

Permit Number: AR0021482
AFIN: 17-00062

**AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE WASTEWATER 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 (Ark. Code Ann. 8-4-101 et seq.), and the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.),

Van Buren Municipal Utilities
City of Van Buren - Main Plant

is authorized to discharge treated municipal wastewater from a facility located as follows: 1401 Port Road, Van Buren, AR 72956, approximately 1/2 mile south of I-540 overpass off Highway 59 South in Crawford County, Arkansas. The applicant's mailing address is: P.O. Box 1269, Van Buren, AR 72956.

Facility Coordinates: Latitude: 35° 25' 9.04"; Longitude: 94° 20' 19.35"

Receiving stream: Arkansas River in Segment 3H of the Arkansas River Basin.

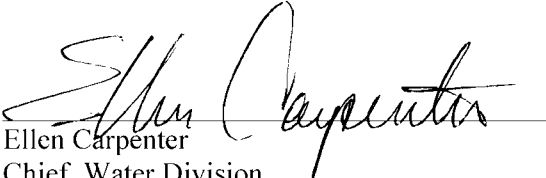
The permitted outfall is located at the following coordinates:

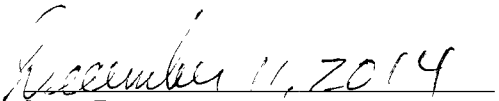
Outfall 001: Latitude: 35° 25' 3.27"; Longitude: 94° 20' 27.18"

Discharge shall be in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in this permit. Per Part III.D.10, the permittee must re-apply on or before 180 days prior to the expiration date of the permit for permit coverage past the expiration date.

The response to comments is attached.

Effective Date: January 1, 2015
Expiration Date: December 31, 2019


Ellen Carpenter
Chief, Water Division
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality


Issue Date

**PART I
PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

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

During the period beginning on the effective date and lasting until the date of expiration, the permittee is authorized to discharge from Outfall 001. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below as well as Parts II and III. See Part IV for all definitions and calculations.

<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, MGD	Report, MGD (Daily Max.)	once/day	totalizing meter
Overflows	Monthly Total SSOs (occurrences/month)			See Comments ¹	
Overflow Volume	Monthly Total Volume of SSOs (gallons/month)			See Comments ¹	
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5)					
(May – October)	834	25	40	three/week	composite
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5)					
(November – April)	1000.8	30	45	three/week	composite
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	1000.8	30	45	three/week	composite
Ammonia Nitrogen (NH3-N)					
(May – October)	166.8	5	7.5	three/week	composite
Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	N/A	2.0, (Inst. Min.)		three/week	grab
Fecal Coliform Bacteria (FCB)		(colonies/100ml)			
(April – September)	N/A	200	400	three/week	grab
(October – March)	N/A	1000	2000	three/week	grab
Total Phosphorus (TP)	Report	Report	Report	once/month	grab
Nitrate + Nitrite Nitrogen (NO3 + NO2-N)	Report	Report	Report	once/month	grab
pH	N/A	<u>Minimum</u> 6.0 s.u.	<u>Maximum</u> 9.0 s.u.	three/week	grab
Acute WET Testing ²	N/A	Report		once/quarter	24-hr composite

<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.		
<u>Pimephales promelas (Acute)</u> ² Pass/Fail Lethality (48-Hr NOEC) TEM6C Survival (48-Hr NOEC) TOM6C Coefficient of Variation (48-Hr NOEC) TQM6C		<u>48-hr Minimum</u> Report (Pass=0/Fail=1) Report % Report %		once/quarter once/quarter once/quarter	24-hr composite 24-hr composite 24-hr composite
<u>Daphnia pulex (Acute)</u> ² Pass/Fail Lethality (48-Hr NOEC) TEM3D Survival (48-Hr NOEC) TOM3D Coefficient of Variation (48-Hr NOEC) TQM3D		<u>48-hr Minimum</u> Report (Pass=0/Fail=1) Report % Report %		once/quarter once/quarter once/quarter	24-hr composite 24-hr composite 24-hr composite

1 See Condition No. 5 of Part II (SSO Condition). If there are no overflows during the entire month, report "zero" (0).

2 See Condition No. 8 of Part II (WET Testing Condition).

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. There shall be no visible sheen as defined in Part IV of this permit.

Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge during the entire monitoring period. Samples shall be taken after final treatment (UV disinfection).

SECTION B. PERMIT COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

Pretreatment Requirements

Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this permit, the permittee must submit one of the following in order to comply with the requirements of 40 CFR 403.5:

- a. Written certification that existing technically based local limits (TBLL) are adequate;
- b. Notification that a technical evaluation of the existing TBLL will be conducted; or
- c. Justification that demonstrates local limits are not necessary for any pollutant at this time.

The permittee shall submit an updated pretreatment program status report by October 31st of each year. The report shall contain the items set forth in Part II, Condition 7. d.

PART II OTHER CONDITIONS

1. The operator of this wastewater treatment facility shall be licensed as Class III by the State of Arkansas in accordance with APCEC Regulation No. 3.
2. For publicly owned treatment works, the 30-day average percent removal for Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5), Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5), and Total Suspended Solids shall not be less than 85 percent unless otherwise authorized by the permitting authority in accordance with 40 CFR Part 133.102, as adopted by reference in APCEC Regulation No. 6. The permittee must monitor the influent and effluent BOD5, CBOD5 and TSS at least once per year and calculate the percent removal to ensure compliance with the required 85 percent removal. This information must be maintained on site and provided to Department personnel upon request.
3. 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 a relevant water body or a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is established or revised for the water body that was not available at the time of the permit issuance that would have justified the application of different permit conditions at the time of permit issuance.
4. Other Specified Monitoring Requirements

The permittee may use alternative appropriate monitoring methods and analytical instruments other than as specified in Part I Section A of the permit without a major permit modification under the following conditions:

- The monitoring and analytical instruments are consistent with accepted scientific practices;
- The requests shall be submitted in writing to the Permits Section of the Water Division of the ADEQ for use of the alternate method or instrument.
- The method and/or instrument is in compliance with 40 CFR Part 136 or approved in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136.5; and
- All associated devices are installed, calibrated, and maintained to insure the accuracy of the measurements and are consistent with the accepted capability of that type of device. The calibration and maintenance shall be performed as part of the permittee's laboratory Quality Control/Quality Assurance program.

Upon written approval of the alternative monitoring method and/or analytical instruments, these methods or instruments must be consistently utilized throughout the monitoring period. ADEQ must be notified in writing and the permittee must receive written approval from ADEQ if the permittee decides to return to the original permit monitoring requirements.

5. Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) Reporting Requirements:

All SSOs are prohibited.

A. A sanitary sewer overflow is any spill, release or diversion of wastewater from a sanitary sewer collection system including:

1. Any overflow, whether it discharges to the waters of the state or not; or
2. An overflow of wastewater, including a wastewater backup into a building (other than a backup caused solely by a blockage or other malfunction in a privately owned sewer or building lateral), even if that overflow does not reach waters of the state.

B. Immediate Reporting

Overflows that endanger health or the environment shall be orally reported to the Enforcement Branch of the Water Division by telephone (501-682-0638) or by email waterenfssso@adeq.state.ar.us within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance.

C. Follow-Up Written Reports/email:

A written report of overflows that endanger health or the environment shall be provided to ADEQ within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance.

At a minimum, the report shall identify:

1. The location(s) of overflow;
2. The receiving water (If there is one);
3. The duration of overflow;
4. Cause of overflow; and
5. The estimated volume of overflow (gal).

