by a responsible corporate officer. For the purpose of this section, a responsible corporate officer means:

(i) A president, secretary, treasurer, or vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy or decision-making functions for the corporation: or

(ii) The manager of one or more manufacturing, production, or operation facilities, provided, the manager is authorized to make management decisions which govern the operation of the regulated facility including having the explicit or implicit duty of making major capital investment recommendations, and initiating and directing other comprehensive measures to assure long term environmental compliance with environmental laws and regulations; the manager can ensure that the necessary systems are established or actions taken to gather complete and accurate information for permit application requirements; and where authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures.

(2) For a partnership or sole proprietorship: by a general partner or proprietor, respectively; or

(3) For a municipality, State, Federal, or other public agency; by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official. For purposes of this section, a principal executive officer of a Federal agency includes:

(i) The chief executive officer of the agency, or

(ii) A senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a principal geographic unit of the agency.

b. All reports required by the permit and other information requested by the Director shall be signed by a person described above or by a duly authorized representative of that person.

A person is a duly authorized representative only if:

(1) The authorization is made in writing by a person described above.

- (2) The authorization specified either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, or position of equivalent responsibility. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position); and
 - (3) The written authorization is submitted to the Director.
- c. Certification. Any person signing a document under this section shall make the following certification:
- “I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.”

12. **Availability of Reports**

Except for data determined to be confidential under 40 CFR Part 2 and Regulation 6, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Department of Pollution and Ecology. As required by the Regulations, the name and address of any permit applicant or permittee, permit applications, permits and effluent data shall not be considered confidential.

13. **Penalties for Falsification of Reports**

The Arkansas Air and Water Pollution Control Act provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any application, record, report, plan or other document filed or required to be maintained under this permit shall be subject to civil penalties specified in Part II.A.2. and/or criminal penalties under the authority of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (Act 472 of 1949, as amended).

PART III OTHER CONDITIONS

1. The operator of this wastewater treatment facility shall be licensed by the State of Arkansas in accordance with Act 211 of 1971, Act 1103 of 1991, Act 556 of 1993, and Regulation No. 3, as amended.
2. For publicly owned treatment works, the 30-day average percent removal for Biochemical Oxygen Demand and Total Suspended Solids shall not be less than 85 percent unless otherwise authorized by the permitting authority in accordance with 40 CFR 133.102, as adopted by reference in APCEC Regulation No. 6.
3. Produced sludge shall be disposed of by land application only when meeting the following criteria:
 - a. Sewage sludge from treatment works treating domestic sewage (TWTDS) must meet the applicable provisions of 40 CFR Part 503; and
 - b. The sewage sludge has not been classified as a hazardous waste under state or federal regulations.
4. The permittee shall give at least 120 days prior notice to the Director of any change planned in the permittee's sludge disposal practice or land use applications, including types of crops grown (if applicable).
5. The permittee shall report all overflows with the Discharge Monitoring report (DMR) submittal. These reports shall be summarized and reported in tabular format. The summaries shall include: the date, time, duration, location, estimated volume, and cause of overflow; observed environmental impacts from the overflow; action taken to address the overflow; and ultimate discharge location if not contained (e.g., storm sewer system, ditch, tributary.) Overflows which endanger health or the environment shall be orally reported to this department (Enforcement Section of Water Division), within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance. A written report of overflows which endanger health or the environment, shall be provided within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance.
6. In accordance with 40 CFR Parts 122.62 (a) (2) and 124.5, this permit may be reopened for modification or revocation and/or reissuance to require additional monitoring and/or effluent limitations when new information is received that actual or potential exceedance of State water quality criteria and/or narrative criteria are determined to be the result of the permittee's discharge (s) to water body, or a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is established or revised for the water body that were not available at the time of permit issuance that would have justified the application of different permit conditions at the time of permit issuance.

7. Contributing Industries and Pretreatment Requirements

- A. The following pollutants may not be introduced into the treatment facility:
1. pollutants which create a fire or explosion hazard in the publicly owned treatment works (POTW), including, but not limited to, waste streams with a closed cup flashpoint of less than 140 degrees Fahrenheit or 60 degrees Centigrade using the test methods specified in 40 CFR 261.21;
 2. pollutants which will cause corrosive structural damage to the POTW, but in no case discharges with pH lower than 5.0, unless the works are specifically designed to accommodate such discharges;
 3. solid or viscous pollutants in amounts which will cause obstruction to the flow in the POTW, resulting in Interference;
 4. any pollutant, including oxygen demanding pollutants (e.g., BOD), released in a discharge at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which will cause Interference with the POTW;
 5. heat in amounts which will inhibit biological activity in the POTW resulting in Interference, but in no case heat in such quantities that the temperature at the POTW treatment plant exceeds 40 deg. C (104 deg. F) unless the Approval Authority, upon request of the POTW, approves alternate temperature limits;
 6. Petroleum oil, non-biodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral oil origin in amounts that will cause interference or pass through;
 7. Pollutants which result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors, or fumes within the POTW in a quantity that may cause acute worker health and safety problems;
 8. Any trucked or hauled pollutants, except at discharge points designated by the POTW.
- B. The permittee shall require any indirect discharger to the treatment works to comply with the reporting requirements of Sections 204(b), 307, and 308 of the Act, including any requirements established under 40 CFR Part 403.
- C. The permittee shall provide adequate notice to the Department of the following:
1. any new introduction of pollutants into the treatment works from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Sections 301 or 306 of the Act if it were directly discharging those pollutants; and

2. any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the treatment works by a source introducing pollutants into the treatment works at the time of issuance of the permit.
3. Any notice shall include information on (i) the quality and quantity of effluent to be introduced into the treatment works, and (ii) any anticipated impact of the change on the quality or quantity of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.

8. **WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING (7-DAY CHRONIC NOEC FRESHWATER)**

1. **SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY**

- a. The permittee shall test the effluent for toxicity in accordance with the provisions in this section.

APPLICABLE TO FINAL OUTFALL: **001**

CRITICAL DILUTION (%): **99 %**

EFFLUENT DILUTION SERIES (%): **31%, 42%, 56%, 74%, 99%**

COMPOSITE SAMPLE TYPE: Defined at PART I

TEST SPECIES/METHODS: 40 CFR Part 136

Ceriodaphnia dubia chronic static renewal survival and reproduction test, Method 1002.0, EPA/600/4-91/002 or the most recent update thereof. This test should be terminated when 60% of the surviving females in the control produce three broods or at the end of eight days, whichever comes first.

Pimephales promelas (fathead minnow) chronic static renewal 7-day larval survival and growth test, Method 1000.0, EPA/600/4-91/002, or the most recent update thereof. A minimum of five (5) replicates with eight (8) organisms per replicate must be used in the control and in each effluent dilution of this test.

- b. The NOEC (No Observed Effect Concentration) is defined as the greatest effluent dilution at and below which lethality that is statistically different from the control (0% effluent) at the 95% confidence level does not occur. Chronic lethal test failure is defined as a demonstration of a statistically

significant lethal effect at test completion to a test species at or below the critical dilution.