A 24-hr and 5-day follow-up written report can be filled-in or downloaded from the ADEQ /Water Division/Enforcement Branch Web page at

http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/water/branch_enforcement/forms/sso_report.asp

D. Reporting for All SSOs on DMR

At the end of the month, total the daily occurrences and volumes from all locations on your system and report this number on the DMR. For counting occurrences, each location on the sanitary sewer system where there is an overflow, spill, release, or diversion of wastewater on a given day is counted as one occurrence. For example, if on a given day overflows occur from a manhole at one location and from a damaged pipe at another location then you should record two occurrences for that day.

6. Best Management Practices (BMPs), as defined in Part IV.6, must be implemented for the facility along with the collection system to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the State from stormwater runoff, spills or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw sewage. The permittee must amend the BMPs whenever there is a change in the facility or a change in the operation of the facility.

7. CONTRIBUTING INDUSTRIES AND PRETREATMENT REQUIREMENTS

- a. The permittee shall operate an industrial pretreatment program in accordance with Section 402(b)(8) of the Clean Water Act, the General Pretreatment Regulations (40 CFR Part 403) and the approved POTW pretreatment program submitted by the permittee. The pretreatment program was approved on 10/01/1981, modified on 03/06/1997 and modified again on 03/18/2011. The POTW pretreatment program is hereby incorporated by reference and shall be implemented in a manner consistent with the following requirements:

- (1) Industrial user information shall be updated at a frequency adequate to ensure that all IUs are properly characterized at all times;
- (2) The frequency and nature of industrial user compliance monitoring activities by the permittee shall be commensurate with the character, consistency and volume of waste. The permittee must inspect and sample the effluent from each Significant Industrial User in accordance with 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2)(v). This is in addition to any industrial self-monitoring activities;
- (3) The permittee shall enforce and obtain remedies for noncompliance by any industrial users with applicable pretreatment standards and requirements;

- (4) The permittee shall control through permit, order, or similar means, the contribution to the POTW by each Industrial User to ensure compliance with applicable Pretreatment Standards and Requirements. In the case of Industrial Users identified as significant under 40 CFR 403.3 (v), this control shall be achieved through individual control mechanisms, in accordance with 40 CFR 403.8(f)(1)(iii). Control mechanisms must be enforceable and contain, at a minimum, the following conditions:
- (a) Statement of duration (in no case more than five years);
 - (b) Statement of non-transferability without, at a minimum, prior notification to the POTW and provision of a copy of the existing control mechanism to the new owner or operator;
 - (c) Effluent limits, including Best Management Practices, based on applicable general Pretreatment Standards, categorical Pretreatment Standards, local limits, and State and local law;
 - (d) Self-monitoring, sampling, reporting, notification and recordkeeping requirements, including an identification of the pollutants to be monitored sampling location, sampling frequency, and sample type, based on the applicable general Pretreatment Standards in 40 CFR 403, categorical Pretreatment Standards, local limits, and State and local law;
 - (e) Statement of applicable civil and criminal penalties for violation of Pretreatment Standards and requirements, and any applicable compliance schedule. Such schedules may not extend the compliance date beyond federal deadlines; and
 - (f) Requirements to control slug discharges, if determined by the POTW to be necessary.
- (5) The permittee shall evaluate, whether each Significant Industrial User needs a plan or other action to control slug discharges, in accordance with 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2)(vi);
- (6) The permittee shall provide adequate staff, equipment, and support capabilities to carry out all elements of the pretreatment program; and
- (7) The approved program shall not be modified by the permittee without the prior approval of ADEQ.

- b. The permittee shall establish and enforce specific limits to implement the provisions of 40 CFR Parts 403.5(a) and (b), as required by 40 CFR Part 403.5(c). POTWs may develop Best Management Practices (BMPs) to implement paragraphs 40 CFR 403.5 (c)(1) and (c)(2). Such BMPs shall be considered local limits and Pretreatment Standards. Each POTW with an approved pretreatment program shall continue to develop these limits as necessary and effectively enforce such limits.

The permittee shall submit, within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this permit, (1) a **WRITTEN CERTIFICATION** that a technical evaluation has demonstrated that the existing technically based local limits (TBLL) are based on current state water quality standards and are adequate to prevent pass through of pollutants, inhibition of or interference with the treatment facility, worker health and safety problems, and sludge contamination, (2) a **WRITTEN NOTIFICATION** that a technical evaluation revising the current TBLL will be submitted within 12 months of the effective date of this permit, OR (3) a **WRITTEN NOTIFICATION** that local limits are not necessary for any pollutant at this time.

All specific prohibitions or limits developed under this requirement are deemed to be conditions of this permit. The specific prohibitions set out in 40 CFR Part 403.5(b) shall be enforced by the permittee unless modified under this provision.

- c. The permittee shall analyze the treatment facility influent and effluent for the presence of the toxic pollutants listed in 40 CFR 122 Appendix D (NPDES Application Testing Requirements) Table II at least once/year and the toxic pollutants in Table III at least 4 times/year (quarterly). If, based upon information available to the permittee, there is reason to suspect the presence of any toxic or hazardous pollutant listed in Table V, or any other pollutant, known or suspected to adversely affect treatment plant operation, receiving water quality, or solids disposal procedures, analysis for those pollutants shall be performed at least 4 times/year (quarterly) on both the influent and the effluent.

The influent and effluent samples collected shall be composite samples consisting of at least 12 aliquots collected at approximately equal intervals over a representative 24 hour period and composited according to flow. Sampling and analytical procedures shall be in accordance with guidelines established in 40 CFR 136. Where composite samples are inappropriate, due to sampling, holding time, or analytical constraints, at least 4 grab samples, taken at equal intervals over a representative 24 hour period, shall be taken.

- d. The permittee shall prepare annually a list of Industrial Users which during the preceding twelve months (the Pretreatment “Reporting Year”) were in significant noncompliance with applicable pretreatment requirements. For the purposes of this Part, significant noncompliance shall be determined based upon the more stringent of either criteria established at 40 CFR Part 403.8(f)(2)(viii) or criteria established in the approved POTW pretreatment program. This list is to be published annually in the newspaper of general circulation that provides meaningful public notice within the jurisdiction(s) served by the POTW during the month of October.

In addition, by 4:30 pm (if electronically submitted) OR postmarked on or before the last business day in the month of October the permittee shall submit an updated pretreatment program status report to the ADEQ containing the following information:

1. An updated list of all significant industrial users. The list must also identify:
 - (a) Industrial Users subject to the following categorical Pretreatment Standards [Organic Chemicals, Plastics, and Synthetic Fibers (OCPSF) (40 CFR Part 414), Petroleum Refining (40 CFR Part 419), and Pesticide Chemicals (40 CFR Part 455)] and for which the Control Authority has chosen to use the concentration-based standards rather than converting them to flow-based mass standards as allowed at 40 CFR 403.6(c)(6).
 - (b) Categorical Industrial Users subject to concentration-based standards for which the Control Authority has chosen to convert the concentration-based standards to equivalent mass limits, as allowed at 40 CFR 403.6(c)(5).
 - (c) Best Management Practices or Pollution Prevention alternatives required by a categorical Pretreatment Standard or as a local limit requirement that are implemented and documentation to demonstrate compliance, as required at 40 CFR 403 (b), (e) and (h).
2. For each industrial user listed the following information shall be included:
 - (a) Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) and North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code and categorical determination;
 - (b) Control document status. Whether the user has an effective control document, and the date such document was last issued, reissued, or modified, (indicate which industrial users were added to the system (or newly identified) within the previous 12 months);

- (c) A summary of all monitoring activities performed within the previous 12 months. The following information shall be reported:
- total number of inspections performed;
 - total number of sampling visits made;
- (d) Status of compliance with both effluent limitations and reporting requirements. Compliance status shall be defined as follows:
- Compliant (C) - no violations during the previous 12 month period;
 - Non-compliant (NC) - one or more violations during the previous 12 months but does not meet the criteria for significantly noncompliant industrial users; and
 - Significant Noncompliance (SNC) - in accordance with requirements described in d. above.
- (e) For significantly noncompliant industrial users, indicate the nature of the violations, the type and number of actions taken (notice of violation, administrative order, criminal or civil suit, fines or penalties collected, etc.) and current compliance status. If ANY industrial user was on a schedule to attain compliance with effluent limits, indicate the date the schedule was issued and the date compliance is to be attained;
- (1) A list of all significant industrial users whose authorization to discharge was terminated or revoked during the preceding 12 month period and the reason for termination;
 - (2) A report on any interference, pass through, upset or POTW permit violations known or suspected to be caused by industrial contributors and actions taken by the permittee in response;
 - (3) The results of all influent and effluent analyses performed pursuant to paragraph c. above;
 - (4) An influent/effluent summary chart containing the monthly average water quality based effluent concentration demonstrating compliance with permit limits or the water quality levels not to exceed as developed in the permittee's approved technically based local limits document.

- (5) The information requested may be submitted in tabular form as per the example tables previously provided for your convenience (Attachment A, B and C); and
 - (6) A copy of the newspaper publication of the significantly noncompliant industrial users giving the name of the newspaper and the date published;
- e. The permittee shall provide adequate notice of the following:
- (1) Any new introduction of pollutants into the treatment works from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Sections 301 and 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.

Adequate 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 (48-HOUR ACUTE 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(S): 001

REPORTED ON DMR AS FINAL OUTFALL: 001

CRITICAL DILUTION (%): 22%

EFFLUENT DILUTION SERIES (%): 9%, 12%, 17%, 22%, and 29%

TESTING FREQUENCY: once/quarter

COMPOSITE SAMPLE TYPE: Defined at PART I

TEST SPECIES/METHODS: 40 CFR Part 136

Daphnia pulex acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using EPA-821-R-02-012, or the latest 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.

Pimephales promelas (Fathead minnow) acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using EPA-821-R-02-012, or the latest 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 toxicity that is statistically different from the control (0% effluent) at the 95% confidence level does not occur. Acute 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.

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). The purpose of additional tests (also referred to as 'retests' or confirmation tests) is to determine the duration of a toxic event. A test that meets all test acceptability criteria and demonstrates significant toxic effects does not need additional confirmation.

Such testing cannot confirm or disprove a previous test result.

If any valid test demonstrates significant lethal effects to a test species at or below the critical dilution, the frequency of testing for this species is automatically increased to once per quarter with no option for frequency reduction.

a. Part I Testing Frequency Other Than Monthly

- i. The permittee shall conduct a total of three (3) additional tests for any species that demonstrates significant lethal effects at or below the critical dilution. The additional tests shall be conducted monthly during the next three consecutive months. If testing on a quarterly basis, the permittee may substitute one of the additional tests in lieu of one routine toxicity test. A 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 any of the 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 be also be required due to a demonstration of intermittent lethal effects at or below the critical dilution, or for failure to perform the required retests.
- iii. 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 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. Each toxicity test control (0% effluent) must have a survival equal to or greater than 90%.
- ii. The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the control (0% effluent) for: Daphnia pulex survival test; and Fathead minnow survival test.
- iii. The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the critical dilution, unless significant lethal effects are exhibited for: Daphnia pulex survival test; and Fathead minnow survival test.
- iv. If a test passes, yet the percent coefficient of variation between replicates is greater than 40% in the control (0% effluent) and/or in the critical dilution for: the survival in the Daphnia pulex survival test or the survival endpoint of the Fathead minnow test, the test is determined to be invalid. A repeat test shall be conducted within the required reporting period of any test determined to be invalid.
- v. If a test fails, test failure may not be construed or reported as invalid due to a coefficient of variation value of greater than 40%.

b. Statistical Interpretation

For the Daphnia pulex survival test and the Fathead minnow survival test, the statistical analyses used to determine if there is a statistically 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-821-R-02-012 or the most recent update thereof.

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 90% 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., 48 hours);
 - (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 two flow-weighted composite samples from the outfall(s) listed at Item 1.a above. Unless otherwise stated in this section, a composite sample for WET shall consist of a minimum of 12 subsamples gathered at equal time intervals during a 24-hour period.
- ii. The permittee shall collect a second composite sample for use during the 24-hour renewal of each dilution concentration for both tests. The permittee must collect the composite samples so that the maximum holding time for any effluent sample shall not exceed 36 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 between 0 and 6 degrees Centigrade during collection, shipping, and/or storage.
- iii. The permittee must collect both flow-weighted composite samples within the monitoring period. The second composite sample shall not be collected into the next monitoring period; such tests will be determined to be invalid. Monitoring period definitions are listed in Part IV.
- iv. 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 a regular or intermittent basis.
- v. 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 have collected an effluent composite sample volume during the period of discharge that is sufficient to complete the required toxicity tests with daily renewal of effluent. 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.

4. REPORTING

- a. The permittee shall prepare a full report of the results of all tests conducted pursuant to this Part in accordance with the Report Preparation Section of EPA-821-R-02-012, 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 III.C.7 of this permit. The permittee shall submit full reports. For any test which fails, is considered invalid or which is terminated early for any reason, the full report must be submitted for agency 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 WET test 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. The full report for 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 Agency review.
- c. The permittee shall report the following results of each valid toxicity test on the subsequent monthly DMR for that reporting period in accordance with PART III.D.4 of this permit. Submit retest information clearly marked as such with the following month's 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 or equal to the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TEM6C.
 - (B) Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOM6C.
 - (C) Report the highest (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQM6C.
 - ii. Daphnia pulex
 - (A) If the NOEC for survival is less than or equal to the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TEM3D
 - (B) Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOM3D.
 - (C) Report the highest (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQM3D.

5. 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) 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 (703) 487-4650, 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;

- iii. 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 24 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;
 - iv. Quality Assurance Plan (e.g., QA/QC implementation, corrective actions, etc.); and
 - v. 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.

- e. 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).

6. 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 (in accordance with Item 1.a.) after the expiration date of the previous permit, for one or both test species, provided that all of the following conditions are met:
 - i. The permittee reverted to quarterly testing upon the expiration date of that permit, and
 - ii. The issuance of the renewed permit was not delayed by any fault of the permittee, and
 - iii. No lethal or sub-lethal effects are demonstrated at or below the critical dilution for the first four consecutive quarters of testing after the expiration date of the previous permit.

If any of the above conditions are not met, the permittee may apply for a testing frequency reduction upon the successful completion of the first four consecutive quarters of testing (in accordance with Item 1.a.) after the renewal permit is issued, for one or both test species.

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 *Daphnia pulex*).

- 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 effects and the maximum coefficient of variation for the controls. Upon review and acceptance of this information the agency will issue a letter of confirmation of the monitoring frequency reduction. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to the agency's Permit Compliance System section to update the permit reporting requirements.

- c. SURVIVAL FAILURES - If any test fails the survival endpoint at any time during the life of this permit, three 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.
- d. 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.

PART III 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; and/or for denial of a permit renewal application. **Any values reported in the required Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) 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 twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) 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 Part III.A.11 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 III.A.3, if any toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is promulgated under APCEC Regulation No. 2, as amended, 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 APCEC Regulation No. 2, 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 for “Bypass of Treatment Facilities” (Part III.B.4), and “Upset” (Part III.B.5), 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 subject the permittee to criminal enforcement pursuant to the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-101 et seq.).