- c. This permit may be reopened to require whole effluent toxicity limits, chemical specific effluent limits, additional testing, and/or other appropriate actions to address toxicity.
 - d. Test failure is defined as a demonstration of statistically significant sub-lethal or lethal effects to a test species at or below the effluent critical dilution.
2. PERSISTENT LETHALITY The requirements of this subsection apply only when a toxicity test demonstrates significant lethal effects at or below the critical dilution. Significant lethal effects are herein defined as a statistically significant difference at the 95% confidence level between the survival of the appropriate test organism in a specified effluent dilution and the control (0% effluent).
- a. Part I Testing Frequency Other Than Monthly
 - i. The permittee shall conduct a total of two (2) additional tests for any species that demonstrates significant lethal effects at or below the critical dilution. The two additional tests shall be conducted monthly during the next two consecutive months. The permittee shall not substitute either of the two additional tests in lieu of routine toxicity testing. The full report shall be prepared for each test required by this section in accordance with procedures outlined in Item 4 of this section and submitted with the period discharge monitoring report (DMR) to the permitting authority for review.
 - ii. If one or both of the two additional tests demonstrates significant lethal effects at or below the critical dilution, the permittee shall initiate Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) requirements as specified in Item 5 of this section. The permittee shall notify ADEQ in writing within 5 days of the failure of any retest, and the TRE initiation date will be the test completion date of the first failed retest. A TRE may also be required due to a demonstration of persistent significant sub-lethal effects or intermittent lethal effects at or below the critical dilution, or for failure to perform the required retests.
 - iii. If one or both of the two additional tests demonstrates significant lethal effects at or below the critical dilution, the permittee shall henceforth increase the frequency of testing for this species to once per quarter for the life of the permit.

- iv. The provisions of Item 2.a are suspended upon submittal of the TRE Action Plan.

b. Part I Testing Frequency of Monthly

The permittee shall initiate the Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) requirements as specified in Item 5 of this section when any two of three consecutive monthly toxicity tests exhibit significant lethal effects at or below the critical dilution. A TRE may also be required due to a demonstration of persistent significant sub-lethal effects or intermittent lethal effects at or below the critical dilution, or for failure to perform the required retests.

3. REQUIRED TOXICITY TESTING CONDITIONS

a. Test Acceptance

The permittee shall repeat a test, including the control and all effluent dilutions, if the procedures and quality assurance requirements defined in the test methods or in this permit are not satisfied, including the following additional criteria:

- i. The toxicity test control (0% effluent) must have survival equal to or greater than 80%.
- ii. The mean number of Ceriodaphnia dubia neonates produced per surviving female in the control (0% effluent) must be 15 or more.
- iii. 60% of the surviving control females must produce three broods.
- iv. The mean dry weight of surviving fathead minnow larvae at the end of the 7 days in the control (0% effluent) must be 0.25 mg per larva or greater.
- v. The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the control (0% effluent) for: the young of surviving females in the Ceriodaphnia dubia reproduction test; the growth and survival endpoints of the fathead minnow test.
- vi. The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the critical dilution, unless significant lethal or nonlethal effects are exhibited for: the young of surviving females in the Ceriodaphnia dubia reproduction test; the growth and survival endpoints of the fathead minnow test.

Test failure may not be construed or reported as invalid due to a coefficient of variation value of greater than 40%. A repeat test shall be conducted within the required reporting period of any test determined to be invalid.

b. Statistical Interpretation

- i. For the Ceriodaphnia dubia survival test, the statistical analyses used to determine if there is a significant difference between the control and the critical dilution shall be Fisher's Exact Test as described in EPA/600/4-91/002 or the most recent update thereof.
- ii. For the Ceriodaphnia dubia reproduction test and the fathead minnow larval survival and growth test, the statistical analyses used to determine if there is a significant difference between the control and the critical dilution shall be in accordance with the methods for determining the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) as described in EPA/600/4-91/002 or the most recent update thereof.
- iii. If the conditions of Test Acceptability are met in Item 3.a above and the percent survival of the test organism is equal to or greater than 80% in the critical dilution concentration and all lower dilution concentrations, the test shall be considered to be a passing test, and the permittee shall report an NOEC of not less than the critical dilution for the DMR reporting requirements found in Item 4 below.

c. Dilution Water

- i. Dilution water used in the toxicity tests will be receiving water collected as close to the point of discharge as possible but unaffected by the discharge. The permittee shall substitute synthetic dilution water of similar pH, hardness, and alkalinity to the closest downstream perennial water for;
 - (A) toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges to receiving water classified as intermittent streams; and
 - (B) toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges where no receiving water is available due to zero flow conditions.
- ii. If the receiving water is unsatisfactory as a result of instream toxicity (fails to fulfill the test acceptance criteria of Item 3.a), the

permittee may substitute synthetic dilution water for the receiving water in all subsequent tests provided the unacceptable receiving water test met the following stipulations:

- (A) a synthetic dilution water control which fulfills the test acceptance requirements of Item 3.a was run concurrently with the receiving water control;
- (B) the test indicating receiving water toxicity has been carried out to completion (i.e., 7 days);
- (C) the permittee includes all test results indicating receiving water toxicity with the full report and information required by Item 4 below; and
- (D) the synthetic dilution water shall have a pH, hardness, and alkalinity similar to that of the receiving water or closest downstream perennial water not adversely affected by the discharge, provided the magnitude of these parameters will not cause toxicity in the synthetic dilution water.

d. Samples and Composites

- i. The permittee shall collect a minimum of three flow-weighted composite samples from the outfall(s) listed at Item 1.a above.
- ii. The permittee shall collect second and third composite samples for use during 24-hour renewals of each dilution concentration for each test. The permittee must collect the composite samples such that the effluent samples are representative of any periodic episode of chlorination, biocide usage or other potentially toxic substance discharged on an intermittent basis.
- iii. The permittee must collect the composite samples so that the maximum holding time for any effluent sample shall not exceed 72 hours. The permittee must have initiated the toxicity test within 36 hours after the collection of the last portion of the first composite sample. Samples shall be chilled to 4 degrees Centigrade during collection, shipping, and/or storage.
- iv. If the flow from the outfall(s) being tested ceases during the collection of effluent samples, the requirements for the minimum number of effluent samples, the minimum number of effluent portions and the sample holding time are waived during that sampling period. However, the permittee must collect an effluent composite

sample volume during the period of discharge that is sufficient to complete the required toxicity tests with daily renewal of effluent. When possible, the effluent samples used for the toxicity tests shall be collected on separate days if the discharge occurs over multiple days. The effluent composite sample collection duration and the static renewal protocol associated with the abbreviated sample collection must be documented in the full report required in Item 4 of this section.

- v. MULTIPLE OUTFALLS: If the provisions of this section are applicable to multiple outfalls, the permittee shall combine the composite effluent samples in proportion to the average flow from the outfalls listed in Item 1.a above for the day the sample was collected. The permittee shall perform the toxicity test on the flow-weighted composite of the outfall samples.
- vi. The permittee shall not allow the sample to be dechlorinated at the laboratory. At the time of sample collection the permittee shall measure the TRC of the effluent. The measured concentration of TRC for each sample shall be included in the lab report submitted by the permittee.

4. REPORTING

- a. The permittee shall prepare a full report of the results of all tests conducted pursuant to this section in accordance with the Report Preparation Section of EPA/600/4-91/002, or the most current publication, for every valid or invalid toxicity test initiated whether carried to completion or not. The permittee shall retain each full report pursuant to the provisions of PART II.C.7 of this permit. The permittee shall submit full reports upon the specific request of the Department. For any test which fails, is considered invalid or which is terminated early for any reason, the full report must be submitted for review.
- b. A valid test for each species must be reported on the DMR during each reporting period specified in PART I of this permit unless the permittee is performing a TRE which may increase the frequency of testing and reporting. Only ONE set of biomonitoring data for each species is to be recorded on the DMR for each reporting period. The data submitted should reflect the LOWEST survival results for each species during the reporting period. All invalid tests, repeat tests (for invalid tests), and retests (for tests previously failed) performed during the reporting period must be attached to the DMR for ADEQ review.