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 to 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 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. Applicable Federal, State or Local Requirements

Permittees are responsible for compliance with all applicable terms and conditions of this permit. Receipt of this permit does not relieve any operator of the responsibility to comply with any other applicable federal such as endangered species, state or local statute, ordinance or regulation.

11. Permit Fees

The permittee shall comply with all applicable permit fee requirements (i.e., including annual permit fees following the initial permit fee that will be invoiced every year the permit is active) 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 Parts 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 Parts III.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 III.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 III.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 III.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 based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of Part III.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 III.D.6; and
 - 4. The permittee complied with any remedial measures required by Part III.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

- A. Solids, sludges, filter backwash, or other pollutants removed in the course of treatment or control of wastewaters shall be disposed of in a manner such as to prevent any pollutant from such materials from entering waters of the State. The Permittee must comply with all applicable state and Federal regulations governing the disposal of sludge, including but not limited to 40 CFR Part 503, 40 CFR Part 257, and 40 CFR Part 258.
- B. Any changes to the permittee's disposal practices described in Part II of the permit will require at least 180 days prior notice to the Director to allow time for additional

permitting. Please note that the 180 day notification requirement may be waived if additional permitting is not required for the change.

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 discharge 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.

Calculated Flow Measurement

For calculated flow measurements that are performed in accordance with either the permit requirements or a Department approved method (i.e., as allowed under Part II.3), the +/- 10% accuracy requirement described above is waived. This waiver is only applicable when the method used for calculation of the flow has been reviewed and approved by the Department.

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 provided by the Department or other form/method approved in writing by the Department (e.g., electronic submittal of DMR once approved). Monitoring results obtained during the previous monitoring period shall be summarized and reported on a DMR form postmarked no later than the 25th day of the month or submitted electronically by 6:00 p.m. of the 25th (after NETDMR is approved), following the completed reporting period beginning on the effective date of the permit. When mailing the DMRs, duplicate copies of the forms signed and certified as required by Part III.D.11 and all other reports required by Part III.D, shall be submitted to the Director at the following address:

Enforcement Branch
Water Division
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

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 Part 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) and time analyses were performed;
- 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 to the Director as soon as possible but no later than 180 days prior to any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility [40 CFR 122.41(l)]. Notice is required only when:

- A. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for new sources at 40 CFR 122.29(b); or
- B. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants subject to effluent limitations in the permit, or to the notification requirements under 40 CFR 122.42(a).

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 III.C.5. **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 I of the permit to be reported within 24 hours to the Enforcement Section of the Water Division of the ADEQ.
- C. The Director may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours to the Enforcement Section of the Water Division of the ADEQ.

7. Other Noncompliance

The permittee shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Parts III.D.4, 5, and 6, at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed at Part III.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 on 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); or
- 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 as follows:

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:
 - (a) 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
 - (b) 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:
 - (a) The chief executive officer of the agency, or
 - (b) 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 APCEC Regulation No. 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 Environmental Quality. 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 III.A.2. and/or criminal penalties under the authority of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-101 et seq.).

PART IV DEFINITIONS

All definitions contained in Section 502 of the Clean Water Act and 40 CFR 122.2 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. **“APCEC”** means the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission.
4. **“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.
5. **“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 (APCEC) Regulation No. 2, as amended.
6. **“Best Management Practices (BMPs)”** are activities, practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices designed to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the State. BMPs also include treatment technologies, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw sewage. BMPs may include structural devices or nonstructural practices.
7. **“Bypass”** As defined at 122.41(m).
8. **“Composite sample”** is a mixture of grab samples collected at the same sampling point at different times, formed either by continuous sampling or by mixing a minimum of 4 effluent portions collected at equal time intervals (but not closer than one hour apart) during operational hours, within the 24-hour period, and combined proportional to flow or a sample collected at more frequent intervals proportional to flow over the 24-hour period.
9. **“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.
 - A. **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.
 - B. **Concentration Calculations:** For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the “daily discharge” is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the day.
10. **“Daily Maximum”** discharge limitation means the highest allowable “daily discharge” during the calendar month. The 7-day average for Fecal Coliform Bacteria (FCB) or E-Coli is the geometric mean of the values of all effluent samples collected during the calendar week in colonies per 100 ml.

11. **“Department”** means the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (**ADEQ**).
12. **“Director”** means the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.
13. **“Dissolved oxygen limit”**, shall be defined as follows:
 - A. When limited in the permit as a minimum monthly average, 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.
14. **“E-Coli”** a sample consists of one effluent grab portion collected during a 24-hour period at peak loads. For E-Coli, report the monthly average as a 30-day geometric mean in colonies per 100 ml.
15. **“Fecal Coliform Bacteria (FCB)”**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.
16. **“Grab sample”** means an individual sample collected in less than 15 minutes in conjunction with an instantaneous flow measurement.
17. **“Industrial User”** means a nondomestic discharger, as identified in 40 CFR Part 403, introducing pollutants to a POTW.
18. **“Instantaneous Maximum”** when limited in the permit as an instantaneous maximum value, shall mean that no value measured during the reporting period may fall above the stated value.
19. **“Instantaneous Minimum”** an instantaneous minimum value, shall mean that no value measured during the reporting period may fall below the stated value.
20. **“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) or E-Coli, report the monthly average.
21. **“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.
22. **“POTW”** means a Publicly Owned Treatment Works.
23. **“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.
24. **“Sewage sludge”** means the solids, residues, and precipitate separated from or created in sewage by the unit processes at a POTW. Sewage as used in this definition means any wastes, including wastes from humans, households, commercial establishments, industries, and stormwater runoff that are discharged to or otherwise enter a POTW.
25. **“7-day average”** Also known as Average weekly. means the highest allowable average of “daily discharges” over a calendar week, calculated as the sum of all “daily discharges”

measured during a calendar week divided by the number of “daily discharges” measured during that week.

26. **“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.
27. **“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 of preventive maintenance, or careless of improper operations.
28. **“Visible sheen”** means the presence of a film or sheen upon or a discoloration of the surface of the discharge. A sheen can also be from a thin glistening layer of oil on the surface of the discharge.
29. **“MGD”** shall mean million gallons per day.
30. **“mg/l”** shall mean milligrams per liter or parts per million (ppm).
31. **“µg/l”** shall mean micrograms per liter or parts per billion (ppb).
32. **“cfs”** shall mean cubic feet per second.
33. **“ppm”** shall mean parts per million.
34. **“s.u.”** shall mean standard units.
35. **“Weekday”** means Monday – Friday.
36. **Monitoring and Reporting:**
37. 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 (DMR) 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 DMR shall be submitted by the 25th of the month following the monitoring period end date.

A. MONTHLY:

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

B. BI-MONTHLY:

is defined as two (2) calendar months or any portion of 2 calendar months for monitoring requirement frequency of once/2 months or more frequently.

C. 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 are: May through July, August through October, November through January, and February through April.

D. 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.

E. 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

This Fact Sheet is for information and justification of the permit limits only. Please note that it is not enforceable. This permitting decision is for renewal of the discharge Permit Number AR0021482 with Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Facility Identification Number (AFIN) 17-00062 to discharge to Waters of the State.

1. PERMITTING AUTHORITY.

The issuing office is:

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317

2. APPLICANT.

The applicant's mailing address is:

Van Buren Municipal Utilities
City of Van Buren - Main Plant
P.O. Box 1269
Van Buren, AR 72956

The facility address is:

Van Buren Municipal Utilities
City of Van Buren - Main Plant
1401 Port Road
Van Buren, AR 72956

3. PREPARED BY.

The permit was prepared by:

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4. **PERMIT ACTIVITY.**

Previous Permit Effective Date: 3/01/2009
Previous Permit Modification Date: 3/18/2011
Previous Permit Expiration Date: 2/28/2014

The permittee submitted a permit renewal application on 7/5/2013 and additional information on 7/10/2013. The discharge permit is reissued for a 5-year term in accordance with regulations promulgated at 40 CFR Part 122.46(a).

DOCUMENT ABBREVIATIONS

In the document that follows, various abbreviations are used. They are as follows:

BAT - best available technology economically achievable
BCT - best conventional pollutant control technology
BMP - best management practices
BOD₅ - five-day biochemical oxygen demand
BPJ - best professional judgment
BPT - best practicable control technology currently available
CBOD₅ - carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand
CD - critical dilution
CFR - Code of Federal Regulations
cfs - cubic feet per second
COD - chemical oxygen demand
COE - United States Corp of Engineers
CPP - continuing planning process
CWA - Clean Water Act
DMR - discharge monitoring report
DO - dissolved oxygen
ELG - effluent limitation guidelines
EPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency
ESA - Endangered Species Act
FCB - fecal coliform bacteria
gpm - gallons per minute
MGD - million gallons per day
MQL - minimum quantification level
NAICS - North American Industry Classification System
NH₃-N - ammonia nitrogen
NO₃ + NO₂-N - nitrate + nitrite nitrogen
NPDES - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
O&G - oil and grease
Reg. 2 - APCEC Regulation No. 2
Reg. 6 - APCEC Regulation No. 6
Reg. 8 - APCEC Regulation No. 8
Reg. 9 - APCEC Regulation No. 9

RP - reasonable potential
SIC - standard industrial classification
TDS - total dissolved solids
TMDL - total maximum daily load
TP - total phosphorus
TRC - total residual chlorine
TSS - total suspended solids
UAA - use attainability analysis
USF&WS - United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WET - Whole effluent toxicity
WQMP - water quality management plan
WQS - Water Quality standards
WWTP - wastewater treatment plant

DMR Review/Legal Order Review:

The Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR's) for June 2011 through May 2014 were reviewed during the permit renewal process. There were two violations of the Monthly Average (MA) effluent limits for BOD5 (11/2012 and 12/2012), one violation of the MA effluent limits for CBOD5 (8/2012), one violation of the MA effluent limits for TSS (12/2012), and one violation of the minimum pH level (March 2014). Five violations each of the MA and 7-Day Average concentration limits were reported to have occurred during the specified time frame (7/2011, 5/2012, 8/2012, 9/2012, and 10/2012) while two violations of the loading limits occurred in 5/2012 and 8/2012.

The facility is currently under active Consent Administrative Order (CAO) LIS No. 13-088 issued in June 2013 for the NPDES permits AR0021482 and AR0040967. In a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) dated 8/12/2013, the permittee stated that operational changes were made at the plant in January 2013. The permittee has conducted testing for nitrification inhibitors and plans to do so again in the future. Copies of the CAO and the CAP may be found using the following links:

http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/ftproot/Pub/WebDatabases/Legal/CAO/LIS_Files/13-088.pdf

http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/ftproot/Pub/WebDatabases/PermitsOnline/NPDES/Enforcement_Reports/AR0021482_cap%20for%20van%20buren%20lis%2013%20088_20130812.pdf

Based on an e-mail dated 9/6/2013, from Kevin Suel, the facility has been in compliance with the effluent limitations since January 2013. A copy of the Enforcement Branch's file review may be found using the following link:

http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/ftproot/Pub/WebDatabases/PermitsOnline/NPDES/PermitInformation/AR0021482_Enforcement%20File%20Review_20130906.pdf

5. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES FROM THE PREVIOUSLY ISSUED PERMIT.

The permittee is responsible for carefully reading the permit in detail and becoming familiar with all of the changes therein:

1. The permit now includes limits only for the design flow of 4.0 MGD since the modifications to the treatment system have been completed.
2. The Monthly Total number of Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) and the Monthly Total Volume of SSOs must be reported on the Discharge Monitoring Reports.
3. A requirement to monitor the influent for CBOD5, BOD5, and TSS at least once per year has been added to the current Condition No. 2 of Part II. This requirement for testing at least once per year is included to clarify that the facility must test influent and effluent to show compliance with 40 CFR 133.102 which requires the 30-day average percent removal for CBOD5, BOD5, and TSS of not less than 85 percent.
4. Condition No. 6 addressing Best Management Practices has been included in Part II of the permit. Section 402(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act authorizes the incorporation of BMPs into permits. This requirement is further addressed in 40 CFR 122.44(k) which states that NPDES permit may require BMPs to control and abate the discharge of pollutants if numeric effluent limitations are infeasible and the practices are reasonably necessary to achieve effluent limitations and standards or to carry out the purposes and intent of the CWA. Since there is a potential for other pollutants, not specifically limited in this NPDES permit, to be present in any municipal wastewater BMP requirements are included in lieu of limits.
5. The Pretreatment requirements have been revised.
6. The sample type for CBOD5, BOD5, TSS, and NH3-N has been changed from 24-hr composite to composite.
7. The critical dilution and dilution series for Whole Effluent Toxicity testing have been slightly changed using the revised critical flow of the receiving stream.
8. The monitoring and reporting requirements for Chlorides and TDS have been removed from the permit. See Items #7.A, #13.A, and #13.B of this Fact Sheet for additional information.
9. The sludge land application language has been removed. See Item #11 of this Fact Sheet for additional information.

6. RECEIVING STREAM SEGMENT AND DISCHARGE LOCATION.

The outfall is located at the following coordinates based on the current permit:

Latitude: 35° 25' 3.27" Longitude: 94° 20' 27.18"

The receiving waters named:

Arkansas River in Segment 3H of the Arkansas River Basin. The receiving stream with USGS Hydrologic Unit Code (H.U.C) of 11110104 and reach #001 is a Water of the State classified for primary and secondary contact recreation, raw water source for domestic

(public and private), industrial, and agricultural water supplies, propagation of desirable species of fish and other aquatic life, and other compatible uses.

7. 303(d) LIST, ENDANGERED SPECIES, AND ANTI-DEGRADATION CONSIDERATIONS.

A. 303(d) List:

The receiving stream, Reach #001 of the Arkansas River in HUC 11110104, is listed on the 2008 303(d) list in Category 5f for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and Chlorides. Stream segments listed in Category 5f are waters that are not currently meeting a water quality standard, however, “the basis for not meeting an applicable water quality standard is not caused by a pollutant, but is attributed to other types of pollution” (EPA, 2005). This is also known as natural or background water quality conditions. Water quality standards for TDS and Chlorides have not been exceeded since March 2007 (TDS) and May 2006 (Chlorides). Although the Department has proposed to remove this stretch of the Arkansas River from the 303(d) list, the 2012 303(d) list has not been approved by EPA, therefore, it cannot be used. While the Department is required to continue using the most recent EPA-approved 303(d) list, it is important to note that this reach is no longer impaired for TDS and Chlorides.

In order to ensure that this discharge does not contribute to an impairment, an analysis of the available minerals data using the 7Q10 of 878 cfs was conducted. Based on that analysis, the monitoring and reporting requirements for Chlorides and TDS have been removed from the permit.

B. Endangered Species:

No comments on the application were received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS). The draft permit and Fact Sheet were sent to the USF&WS for their review.

C. Anti-Degradation:

The limitations and requirements set forth in this permit for discharge into waters of the State are consistent with the Antidegradation Policy and all other applicable water quality standards found in APC&EC Regulation No. 2.