- c. The permittee shall submit the results of each valid toxicity test on DMR for that reporting period in accordance with PART II.D.4 of this permit, as follows below. Submit retest information clearly marked as such with the following DMR. Only results of valid tests are to be reported on the DMR.
- i. Pimephales promelas (fathead minnow)
- (A) If the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) for survival is less than the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TLP6C.
 - (B) If the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) for growth is less than the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TGP6C.
 - (C) Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOP6C.
 - (D) Report the NOEC value for growth, Parameter No. TPP6C.
 - (E) Report the highest (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQP6C.
- ii. Ceriodaphnia dubia
- (A) If the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TLP3B.
 - (B) If the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) for reproduction is less than the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TGP3B.
 - (B) Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOP3B.
 - (C) Report the NOEC value for reproduction, Parameter No. TPP3B.
 - (E) Report the higher (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQP3B.

5. Monitoring Frequency Reduction

- a. The permittee may apply for a testing frequency reduction upon the successful completion of the first four consecutive quarters of testing for one or both test species, with no lethal or sub-lethal effects demonstrated at or below the critical dilution without a major modification. If granted, the monitoring frequency for that test species may be reduced to not less than once per year for the less sensitive species (usually the fathead minnow) and not less than twice per year for the more sensitive test species (usually the Ceriodaphnia dubia).
- b. **CERTIFICATION** - The permittee must certify in writing that no test failures have occurred and that all tests meet all test acceptability criteria in item 3.a. above. In addition the permittee must provide a list with each test performed including test initiation date, species, NOECs for lethal and sub-lethal effects and the maximum coefficient of variation for the controls. Upon review and acceptance of this information the Department will issue a letter of confirmation of the monitoring frequency reduction. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to the Permit Compliance System section to update the permit reporting requirements.
- c. **SUB-LETHAL FAILURES** - If, during the first four quarters of testing, sub-lethal effects are demonstrated to a test species, two monthly retests are required. In addition, quarterly testing is required for that species until the effluent passes both the lethal and sub-lethal test endpoints for the affected species for four consecutive quarters. Monthly retesting is not required if the permittee is performing a TRE.
- d. **SURVIVAL FAILURES** - If any test fails the survival endpoint at any time during the life of this permit, two monthly retests are required and the monitoring frequency for the affected test species shall be increased to once per quarter until the permit is re-issued. Monthly retesting is not required if the permittee is performing a TRE.
- e. This monitoring frequency reduction applies only until the expiration date of this permit, at which time the monitoring frequency for both test species reverts to once per quarter until the permit is re-issued.

6. TOXICITY REDUCTION EVALUATION (TRE)

- a. Within ninety (90) days of confirming lethality in the retests, the permittee shall submit a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) Action Plan and Schedule for conducting a TRE. The TRE Action Plan shall specify the approach and methodology to be used in performing the TRE. A Toxicity Reduction Evaluation is an investigation intended to determine those actions necessary to achieve compliance with water quality-based effluent limits by reducing an effluent's toxicity to an acceptable level. A TRE is defined as a step-wise process which combines toxicity testing and analyses of the physical and chemical characteristics of a toxic effluent to identify the constituents causing effluent toxicity and/or treatment methods which will reduce the effluent toxicity. The TRE Action Plan shall lead to the successful elimination of effluent toxicity at the critical dilution and include the following:
- i. **Specific Activities.** The plan shall detail the specific approach the permittee intends to utilize in conducting the TRE. The approach may include toxicity characterizations, identifications and confirmation activities, source evaluation, treatability studies, or alternative approaches. When the permittee conducts Toxicity Characterization Procedures the permittee shall perform multiple characterizations and follow the procedures specified in the documents "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase I Toxicity Characterization Procedures" (EPA-600/6-91/003) and "Toxicity Identification Evaluation: Characterization of Chronically Toxic Effluents, Phase I" (EPA-600/6-91/005F), or alternate procedures. When the permittee conducts Toxicity Identification Evaluations and Confirmations, the permittee shall perform multiple identifications and follow the methods specified in the documents "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase II Toxicity Identification Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity" (EPA/600/R-92/080) and "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase III Toxicity Confirmation Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity" (EPA/600/R-92/081), as appropriate.

The documents referenced above may be obtained through the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) by phone at (800) 553-6847, or by writing:

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Technical Information Service
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22161

- ii. Sampling Plan (e.g., locations, methods, holding times, chain of custody, preservation, etc.). The effluent sample volume collected for all tests shall be adequate to perform the toxicity test, toxicity characterization, identification and confirmation procedures, and conduct chemical specific analyses when a probable toxicant has been identified;

Where the permittee has identified or suspects specific pollutant(s) and/or source(s) of effluent toxicity, the permittee shall conduct, concurrent with toxicity testing, chemical specific analyses for the identified and/or suspected pollutant(s) and/or source(s) of effluent toxicity. Where lethality was demonstrated within 48 hours of test initiation, each composite sample shall be analyzed independently. Otherwise the permittee may substitute a composite sample, comprised of equal portions of the individual composite samples, for the chemical specific analysis;

- iii. Quality Assurance Plan (e.g., QA/QC implementation, corrective actions, etc.); and
 - iv. Project Organization (e.g., project staff, project manager, consulting services, etc.).
- b. The permittee shall initiate the TRE Action Plan within thirty (30) days of plan and schedule submittal. The permittee shall assume all risks for failure to achieve the required toxicity reduction.
 - c. The permittee shall submit a quarterly TRE Activities Report, with the Discharge Monitoring Report in the months of January, April, July and October, containing information on toxicity reduction evaluation activities including:
 - i. any data and/or substantiating documentation which identifies the pollutant(s) and/or source(s) of effluent toxicity;

- ii. any studies/evaluations and results on the treatability of the facility's effluent toxicity; and
 - iii. any data which identifies effluent toxicity control mechanisms that will reduce effluent toxicity to the level necessary to meet no significant lethality at the critical dilution.
- d. The permittee shall submit a Final Report on Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Activities no later than twenty-eight (28) months from confirming lethality in the retests, which provides information pertaining to the specific control mechanism selected that will, when implemented, result in reduction of effluent toxicity to no significant lethality at the critical dilution. The report will also provide a specific corrective action schedule for implementing the selected control mechanism.

Quarterly testing during the TRE is a minimum monitoring requirement. EPA recommends that permittees required to perform a TRE not rely on quarterly testing alone to ensure success in the TRE, and that additional screening tests be performed to capture toxic samples for identification of toxicants. Failure to identify the specific chemical compound causing toxicity test failure will normally result in a permit limit for whole effluent toxicity limits per federal regulations at 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(v).

10. If any individual analytical test results is less than the minimum quantification level (MQL) listed below, a value of zero (0) may be used for that individual result for the Discharge Monitoring report (DMR) calculations and reporting requirements.

Pollutant	EPA Method	MQL (µg/l)
Copper	200.8	10

The permittee may develop a matrix specific method detection limit (MDL) in accordance with Appendix B of 40 CFR Part 136. For any pollutant for which the permittee determines a site specific MDL, the permittee shall send to ADEQ, NPDES Permits Branch, a report containing QA/QC documentation, analytical results, and calculations necessary to demonstrate that a site specific MDL was correctly calculated. A site specific minimum quantification level (MQL) shall be determined in accordance with the following calculation:

$$\text{MQL} = 3.3 \times \text{MDL}$$

Upon written approval by the NPDES Permits Branch, the site specific MQL may be utilized by the permittee for all future Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) calculations and reporting requirements.

11. If TRC test results are less than Detection Level Achieved (DL), a value of zero (0) may be used for the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) calculations and reporting requirements.

Total residual chlorine (TRC) in the effluent composite sample shall be measured and reported both at the time of sample termination and at the time of toxicity test initiation. The permittee shall ensure that the effluent composite used in toxicity testing is representative of normal facility residual chlorine discharge concentration.

12. Monitoring Frequency Reduction

The permittee may apply in writing for a testing frequency reduction for Nitrate + Nitrite Nitrogen upon the successful completion of the additional twelve months of testing. If granted, the monitoring frequency for this pollutant may be reduced to not less than once per week. Upon review and acceptance of this information the Department will issue a letter of confirmation of minor modification of the monitoring frequency. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to the Permit Compliance System section to update the permit reporting requirements

PART IV DEFINITIONS

All definitions contained in Section 502 of the Clean Water Act shall apply to this permit and are incorporated herein by reference. Additional definitions of words or phrases used in this permit are as follows:

1. **“Act”** means the Clean Water Act, Public Law 95-217 (33.U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) as amended.
2. **“Administrator”** means the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
3. **“Applicable effluent standards and limitations”** means all State and Federal effluent standards and limitations to which a discharge is subject under the Act, including, but not limited to, effluent limitations, standards of performance, toxic effluent standards and prohibitions, and pretreatment standards.
4. **“Applicable water quality standards”** means all water quality standards to which a discharge is subject under the federal Clean Water Act and which has been (a) approved or permitted to remain in effect by the Administrator following submission to the Administrator pursuant to Section 303 (a) of the Act, or (b) promulgated by the Director pursuant to Section 303(b) or 303(c) of the Act, and standards promulgated under regulation No. 2, as amended, (regulation establishing water quality standards for surface waters of the State of Arkansas.)
5. **“Bypass”** means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.

6. **“Daily Discharge”** means the discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling.

Mass Calculations: For pollutants with limitations expressed in terms of mass, the “daily discharge” is calculated as the total mass of pollutant discharged over the sampling day.

Concentration Calculations: For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, determination of concentration made using a composite sample shall be the concentration of the composite sample. When grab samples are used, the “daily discharge” determination of concentration shall be the arithmetic average (weighted by flow value) of all the samples collected during that sampling day by using the following formula: where C= daily concentration, F=daily flow and n=number of daily samples; daily average discharge

$$\frac{C_1F_1 + C_2F_2 + \dots + C_nF_n}{F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_n}$$

7. **Monthly average:** means the highest allowable average of “daily discharges” over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all “daily discharges” measured during a calendar month divided by the number of “daily discharges” measured during that month. For Fecal Coliform Bacteria (FCB) report the monthly average see 30-day average below.

8. **“Daily Maximum”** discharge limitation means the highest allowable “daily discharge” during the calendar month. The 7-day average for fecal coliform bacteria is the geometric mean of the values of all effluent samples collected during the calendar week in colonies/100 ml.

9. **“Department”** means the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).

10. **“Director”** means the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and/or the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.
11. **“Grab sample”** means an individual sample collected in less than 15 minutes in conjunction with an instantaneous flow measurement.
12. **“Industrial User”** means a nondomestic discharger, as identified in 40 CFR 403, introducing pollutants to a publicly-owned treatment works.
13. **“National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System”** means the national program for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements, under sections 307, 402, 318 and 405 of the Clean Water Act.
14. **“POTW”** means a Publicly Owned Treatment Works.
15. **“Severe property damage”** means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in products.
16. **“APCEC”** means the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission.
17. **“Sewage sludge”** means the solids, residues, and precipitate separated from or created in sewage by the unit processes a publicly-owned treatment works. Sewage as used in this definition means any wastes, including wastes from humans, households, commercial establishments, industries, and storm water runoff that are discharged to or otherwise enter a publicly-owned treatment works.
18. **“7-day average”** discharge limitation, other than for fecal coliform bacteria, is the highest allowable arithmetic means of the values for all effluent samples collected during the calendar week. The 7-day average for fecal coliform bacteria is the geometric mean of the values of all effluent samples collected during the calendar week in colonies/100 ml. The DMR should report the highest 7-day average obtained during the calendar month. For reporting purposes, the 7-day average values should be reported as occurring in the month in which the Saturday of the calendar week falls in.
19. **“30-day average”**, other than for fecal coliform bacteria, is the arithmetic mean of the daily values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month. The 30-day average for fecal coliform bacteria is the geometric mean of the values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar month. For Fecal Coliform Bacteria (FCB) report the monthly average as a 30-day geometric mean in colonies per 100 ml.
20. **“24-hour composite sample”** consists of a minimum of 12 effluent portions collected at equal time intervals over the 24-hour period and combined proportional to flow or a sample collected at frequent intervals proportional to flow over the 24-hour period.
21. **“12-hour composite sample”** consists of 12 effluent portions, collected no closer together than one hour and composited according to flow. The daily sampling intervals shall include the highest flow periods.
22. **“6-hour composite sample”** consists of six effluent portions collected no closer together than one hour (with the first portion collected no earlier than 10:00 a.m.) and composited according to flow.

23. **“3-hour composite sample”** consists of three effluent portions collected no closer together than one hour (with the first portion collected no earlier than 10:00 a.m.) and composited according to flow.

24. **“Treatment works”** means any devices and systems used in storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of municipal sewage and industrial wastes, of a liquid nature to implement section 201 of the Act, or necessary to recycle reuse water at the most economic cost over the estimated life of the works, including intercepting sewers, sewage collection systems, pumping, power and other equipment, and alterations thereof; elements essential to provide a reliable recycled supply such as standby treatment units and clear well facilities, and any works, including site acquisition of the land that will be an integral part of the treatment process or is used for ultimate disposal of residues resulting from such treatment.

25. **“Upset”** means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology-based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the permittee. Any upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, lack or preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operations.

26. **“For Fecal Coliform Bacteria”**, a sample consists of one effluent grab portion collected during a 24-hour period at peak loads. For Fecal Coliform Bacteria (FCB) report the monthly average as a 30-day geometric mean in colonies per 100 ml.

27. **“Dissolved oxygen limit”**, shall be defined as follows:

a. When limited in the permit as a monthly minimum, shall mean the lowest acceptable monthly average value, determined by averaging all samples taken during the calendar month;

b. When limited in the permit as an instantaneous minimum value, shall mean that no value measured during the reporting period may fall below the stated value.

28. **The term “MGD”** shall mean million gallons per day.

29. **The term “mg/l”** shall mean milligrams per liter or parts million (ppm).

30. **The term “µg/l”** shall mean micrograms per liter or parts per billion (ppb).

31. **The term “cfs”** shall mean cubic feet per second.

32. **The term “ppm”** shall mean part per million.

33. **The term “s.u.”** shall mean standard units.

34. Monitoring and Reporting:

When a permit becomes effective, monitoring requirements are of the immediate period of the permit effective date. Where the monitoring requirement for an effluent characteristic is Monthly or more frequently, the Discharge Monitoring Report shall be submitted by the 25th of the month following the sampling. Where the monitoring requirement for an effluent characteristic is Quarterly, Semi-Annual, Annual, or Yearly, the Discharge Monitoring report shall be submitted by the 25th of the month following the monitoring period end date.

MONTHLY:

is defined as a calendar month or any portion of a calendar month for monitoring requirement frequency of once/month or more frequently.