8. OUTFALL, TREATMENT PROCESS DESCRIPTION, AND FACILITY CONSTRUCTION.

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

A. Design Flow: 4.0 MGD

B. Type of Treatment: screening unit, activated sludge system, final clarifiers, and UV disinfection

C. Discharge Description: treated municipal wastewater

D. Facility Status: This facility is classified as a major municipal since the design flow of the facility listed above is greater than 1.0 MGD.

E. Facility Construction: This permit does not authorize or approve the construction or modification of any part of the treatment system or facilities. Approval for such construction must be by permit issued under Reg. 6.202.

9. ACTIVITY.

Under the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code of 4952 or North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code of 221320, the applicant's activities are the operation of a sewage treatment plant.

10. INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER CONTRIBUTIONS.

The permittee receives process wastewater from the following significant industrial users.

Industrial Contributor	Principal Product	Process Wastewater Flow
Arkansas Lamp Mfg.	Lamps for hospitality Industry	800 gallons/month
B&W Plating	Platted copper parts	232 gallons/month
FabTech, Inc.	Precision sheet metal components	244 gallons/month
River City Coatings, Inc.	Electrostatic powder coated metal parts	4,110 gallons/day
Simmons Foods, Inc.	Poultry products	226,071 gallons/day
Simmons Prepared Foods, Inc.	Further Process & Par-fry Poultry products	193,877 gallons/day
Tate & Lyle	Starches –edible and industrial	36,000 gallons/day
Tyson Foods, Inc.	Poultry Products	243,333 gallons/day
Oxane Materials	Ceramic proppant	6,250 gallons/day

Standard Pretreatment Program implementation language is deemed necessary at this time.

Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this permit, the permittee must submit one of the following in order to comply with the requirements of 40 CFR 403.5:

- a. Written certification that existing technically based local limits (TBLL) are adequate;
- b. Notification that a technical evaluation of the existing TBLL will be conducted; or
- c. Justification that demonstrates local limits are not necessary for any pollutant at this time.

11. SEWAGE SLUDGE PRACTICES.

The permittee is in the process of obtaining separate permit coverage for the land application of sludge. In a telephone conversation with the Department on June 19, 2014, Steve Dufresne with the permittee stated that they would not need temporary coverage for land application in this permit. Therefore, no land application requirements have been included in the permit.

12. PERMIT CONDITIONS.

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

A. Effluent Limitations

Outfall 001 – treated municipal wastewater

1. 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.	7-Day Avg.		
Flow	N/A	Report, MGD	Report, MGD (Daily Max.)	once/day	totalizing meter
Overflows	Monthly Total SSOs (occurrences/month)			See Condition 5 of Part II	
Overflow Volume	Monthly Total Volume of SSOs (gallons/month)			See Condition 5 of Part II	
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5)					
(May – October)	834	25	40	three/week	composite
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5)					
(November – April)	1000.8	30	45	three/week	composite
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	1000.8	30	45	three/week	composite
Ammonia Nitrogen (NH3-N)					
(May – October)	166.8	5	7.5	three/week	composite
Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	N/A	2.0, (Inst. Min.)		three/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.		
Fecal Coliform Bacteria (FCB)		(colonies/100ml)			
(April – September)	N/A	200	400	three/week	grab
(October – March)	N/A	1000	2000	three/week	grab
Total Phosphorus (TP)	Report	Report	Report	once/month	grab
Nitrate + Nitrite Nitrogen (NO3 + NO2-N)	Report	Report	Report	once/month	grab
pH	N/A	<u>Minimum</u> 6.0 s.u.	<u>Maximum</u> 9.0 s.u.	three/week	grab
Acute WET Testing	N/A	Report %		once/quarter	24-hr composite

2. **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. There shall be no visible sheen due to the presence of oil (Sheen means an iridescent appearance on the surface of the water).

13. BASIS FOR PERMIT CONDITIONS.

The following is an explanation of the derivation of the conditions of the permit and the reasons for them or, in the case of notices of intent to deny or terminate, reasons suggesting the decisions as required under 40 CFR Part 124.7.

Technology-Based Versus Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations and Conditions

Following regulations promulgated at 40 CFR Part 122.44, the 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 as follows:

Parameter	Water Quality-Based		Technology-Based/BPJ		Previous Permit		Permit Limit	
	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
BOD5								
(November – April)	30*	45	30	45	30	45	30	45
CBOD5								
(May – October)	25*	40	25	40	25	40	25	40

Parameter	Water Quality-Based		Technology-Based/BPJ		Previous Permit		Permit Limit	
	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
TSS	N/A	N/A	30	45	30	45	30	45
NH3-N								
(May – October)	5	7.5	N/A	N/A	5	7.5	5	7.5
DO	2.0 (Inst. Min.)		N/A		2.0 (Inst. Min.)		2.0 (Inst. Min.)	
FCB (col/100 ml)								
(April – September)	200	400	N/A	N/A	200	400	200	400
(October – March)	1000	2000	N/A	N/A	1000	2000	1000	2000
TP	N/A	N/A	Report	Report	Report	Report	Report	Report
NO ₃ + NO ₂ - N	N/A	N/A	Report	Report	Report	Report	Report	Report
pH	6.0-9.0 s.u.		6.0-9.0 s.u.		6.0-9.0 s.u.		6.0-9.0 s.u.	

* These effluent limitations for BOD5 and CBOD5 are based 40 CFR 133.102. They have been modeled to ensure compliance with water quality standards for Dissolved Oxygen.

A. Justification for Limitations and Conditions of the Permit:

Parameter	Water Quality or Technology	Justification
CBOD5 and BOD5	Water Quality	MultiSMP Model dated 08/05/2011, previous permit, and 40 CFR 122.44(l)
TSS	Technology	40 CFR 133.102(b), previous permit, 40 CFR 122.44(l)
NH3-N	Water Quality	Reg. 2.512, MultiSMP Model dated 08/05/2011, previous permit, and 40 CFR 122.44(l)
DO	Water Quality	Reg. 2.505, previous permit, and 40 CFR 122.44(l)
FCB	Water Quality	Reg. 2.507, previous permit, and 40 CFR 122.44(l)
TP	Technology	CPP, previous permit, and 40 CFR 122.44(l)
NO ₃ + NO ₂ - N	Technology	CPP, previous permit, and 40 CFR 122.44(l)
pH	Water Quality	Reg. 2.504, previous permit, and 40 CFR 122.44(l)

No changes to the CBOD5, BOD5, TSS, NH3-N, DO, FCB, and pH limits are proposed with this permit renewal. No changes to the monitoring and reporting requirements for TP and NO₃ + NO₂ - N are proposed with this permit renewal.

Chlorides and Total Dissolved Solids

The Department has reviewed the Chlorides and TDS information submitted during the term of the previous permit. Based on this review, the monitoring and reporting requirements for Chlorides and TDS have been removed from the permit. See Item #13.B of this Fact Sheet for additional information concerning the removal of the minerals requirements.

B. Anti-backsliding

The permit is consistent with the requirements to meet Anti-backsliding provisions of the Clean Water Act (CWA), Section 402(o) [40 CFR 122.44(l)]. The final effluent limitations for reissuance permits must be as stringent as those in the previous permit, unless the less stringent limitations can be justified using exceptions listed in 40 CFR 122.44 (l)(2)(i).