QUARTERLY:

(1) is defined as a fixed calendar quarter or any part of the fixed calendar quarter for a non-seasonal effluent characteristic with a measurement frequency of once/quarter. Fixed

calendar quarters are: January through March, April through June, July through September, and October through December; or

(2) is defined as a fixed three month period (or any part of the fixed three month period) of or dependent upon the seasons specified in the permit for a seasonal effluent characteristic with a monitoring requirement frequency of once/quarter that does not coincide with the fixed calendar quarter. Seasonal calendar quarters May through July, August through October, November through January, and February through April.

SEMI-ANNUAL:

is defined as the fixed time periods January through June, and July through December (or any portion thereof) for an effluent characteristic with a measurement frequency of once/6 months or twice/year.

ANNUAL or YEARLY:

is defined as a fixed calendar year or any portion of the fixed calendar year for an effluent characteristic or parameter with a measurement frequency of once/year. A calendar year is January through December, or any portion thereof.

Final Fact Sheet

for renewal of final NPDES Permit Number AR0021211 to discharge to Waters of the State

1. **PERMITTING AUTHORITY.**

The issuing office is:

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
8001 National Drive
Post Office Box 8913
Little Rock, Arkansas 72219-8913

2. **APPLICANT.**

The applicant is:

City of Mountain Home WWTP
720 South Hickory Street
Mountain Home, AR 72653

3. **PREPARED BY.**

The permit was prepared by:

Marysia Jastrzebski, P.E.
NPDES Branch, Water Division

4. **DATE PREPARED.**

The permit was prepared on April 9, 2005.

5. **PREVIOUS PERMIT ACTIVITY.**

Effective Date: March 1, 2000
Expiration Date: February 29, 2005.

The permittee submitted a permit renewal application on 06/14/2004 . It is proposed that the current NPDES permit be reissued for a 5-year term in accordance with regulations promulgated at 40 CFR Part 122.46(a).

6. **RECEIVING STREAM SEGMENT AND DISCHARGE LOCATION.**

The outfall is located at the following coordinates:

Latitude: 36° 17' 48" Longitude: 92° 23' 04"

The receiving waters named:

Hicks Creek, thence to Big Creek, thence to the White River in Segment 4F of the White River Basin. The receiving stream is a Water of the State classified for primary contact recreation, raw water source for public, industrial, and agricultural water supplies, propagation of desirable species of fish and other aquatic life, and other compatible uses.

a. **303d List and Endangered Species Considerations**

i. **303d List**

The receiving stream is not listed on the 303d list. Therefore, no permit action is needed.

ii. **Endangered Species:**

No comments were received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS). Therefore no permit action is needed.

iii. **Ammonia Calculations**

The effluent limitations for Ammonia Nitrogen are in compliance with the EPA Ammonia Nitrogen toxicity criteria of 4 mg/l. No further action is necessary.

7. **OUTFALL AND TREATMENT PROCESS DESCRIPTION.**

The following is a description of the facility described in the application:

- a. Design Flow: 5.0 MGD
- b. Type of treatment: bar screen, grit removal, denitrification in anoxic basin, oxidation ditch, final clarification, chlorination, dechlorination, and post aeration
- c. Discharge Description: municipal wastewater

A quantitative and qualitative description of the discharge described in the NPDES Permit Application Forms received are available for review.

8. **INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER CONTRIBUTIONS.**

a. **NO INDUSTRIAL USERS**

Currently, the permittee receives process wastewater from at least one (1) significant industry as defined by 40 CFR 403.3(t). Copper contributions

potentially causing pass through conditions are suspected to be from the City's domestic background. A fully developed and implemented Pretreatment Program is not the solution. Standard boilerplate Pretreatment Prohibitions (40 CFR 403.5[b]) and reporting requirements are deemed appropriate at this time.

9. **SEWAGE SLUDGE PRACTICES.**

Sludge is aerobically digested prior to dewatering and landfilling.

10. **PERMIT CONDITIONS.**

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality has made a tentative determination to issue a permit for the discharge described in the application. Permit requirements are based on NPDES regulations (40 CFR Parts 122, 124, and Subchapter N), the National Pretreatment Regulation in 40 CFR 403 and regulations promulgated pursuant to the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (Act 472 of 1949, as amended, Ark. Code Ann. 8-4-101 et. seq.).

a. **Interim Effluent Limitations**

Outfall 001- municipal wastewater

i. **Conventional and/or Toxic Pollutants**

<u>Effluent Characteristics</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>			<u>Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	Mass (lbs/day, unless otherwise specified)	Concentration (mg/l, unless otherwise specified)		Frequency	Sample Type
		Monthly Avg.	Monthly Avg.		
Flow	N/A	Report	Report	Once/day	Totalizing meter
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5)	417	10	15	Once/week	6-hr composite
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	625.5	15	23	Once/week	6-hr composite
Ammonia Nitrogen (NH3-N)	83.4	2	3	Once/week	6-hr composite
Nitrate+ Nitrite-Nitrogen (NO2+NO3-N)	417	10	15	Three/week	Grab
Dissolved Oxygen	N/A	7.0 (Min.)	N/A	Once/week	Grab
Fecal Coliform Bacteria (FCB)		(colonies/100ml)			
(Apr-Sept)	N/A	200	400	Once/week	Grab
(Oct-Mar)	N/A	1000	2000	Once/week	Grab
Total Residual Chlorine (TRC)	N/A	<0.1 mg/l (Inst. Max.)		Once/week	Grab

<u>Effluent Characteristics</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>			<u>Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	Mass (lbs/day, unless otherwise specified)	Concentration (mg/l, unless otherwise specified)		Frequency	Sample Type
		Monthly Avg.	Monthly Avg.		
Copper, Total Recoverable	Report	Report µg/l	Report µg/l	Once/week	Grab
pH	N/A	<u>Minimum</u> 6.0 s.u.	<u>Maximum</u> 9.0 s.u.	Once/week	Grab
Chronic Biomonitoring	N/A	N/A	N/A	Once/quarter	24-hr composite

ii. **Solids, Foam, and Free Oil:** There shall be no discharge of distinctly visible solids, scum or foam of a persistent nature, nor shall there be any formation of slime, bottom deposits or sludge banks. No visible sheen (Sheen means an iridescent appearance on the surface of the water).

b. **Final Effluent Limitations**

Outfall 001- municipal wastewater

i. **Conventional and/or Toxic Pollutants**

<u>Effluent Characteristics</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>			<u>Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	Mass (lbs/day, unless otherwise specified)	Concentration (mg/l, unless otherwise specified)		Frequency	Sample Type
		Monthly Avg.	Monthly Avg.		
Flow	N/A	Report	Report	Once/day	Totalizing meter
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5)	417	10	15	Once/week	6-hr composite
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	625.5	15	23	Once/week	6-hr composite
Ammonia Nitrogen (NH3-N)	83.4	2	3	Once/week	6-hr composite
Nitrate+ Nitrite-Nitrogen (NO2+NO3-N)	417	10	15	Three/week	Grab
Dissolved Oxygen	N/A	7.0 (Min.)	N/A	Once/week	Grab
Fecal Coliform Bacteria (FCB)		(colonies/100ml)			
(Apr-Sept)	N/A	200	400	Once/week	Grab
(Oct-Mar)	N/A	1000	2000	Once/week	Grab

<u>Effluent Characteristics</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>			<u>Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	Mass (lbs/day, unless otherwise specified)	Concentration (mg/l, unless otherwise specified)		Frequency	Sample Type
		Monthly Avg.	Monthly Avg.		
Total Residual Chlorine (TRC)	N/A	<0.1 mg/l (Inst. Max.)		Once/week	Grab
Copper, Total Recoverable	1.7	41.4 µg/l	83.1 µg/l	Once/week	Grab
pH	N/A	<u>Minimum</u> 6.0 s.u.	<u>Maximum</u> 9.0 s.u.	Once/week	Grab
Chronic Biomonitoring	N/A	N/A	N/A	Once/quarter	24-hr composite

- ii. **Solids, Foam, and Free Oil:** There shall be no discharge of distinctly visible solids, scum or foam of a persistent nature, nor shall there be any formation of slime, bottom deposits or sludge banks. No visible sheen (Sheen means an iridescent appearance on the surface of the water).

11. BASIS FOR PERMIT CONDITIONS.

The following is an explanation of the derivation of the conditions of the final permit and the reasons for them or, in the case of notices of intent to deny or terminate, reasons suggesting the tentative decisions as required under 40 CFR 124.7 (48 FR 1413, April 1, 1983).

a. **Technology-Based versus Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations and Conditions**

Following regulations promulgated at 40 CFR Part 122.44 (1) (2) (ii), the final permit limits are based on either technology-based effluent limits pursuant to 40 CFR Part 122.44 (a) or on State water quality standards and requirements pursuant to 40 CFR Part 122.44 (d), whichever are more stringent.

b. **Technology-Based Effluent Limitations and/or Conditions**

i. **General Comments**

The permit must at least comply with 40 CFR 133 (Secondary Treatment Regulation) when applicable.

c. **State Water Quality Numerical Standards Based Limitations**

i. **Conventional and Non-Conventional Pollutants**

The water quality-based limits for CBOD5, TSS, NH3-N, and DO have been based on the current NPDES permit, and 40 CFR Part 122.44(1). The calculation of the loadings (lbs per day)

uses a design flow of 5.0 MGD and the following equation (See below). These limitations are included in the updated Arkansas Water Quality Management Plan (AWQMP). Fecal Coliform Bacteria and pH limitations are based on Chapter 5, Sections 2.507 and 2.504 of Regulation No. 2 as amended, respectively.

$$\text{lbs/day} = \text{Concentration (mg/l)} \times \text{Flow (MGD)} \times 8.34$$

The effluent limitations for Nitrate + Nitrite Nitrogen are continued from the current permit.

d. **Toxics Pollutants-Priority Pollutant Scan (PPS)**

i. **General Comments**

Effluent limitations and/or conditions established in the final permit are in compliance with the Arkansas Water Quality Standards and the applicable Water Quality Management Plan.

ii. **Post Third Round Policy and Strategy**

Section 101 of the Clean Water Act(CWA) states that "...it is the national policy that the discharge of toxic pollutants in toxic amounts be prohibited...". To insure that the CWA's prohibitions on toxic discharges are met, EPA has issued a "Policy for the Development of Water Quality-Based Permit Limitations by Toxic Pollutants"(49 FR 9016-9019,3/9/84). In support of the national policy, Region 6 adopted the "Policy for post Third Round NPDES Permitting" and the "Post Third Round NPDES Permit Implementation Strategy" on October 1, 1992. The Regional policy and strategy are designed to insure that no source will be allowed to discharge any wastewater which (1) results in instream aquatic toxicity; (2) causes a violation of an applicable narrative or numerical State water quality standard resulting in non-conformance with the provisions of 40 CFR Part 122.44(d); (3) results in the endangerment of a drinking water supply; or (4) results in aquatic bioaccumulation which threatens human health.

iii. **Implementation**

The State of Arkansas is currently implementing EPA's Post Third-Round Policy in conformance with the EPA Regional strategy. The 5-year NPDES permits contain technology-based effluent limitations reflecting the best controls available. Where these technology-based permit limits do not protect water quality or the designated uses, or where there are no applicable technology-based limits, additional water quality-based effluent limitations and/or conditions are included in the NPDES permits. State narrative and numerical water quality standards from the Regulation No. 2 are used in conjunction with EPA criteria and other available toxicity information to determine the adequacy of technology-based permit limits and the need for additional water quality-based controls.

iv. **Priority Pollutant Scan**

In accordance with the regional policy ADEQ has reviewed and evaluated the effluent in evaluating the potential toxicity of each analyzed pollutant:

- (a) The results were evaluated and compared to EPA's Minimum Quantification Levels (MQLs) to determine the potential presence of a respective toxic pollutant. Those pollutants which are greater than or equal to the MQLs are determined to be reasonably present in the effluent and an evaluation of their potential toxicity is necessary.
- (b) Those pollutants with one datum shown as "non-detect" (ND), providing the level of detection is equal to or lower than MQL are determined to be not potentially present in the effluent and eliminated from further evaluation.
- (c) Those pollutants with a detectable value even if below the MQL are determined to be reasonably present in the effluent and an evaluation of their potential toxicity is necessary.
- (d) For those pollutants with multiple data values and all values are determined to be non-detect, therefore no further evaluation is necessary. However, where data set includes some detectable concentrations and some values as ND, one-half of the detection level is used for those values below the level of detection to calculate the geometric mean of the data set.

The concentration of each pollutant after mixing with the receiving stream was compared to the applicable water quality standards as established in the Arkansas Water Quality Standards, Reg. No. 2 and with the aquatic toxicity, human health, and drinking water criteria obtained from the "Quality Criteria for Water, 1986 (Gold Book)". The following expression was used to calculate the pollutant instream waste concentration(IWC):

$$IWC = ((C_e \times Q_e) + (C_b \times Q_b)) / (Q_e + Q_b)$$

where:

IWC = instream concentration of pollutant after mixing with receiving stream ($\mu\text{g/l}$)
 C_e = pollutant concentration in effluent ($\mu\text{g/l}$)
 Q_e = effluent flow of facility (cfs)
 C_b = background concentration of pollutant in receiving stream ($\mu\text{g/l}$)
 Q_b = background flow of receiving stream (cfs)

The following values were used in the IWC calculations:

C_e = varies with pollutant. A single value from the Priority Pollutant Screen (PPS) submitted by the permittee as part of the NPDES permit application or the geometric mean of a group of data points (less than 20 data points) is multiplied by a factor of 2.13. This factor is based on EPA's Region VI procedure (See attachment IV of Continuing Planning Process(CPP)) to extrapolate limited data sets to better evaluate the potential toxicity for higher effluent concentrations to exceed water quality standards. This procedure employs a statistical approach

which yields an estimate of a selected upper percentile value (the 95th percentile) of an effluent data set which would be expected to exceed 95% of effluent concentrations in a discharge. If 20 or more data points during the last two years are available, do not multiply by 2.13, but instead use the maximum reported values.

$$Q_e = 5.0 \text{ MGD} = 7.73 \text{ cfs}$$

$$C_b = 0 \text{ } \mu\text{g/l}$$

$$Q_b = \text{ (See below):}$$

(e) Aquatic Toxicity

Chronic Toxicity: Flow = 0.067 cfs, for comparison with chronic aquatic toxicity. This flow is **67** percent of the 7-day, 10-year low-flow (7Q10) for the receiving stream. The 7Q10 of 0.1 cfs is based on "Identification and Classification of Perennial Stream of Arkansas", Arkansas Geological Commission Map.

Acute Toxicity: Flow = 0.033 cfs, for comparison with acute aquatic toxicity. This flow is **33** percent of the 7Q10 for the receiving stream.

(f) Bioaccumulation

Flow = 4.0 cfs, for comparison with bioaccumulation criteria.

1. Drinking Water

Flow = 0.1 cfs, for comparison with drinking water criteria. This flow is the 7Q10 for the receiving stream.