The permit maintains the requirements of the previous permit with the exception of the following items:

- i. The critical dilution and dilution series for the acute WET testing requirements have been changed. The relaxation of these values does not constitute backsliding based on 40 CFR 122.44 (l)(2)(i)(B)(1) – new information is available (“Low-Flow Characteristics and Regionalization of Low-Flow Characteristics for Selected Streams in Arkansas”, USGS, 2008) which was not available at the time of the previous permit issuance.
- ii. The monitoring and reporting requirements for TDS and Chlorides have been removed based on an analysis of the data submitted during the term of the previous permit using the 7Q10 of 878 cfs. The removal of these requirements does not constitute backsliding based on 40 CFR 122.44 (l)(2)(i)(B)(1) – new information is available (effluent data gathered during the term of the previous permit). The analysis of the Chlorides and TDS data may be found using the following link:

http://www.adeg.state.ar.us/ftpoot/Pub/WebDatabases/PermitsOnline/NPDES/PermitInformation/AR0021482_Chlorides%20and%20TDS%20Calculations_20131231.pdf

C. Limits Calculations

1. Mass limits:

In accordance with 40 CFR 122.45(f)(1), all pollutants limited in permits shall have limitations expressed in terms of mass if feasible. 40 CFR 122.45(f)(2) allows for pollutants which are limited in terms of mass to also be limited in terms of other units of measurement.

The calculation of the loadings (lbs per day) uses a design flow of 4.0 MGD and the following equation:

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

2. 7-Day Average Limits:

The 7-Day Average limits for BOD₅, CBOD₅, and TSS are based on 40 CFR 133.102.

The 7-Day Average limits for NH₃-N (May through October) and TP are based on Section 5.4.2 of the Technical Support Document for Water Quality-Based Toxics Control.

$$\text{7-Day Average limits} = \text{Monthly average limits} \times 1.5$$

The 7-Day Average limits for FCB are based on Reg. 2.507.

3. Ammonia-Nitrogen (NH₃-N):

The water quality effluent limitations for Ammonia are based either on DO-based effluent limits or on toxicity-based standards, whichever are more stringent. The toxicity-based effluent limitations are based on Reg. 2.512 and the CPP.

D. 208 Plan (Water Quality Management Plan)

The 208 Plan, developed by the ADEQ under provisions of Section 208 of the federal Clean Water Act, is a comprehensive program to work toward achieving federal water goals in Arkansas. The initial 208 Plan, adopted in 1979, provides for annual updates, but can be revised more often if necessary. The 208 Plan has been revised to change 7Q10 from 700 cfs to 878 cfs.

E. Priority Pollutant Scan (PPS)

ADEQ has reviewed and evaluated the effluent in accordance with the potential toxicity of each analyzed pollutant using the procedures outlined in the Continuing Planning Process (CPP).

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 (AWQS), Regulation No. 2 (Reg. 2.508) and criteria obtained from the "Quality Criteria for Water, 1986 (Gold Book)".

Under Federal Regulation 40 CFR Part 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 below have been derived in a manner consistent with the Technical Support Document (TSD) for Water Quality-based Toxics Control (EPA, March 1991), the CPP, and 40 CFR Part 122.45(c).

The following items were used in calculations:

Parameter	Value	Source
Flow	4 MGD = 6.12 cfs	Application
7Q10	878 cfs	U.S.G.S.
TSS	12 mg/l	CPP
Hardness as CaCo3	125 mg/l	CPP
pH	7.51 s.u.	ARK0038, Arkansas River at Van Buren
C _b , Copper	1.86 µg/l*	ARK0038
C _b , Lead	0.10 µg/l*	ARK0038
C _b , Nickel	1.05 µg/l*	ARK0038
C _b , Selenium	0.42 µg/l*	ARK0038
C _b , Silver	0.47 µg/l*	ARK0038
C _b , Zinc	0.90 µg/l*	ARK0038

*Geometric mean of data gathered from 4/18/2006 through 3/15/2011. The data points and the calculation of the geometric means may be found on the Department's web site at the following link: http://www.adeg.state.ar.us/ftproot/Pub/WebDatabases/PermitsOnline/NPDES/PermitInformation/AR0021482_Geometric%20Mean%20of%20Background%20Data%20ARK0038_20140130.pdf

The following pollutants were reported at the indicated concentrations. These concentrations listed below are the geometric mean of 21 data points taken from the permittee's pretreatment reports. The calculation of the geometric means may be found on the Department's web site at the following link:

http://www.adeg.state.ar.us/ftproot/Pub/WebDatabases/PermitsOnline/NPDES/PermitInformation/AR0021482_Geometric%20Mean%20of%20Metals%20Data_20140130.pdf

Pollutant	Concentration Reported, µg/l
Total Recoverable Arsenic	0.543
Total Recoverable Copper	3.3
Total Recoverable Lead	0.398
Total Recoverable Mercury	0.00413
Total Recoverable Nickel	3.37
Total Recoverable Selenium	2.73
Total Recoverable Silver	0.251

Pollutant	Concentration Reported, µg/l
Total Recoverable Zinc	37.04
Total Recoverable Phenols	1.79

ADEQ has determined from the submitted information that the discharge does not pose the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance above a water quality standard. The reasonable potential calculations may be found on the Department's web site using the following link:

http://www.adeg.state.ar.us/ftp/root/Pub/WebDatabases/PermitsOnline/NPDES/PermitInformation/AR0021482_PPS_20140130.pdf

14. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY.

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 toxicity (WET) testing 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.

Whole effluent toxicity testing of the effluent is thereby required as a condition of this permit to assess potential toxicity. The whole effluent toxicity testing procedures stipulated as a condition of this permit are as follows:

TOXICITY TESTS	FREQUENCY
48 hour Acute WET	Once/quarter

Requirements for measurement frequency are based on the CPP.

Since 7Q10 is greater than 100 cfs (ft³/sec) and dilution ratio is greater than 100:1, acute WET testing requirements will be included in the permit. The calculations for dilution used for the acute WET testing are as follows:

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

$$Q_d = \text{Design Flow} = 4 \text{ MGD} = 6.2 \text{ cfs}$$

$$7Q_{10} = 878 \text{ cfs}$$

$$Q_b = \text{Background flow} = 0.1 \times 0.25 \times 7Q_{10} = 21.95$$

$$\text{CD} = ((6.2) / (6.2 + 21.95)) \times 100 = 22\%$$

Toxicity tests shall be performed in accordance with protocols described in "Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluent to Freshwater and Marine Organisms", EPA/600/4-90/027. 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 **9%, 12%, 17%, 22%, and 29%** (See the CPP). The low-flow effluent concentration (critical dilution) is defined as **22%** effluent. The requirement for acute WET tests is based on the magnitude of the facility's discharge with respect to receiving stream flow. The stipulated test species *Daphnia pulex* and the Fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*) are representative of organisms indigenous to the geographic area of the facility; the use of these is consistent with the requirements of the State water quality standards. The WET testing 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-821-R-02-012, October 2002 and shall be submitted as an attachment to the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR).

This permit may be reopened to require further WET testing studies, Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) and/or effluent limits if WET testing 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**.