The following values were used to determine limits for the pollutants:

Hardness = 148.0 mg/l, based on attachment VI of CPP.

pH = 8.09 s.u., based on compliance data from "Arkansas Water Quality Inventory Report"305(b)" utilizing ADEQ accumulated data for Station WHI65.

v. **Water Quality Standards for Metals and Cyanide**

Standards for Chromium (VI), Mercury, Selenium, and Cyanide are expressed as a function of the pollutant's water-effect ratio (WER), while standards for cadmium, chromium (III), copper, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc are expressed as a function of the pollutant's water-effect ratio, and as a function of hardness.

The **Water-effect ratio** (WER) is assigned a value of 1.0 unless scientifically defensible study clearly demonstrates that a value less than 1.0 is necessary or a value greater than 1.0 is sufficient to fully protect the designated uses of the receiving stream from the toxic effects of the pollutant.

The WER approach compares bioavailability and toxicity of a specific pollutant in receiving water and in laboratory test water. It involves running toxicity tests for at least two species, measuring LC50 for the pollutant using the local receiving water collected from the site where the criterion is being implemented, and laboratory toxicity testing water made comparable to the site water in terms of chemical hardness. The ratio between site water and lab water LC50 is used to adjust the national acute and chronic criteria to site specific values.

vi. **Conversion of Dissolved Metals Criteria for Aquatic Life to Total Recoverable Metal**

Metals criteria established in Regulation No. 2 for aquatic life protection are based on dissolved metals concentrations and hardness values (See Page 6 of **Attachment 1**). However, Federal Regulations cited at 40 CFR 122.45(c) require that effluent limitations for metals in NPDES permits be expressed as total recoverable (See Pages 1 and 6 of **Attachment 1**). Therefore a dissolved to the total recoverable metal conversion must be implemented. This involves determining a linear partition coefficient for the metal of concern and using this coefficient to determine the fraction of metal dissolved, so that the dissolved metal ambient criteria may be translated to a total effluent limit. The formula for converting dissolved metals to total recoverable metals for streams and lakes are provided in **Attachment 2** and Region 6 Implementation Guidance for Arkansas Water Quality Standards promulgated at 40 CFR 131.36.

vii. **Results of the comparison of the submitted information with the appropriate water quality standards and criteria**

The following pollutants were determined to be present in the effluent for each pollutant as reported by the permittee.

Pollutant	Concentration Reported, µg/l	MQL, µg/l
Copper	24.30*	10
Zinc	62	20

* geometric mean based on the 13 datapoints submitted by the permittee

(a) **Aquatic Toxicity**

(i) **Pollutants with numerical water quality standards**

ADEQ has determined from the information submitted by the permittee that there there is not a reasonable potential for the discharge to cause an instream excursion for Zinc and instream

excursion for Copper above the chronic numeric standards as specified in the Interim Final Rule published in the Federal Register on May 4, 1995 and/or Arkansas Water Quality Standards, Reg. No. 2 (See **Attachment 1.**)

ADEQ has identified the following toxicants in the discharge in amounts which could potentially have a toxic impact on the receiving stream:

Chronic Aquatic Toxicity Results				
Pollutant	C _e , µg/l	C _e X 2.13	IWC, µg/l	AWQS, µg/l
Copper	24.30	51.76	51.31	36.81

IWC's have been calculated in the manner described on page 7 of the Fact Sheet .

Permit Action

Under Federal Regulation 40 CFR 122.44(d), as adopted by Regulation No. 6, if a discharge poses the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance above a water quality standard, the permit must contain an effluent limitation for that pollutant. Effluent limitations for the toxicants listed above have been derived in a manner consistent with the Technical Support Document (TSD) for Water Quality-based Toxics Control (EPA, March 1991), the State's implementations procedures, and 40 CFR 122.45(c).

Permit Limit Determination

The instream waste load allocation (WLA), which is the level of effluent concentration that would comply with the water quality standard (WQS) of the receiving stream, is calculated for both chronic and acute WLA using the following equations:

$$WLA_c = (WQS \times (Q_d + Q_b) - Q_b \times C_b) / Q_d$$

where:

- WLA_c = chronic waste load allocation (µg/l)
- Q_d = discharge flow (cfs)
- Q_b = 0.67 X 7Q10 (cfs)
- C_b = background concentration (µg/l)
- WQS = chronic aquatic toxicity standards (µg/l)

and;

$$WLA_a = (WQS \times (Q_d + Q_b) - Q_b \times C_b) / Q_d$$

where:

- WLA_a = acute waste load allocation (µg/l)

- Q_d = discharge flow (cfs)
- Q_b = $0.33 \times 7Q_{10}$ (cfs)
- C_b = background concentration ($\mu\text{g/l}$)
- WQS = acute aquatic toxicity standards ($\mu\text{g/l}$)

The long term average (LTA) effluent concentration is then calculated based on the chronic and acute WLA as follows:

$$LTA_c = 0.72 \times WLA_c$$

$$LTA_a = 0.57 \times WLA_a$$

The lowest of these two (2) values is selected as being the limiting LTA. The limiting LTA is then used to calculate the monthly average (AML) and daily maximum (DML) for the final limits. AML and DML are calculated as follows:

$$AML = 1.55 \times \text{Limiting LTA}$$

$$DML = 3.11 \times \text{Limiting LTA}$$

Limits included in the permit are as follows:

Arkansas Numerical Aquatic Toxicity Limits		
Parameter	AML*, $\mu\text{g/l}$	DML*, $\mu\text{g/l}$
Copper	41.4	83.1
*See Attachment 4 for calculations		

(ii) **Pollutants without applicable water quality standards**

ADEQ has determined from the information submitted by the permittee that there is not a reasonable potential for the discharge to cause an instream excursion above the acute and/or chronic criteria as specified in the Gold Book (See **Attachment 1**.)

(b) **Human Health (Bioaccumulation) Limits**

(i) **Pollutants with numerical water quality standards**

ADEQ has determined from the information submitted by the permittee that there is not a reasonable potential for the discharge to cause an instream excursion above the state numeric bioaccumulation standards as specified in Section 6(H) of the AWQS, Regulation No. 2 (See **Attachment 1**.)

e. **Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) Requirements**

No measurable which is defined as $<0.1 \text{ mg/l}$ is continued from the previous permit.

f. Final Limitations

The following effluent limitations or "report" requirements were placed in the permit based on the more stringent of the technology-based, water quality-based or previous NPDES permit limitations:

Parameter	Water Quality-Based		Technology-Based/BPJ		Previous NPDES Permit		Final Permit	
	Monthly Avg. mg/l	7-day Avg. mg/l	Monthly Avg. mg/l	7-day Avg. mg/l	Monthly Avg. mg/l	7-day Avg. mg/l	Monthly Avg. mg/l	7-day Avg. mg/l
CBOD5	10	15	25	40	10	15	10	15
TSS	15	23	30	45	15	23	15	23
NH3-N	2	3	N/A	N/A	2	3	2	3
NO3+NO2-N	10	15	N/A	N/A	10	15	10	15
DO	7.0 Min	N/A	N/A		7.0 Inst. Min		7.0 Min	N/A
FCB (col/100ml)								
(Apr-Sept)	200	400	N/A	N/A	200	400	200	400
(Oct-Mar)	1000	2000	N/A	N/A	1000	2000	1000	2000
TRC (Inst. Max)	N/A		< 0.1 mg/l		<0.1 mg/l		<0.1 mg/l	
Copper, Total Recoverable	41.4 µg/l	83.1 µg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	41.4 µg/l	83.1 µg/l
pH	6.0-9.0 s.u.		6.0-9.0 s.u.		6-9 s.u.		6.0-9.0 s.u.	

g. Biomonitoring

Section 101(a)(3) of the Clean Water Act states that ".....it is the national policy that the discharge of toxic pollutants in toxic amounts be prohibited." In addition, ADEQ is required under 40 CFR Part 122.44(d)(1), adopted by reference in Regulation 6, to include conditions as necessary to achieve water quality standards as established under Section 303 of the Clean Water Act. Arkansas has established a narrative criteria which states "toxic materials shall not be present in receiving waters in such quantities as to be toxic to human, animal, plant or aquatic life or to interfere with the normal propagation, growth and survival of aquatic biota."

Whole effluent biomonitoring is the most direct measure of potential toxicity which incorporates the effects of synergism of effluent components and receiving stream water quality characteristics. It is the national policy of EPA to use bioassays as a measure of toxicity to allow evaluation of the effects of a discharge upon a receiving water (49 Federal Register 9016-9019, March 9, 1984). EPA Region 6 and the State of Arkansas are now implementing the Post Third Round Policy and Strategy established on September 9, 1992. Biomonitoring of the effluent is

thereby required as a condition of this permit to assess potential toxicity. The biomonitoring procedures stipulated as a condition of this permit are as follows:

TOXICITY TESTS

FREQUENCY

Chronic Biomonitoring

Once/quarter

Requirements for measurement frequency are based on appendix D of CPP.

Since 7Q10 is less than 100 cfs (ft³/sec) and dilution ratio is less than 100:1, chronic biomonitoring requirements will be included in the permit.

The calculations for dilution used for chronic biomonitoring are as follows:

$$\text{Critical dilution (CD)} = (Q_d / (Q_d + Q_b)) \times 100$$

$$Q_d = \text{Design flow} = 5 \text{ MGD} = 7.73 \text{ cfs}$$

$$7Q_{10} = 0.1 \text{ Cfs}$$

$$Q_b = \text{Background flow} = (0.67) \times 7Q_{10} = 0.067 \text{ cfs}$$

$$CD = (7.73) / (7.73 + 0.067) \times 100 = 99 \%$$

Toxicity tests shall be performed in accordance with protocols described in "Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms", EPA/600/4-91/002, July 1994. A minimum of five effluent dilutions in addition to an appropriate control (0%) are to be used in the toxicity tests. These additional effluent concentrations are **31%, 42%, 56%, 74%, and 99%** (See **Attachment I** of CPP). The low-flow effluent concentration (critical dilution) is defined as **99%** effluent. The requirement for chronic biomonitoring tests is based on the magnitude of the facility's discharge with respect to receiving stream flow. The stipulated test species, *Ceriodaphnia dubia* and the Fathead Minnow (*Pimephales promelas*) are indigenous to the geographic area of the facility; the use of these is consistent with the requirements of the State water quality standards. The biomonitoring frequency has been established to provide data representative of the toxic potential of the facility's discharge, in accordance with the regulations promulgated at 40 CFR Part 122.48.

Results of all dilutions as well as the associated chemical monitoring of pH, temperature, hardness, dissolved oxygen conductivity, and alkalinity shall be reported according to EPA/600/4-91/002, July 1994 and shall be submitted as an attachment to the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR).

This permit may be reopened to require further biomonitoring studies, Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) and/or effluent limits if biomonitoring data submitted to the Department shows toxicity in the permittee's discharge. Modification or revocation of this permit is subject to the provisions of 40 CFR 122.62, as adopted by reference in ADEQ Regulation No. 6. Increased or intensified toxicity testing may also be required in accordance with Section 308 of the Clean Water Act and Section 8-4-201 of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (Act 472 of 1949, as amended).

Administrative Records

The following information summarized toxicity test submitted by the permittee during the term of the current permit at outfall **001** (See **Attachment 5**.)

d. Sample Type and Sampling Frequency

Regulations promulgated at 40 CFR 122.44(i)(1) require permit to establish monitoring requirements which assure compliance with permit limitations. The requirements for sample type and sampling frequency for flow, NO₃+NO₂-N and biomonitoring have been based on the current NPDES permit. The monitoring frequencies for CBOD₅, TSS, NH₃-N, DO, pH, TRC, and FCB have been reduced from 3/week to 1/week using EPA's *Interim Guidance for Performance - Based Reductions of NPDES Permit Monitoring Frequencies*. This decrease in monitoring frequency does not constitute backsliding based on 40 CFR 122.44 (l)(2)(i)(B)(1). The Department has received new information, which was not available at the time the current permit was issued and would have justified the application of different permit conditions at the time of issuance. This change would constitute cause for permit modification or revocation and reissuance under 40 CFR 122.62(a)(2).

Additionally, a special condition has been included in Part III of the permit addressing monitoring frequency reduction of Nitrate+Nitrite Nitrogen.

e. Changes from the previously issued permit

1. The narrative description of the facility location has been expanded.
2. The receiving stream description has been expanded.
3. The Nitrate-Nitrogen parameter has been replaced by Nitrate+Nitrite Nitrogen. The effluent limitations have not changed.
4. The effluent limitations for pH have been changed from 6-9 s.u. to 6.0 to 9.0 s.u.
5. The effluent limitations for Total Recoverable Copper have been included. Additionally, an interim monitoring and reporting and a schedule of compliance have been added.
6. The monitoring frequencies for CBOD₅, TSS, NH₃-N, DO, pH, TRC, and FCB have been reduced.
7. Parts II, III, and IV have been revised.
8. The effluent limitations for DO have been changed from Inst. Minimum to Minimum Monthly Average.
9. Reporting requirements for biomonitoring have changed (Parts I and III).

j. Storm water pollution prevention plan requirements

In lieu of storm water pollution prevention plan requirements on October 24, 2004, the permittee submitted a "No exposure certification for exclusion from NPDES Storm water" to the Department.

12. **SCHEDULE OF COMPLIANCE.**

Compliance with final effluent limitations is required by the following schedule:

Compliance with the interim limitations is required on the effective date of the permit.

Compliance with the final effluent limitations for Total Recoverable Copper is required as soon as possible but no later than three years after the effective date of the permit.

Progress reports shall be submitted on:

one year from the effective date of the permit
two years from the effective date of the permit

13. **OPERATION AND MONITORING.**

The applicant is at all times required to monitor the discharge on a regular basis; and report the results monthly. The monitoring results will be available to the public.

14. **SOURCES.**

The following sources were used to final the permit:

- a. NPDES application No. AR0021211 received 06/14/2004.
- b. Arkansas Water Quality Management Plan(WQMP).
- c. Regulation No. 2.
- d. Regulation No. 6.
- e. 40 CFRs 122, 125, 133 and 403.
- f. NPDES permit file AR00 21211.
- g. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs).
- h. "Arkansas Water Quality Inventory Report 2000 (305B)", ADEQ.
- i. "Identification and Classification of Perennial Streams of Arkansas", Arkansas Geological Commission.
- j. EPA's STORET (Storage and Retrieval), Water Quality Data Base System.
- k. Continuing Planning Process (CPP).
- l. Technical Support Document For Water Quality-based Toxic Control.
- m. Region 6 Implementation Guidance for Arkansas Water Quality Standards promulgated at 40 CFR 131.36.
- n. E-mail dated July 22, 2004, August 13, 2004, and September 30, 2004 from Singleton to Jastrzebski.
- o. E-mail dated August 17, 2004, from Lewis to Jastrzebski.
- p. "Interim Guidance for Performance - Based Reductions of NPDES Permit Monitoring Frequencies", EPA.

15. **NPDES POINT OF CONTACT.**

For additional information, contact:

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