Permit Number:	AR0021482	AFIN:	17-00062	Outfall Number:	001
Date of Review:	9/12/2013	Reviewer:	M. Barnett		
Facility Name:	Massard Wastewater Treatment Facility				
Previous Dilution series:	11, 15, 20, 26, & 35	Proposed Dilution Series:	9, 12, 17, 22, & 29		
Previous Critical Dilution:	26	Proposed Critical Dilution:	22		
Previous TRE activities:	None				

Frequency recommendation by species

<i>Pimephales promelas</i> (Fathead minnow):	once per quarter
<i>Daphnia pulex</i> (water flea):	once per quarter

TEST DATA SUMMARY

TEST DATE	Vertebrate		Invertebrate	
	Lethal	NOEC	Lethal	NOEC
Sep-08		29		29
Dec-08		29		29
Mar-09		29		29
Jun-09		29		29
Sep-09		29		29
Dec-09		35		35
Mar-10		35		35
Jun-10		35		35
Sep-10		35		35
Dec-10		35		35
Mar-11		35		26
Jun-11		35		35
Sep-11		35		35
Dec-11		35		35
Mar-12		35		35
Jun-12		35		35
Sep-12		35		35
Dec-12		35		35
Mar-13		35		35
Jun-13		35		35

REASONABLE POTENTIAL CALCULATIONS

	Vertebrate Lethal	Invertebrate Lethal
Min NOEC Observed	29	26
TU at Min Observed	3.45	3.85
Count	20	20
Failure Count	0	0
Mean	3.005	3.054
Std. Dev.	0.263	0.320
CV	0.1	0.1
RPMF	1.1	1.1
Reasonable Potential	0.834	0.931
100/Critical dilution	4.545	4.545
Does Reasonable Potential Exist	No	No

PERMIT ACTION

<i>P. promelas</i> lethal - monitoring
<i>D. pulex</i> lethal - monitoring

15. SAMPLE TYPE AND FREQUENCY.

Regulations require permits to establish monitoring requirements to yield data representative of the monitored activity [40 CFR Part 122.48(b)] and to ensure compliance with permit limitations [40 CFR Part 122.44(i)(1)].

Requirements for sample type and sampling frequency have been based on the current discharge permit. The 24-hr composite sample requirements for BOD5, CBOD5, TSS, and NH3-N have been changed to composite in order to allow the permittee flexibility in how the required samples are collected.

Parameter	Previous Permit		Final Permit	
	Frequency of Sample	Sample Type	Frequency of Sample	Sample Type
Flow	once/day	totalizing meter	once/day	totalizing meter
BOD5				
(November - April)	three/week	24-hr composite	three/week	composite
CBOD5				
(May – October)	three/week	24-hr composite	three/week	composite
TSS	three/week	24-hr composite	three/week	composite
NH3-N				
(May – October)	three/week	24-hr composite	three/week	composite
DO	three/week	grab	three/week	grab
FCB				
(April – September)	three/week	grab	three/week	grab
(October – March)	three/week	grab	three/week	grab
TP	once/month	grab	once/month	grab
NO ₃ + NO ₂ - N	once/month	grab	once/month	grab
pH	three/week	grab	three/week	grab
Acute WET	once/quarter	24-hr composite	once/quarter	24-hr composite

16. STORMWATER REQUIREMENTS

In lieu of storm water pollution prevention plan requirements the permittee submitted has obtained a "No exposure certification" for exclusion from the NPDES stormwater permit. See tracking number ARR000413.

17. PERMIT COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE.

The permittee is required to meet all permit limits on the effective date of the permit. A requirement to submit a written certification concerning the pretreatment program has been placed in Part IB of the permit for tracking purposes. See Part IB of the Permit and Item #10 of this Fact Sheet for additional information concerning the certification.

18. MONITORING AND REPORTING.

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.

19. SOURCES.

The following sources were used to draft the permit:

- A. Application No. AR0021482 received 7/5/2013 and additional information received on 7/10/2013.
- B. Arkansas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP).
- C. APCEC Regulation No. 2.
- D. APCEC Regulation No. 3.
- E. APCEC Regulation No. 6 which incorporates by reference certain federal regulations included in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations at Reg. 6.104.
- F. 40 CFR Parts 122, 125, 133 and 403.
- G. Discharge permit file AR0021482.
- H. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs).
- I. "Arkansas Water Quality Inventory Report 2008 (305B)", ADEQ.
- J. "Identification and Classification of Perennial Streams of Arkansas", Arkansas Geological Commission.
- K. Continuing Planning Process (CPP).
- L. Technical Support Document For Water Quality-based Toxic Control.
- M. [CAO LIS No. 13-088](#).
- N. [E-mail dated 9/6/2013](#) from Kevin Suel to Marysia Jastrzebski.
- O. Telephone conversation on 12/31/2013 to discuss changes to the permit.
- P. MultiSMP Model dated 8/5/2011.
- Q. [E-mail to EPA Region VI](#) regarding review status of permit dated 4/4/2014.
- R. [E-mails with EPA Region VI](#) regarding permit review status dated 4/4/2014.
- S. [E-mails with EPA Region VI](#) regarding permit review status dated 4/9/2014.
- T. [E-mails with EPA Region VI](#) regarding permit review status dated 4/14/2014.

- U. Telephone conversation between Steve Dufresne and Loretta Reiber, P.E., on 6/19/2014 regarding whether or not land application language needs to be in this permit for the first six months.
- V. E-mail from Steve Dufresne to Loretta Reiber, P.E. dated 8/13/2014 regarding legal applicant.

20. POINT OF CONTACT.

For additional information, contact:

Loretta Reiber, P.E.
Permits Branch, Water Division
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317
Telephone: (501) 682-0612

**RESPONSE TO COMMENTS
FINAL PERMITTING DECISION**

Permit No.: AR0021482

Applicant: Van Buren Municipal Utilities
City of Van Buren - Main Plant

Prepared by: Loretta Reiber, P.E.

The following are responses to comments received regarding the draft permit number above and are developed in accordance with regulations promulgated at 40 C.F.R. §124.17, APCEC Regulation No. 8 Administrative Procedures, and A.C.A. §8-4-203 e(2).

Introduction

The above permit was submitted for public comment on September 20, 2014. The public comment period ended on October 20, 2014.

This document contains a summary of the comments that the ADEQ received during the public comment period. The permittee, who was the only party to submit comments on the draft permit, only raised one issue. Part II.8.6.d of the permit was changed as a result of the comment.

Comment 1 The permittee requested a reduction in the WET test frequency. Part II, Condition 8.6 of the draft permit and 13.5 of the previous permit allow for a reduction in WET monitoring frequency if the permittee has successfully completed the first four quarters of testing for one or both species. The permittee stated that more than 22 consecutive tests have met the test acceptability criteria listed in the permit.

Response: The WET test frequency for major municipal dischargers must be set at a minimum of once per quarter at each renewal of the permit. Part II.13.5.d of the previous permit states: “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.”

The permittee is considered to be a major discharger because it is a municipality with a design flow greater than 1.0 MGD. According to the EPA Region 6 WET Permitting Strategy (May 2005), “For major dischargers, the *minimum* monitoring frequency for WET is once per quarter for the invertebrate and vertebrate test species, with a potential reduction in testing frequency after completing one year of testing with no lethal or sub-lethal effects (see Region 6 WET Monitoring Frequency Guidance, 06/30/00). According to the current CPP, Appendix D. part III.E.1.b, Major Municipal permits with a design flow of greater than 2 MGD and no known problems shall conduct the toxicity testing four times a year for both species.

The Department recognizes that more than one WET test has been conducted since the previous permit expired on February 28, 2014. Although the Department cannot reduce the frequency as requested at this time, Part II.8.6.d will be revised as follows:

“The permittee may apply for a testing frequency reduction upon the successful completion of the first four consecutive quarters of testing (in accordance with Item 1.a.) after the expiration date of the previous permit, for one or both test species, provided that all of the following conditions are met:

- i. The permittee reverted to quarterly testing upon the expiration date of that permit, and
- ii. The issuance of the renewed permit was not delayed by any fault of the permittee, and
- iii. No lethal or sub-lethal effects are demonstrated at or below the critical dilution for the first four consecutive quarters of testing after the expiration date of the previous permit.

If any of the above conditions are not met, the permittee may apply for a testing frequency reduction upon the successful completion of the first four consecutive quarters of testing (in accordance with Item 1.a.) after the renewal permit is issued, for one or both test species.

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 *Daphnia pulex*).”