



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
 Washington, D.C. 20460  
**NPDES Compliance Inspection Report**

Form Approved  
 OMB No. 2040-0003  
 Approval Expires 7-31-85

**Section A: National Data System Coding**

Transaction Code	NPDES	yr/mo/day	Inspec. Type	Inspector	Fac Type
1 N 2 5 3 A R 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 11 12 0 7 0 7 1 2 17 18 V 19 S 20 1					
Remarks					
A F I N 7 2 - 0 0 1 0 2					
Inspection Work Days	Facility Evaluation Rating	BI	QA	Reserved	
67 69	70 N	71 N	72 N	73	74 75 80

**Section B: Facility Data**

Name and Location of Facility Inspected (For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number) Elkins Water Department (discharges to City of Fayetteville POTW – Permit #AR0020010) 111 Walker St. Elkins, Arkansas 72727	Entry Time /Date 10:15 AM / 07-12-07	Permit Effective Date 06/01/06
	Exit Time/Date 11:55 AM / 07-12-07	Permit Expiration Date 05/31/11
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s) Kevin Caler / Elkins Water & Sewer Superintendent / 479-643-3121, 479-879-5869 (cell)	Other Facility Data	
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number Kevin Caler, Elkins Water & Sewer Superintendent / 479-643-3121, 479-879-5869 (cell) P.O. Box 332, Elkins, AR 72727	SSO Location GPS: 36 02 27.812 -94 03 21.419	
	Contacted Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

**Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection**  
 (S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated)

N	Permit	N	Flow Measurement	N	Operations & Maintenance	N	Sampling
N	Records/Reports	N	Self-Monitoring Program	N	Sludge Handling/Disposal	N	Pollution Prevention
N	Facility Site Review	N	Compliance Schedules	N	Pretreatment	N	Multimedia
N	Effluent/Receiving Waters	N	Laboratory	N	Storm Water	U	Other: SSO

**Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments (Attach additional sheets if necessary)**

The City of Elkins has a waste collection system that discharges untreated sewage/waste to the City of Fayetteville POTW and is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the collection system. The collection system receives waste from ~ 900 residential and business sewer taps and has been recently discharging an average of ~ 116,000 gal/day to the Fayetteville POTW.

A sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) investigation was conducted in response to a report received on 7/11/07 from Kevin Caler, Elkins Water Department that a cleanout on an 8" force main had been damaged and had allowed for a release of raw sewage to the environment adjacent to and into the Middle Fork of the White River. The force main cleanout is located on the north side of Hwy 16 just west of the Middle Fork of the White River bridge, approximately 0.4 miles upstream from Lake Sequoyah. According to Mr. Caler, it appeared that the cleanout had been damaged on an unknown date by a vehicle. The damage was not reported to the City of Elkins by the driver. The cleanout is located near in an area accessed for fishing (see next page).

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s)  John Fazio	Agency/Office/Telephone/Fax ADEQ/Fayetteville/479-267-0811, ext. 16, 479-267-0819 (fax)	Date July 16, 2007
Signature of Reviewer	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers	Date

On the morning of 7/11/07, the Elkins Water Department received an odor complaint from a resident. During their complaint investigation, the damaged cleanout along the main and a large area impacted by the sewage release was discovered. The lift station pumps, located just east of the river, were shut off to prevent further release. The line was repaired by 1630 on 7/11/07. Solids, liquids and what was described by Mr. Caler as a 1.5 inch layer of black and gray slime were reported to be present in an ~ ¼ acre area surrounding the line break. Mr. Caler had contacted the Little Rock office earlier that afternoon to report the release and to request some guidance on cleanup. I spoke with Mr. Caler at 4:15 pm on 7/11/07 and recommended he lime the area, recover as much of the liquids and solids as possible, and following cleanup to thoroughly blanket the impacted areas with hydrated lime to reduce the potential health hazards as well as offensive odors. He stated that he would locate a vac-truck and begin remediation of the site as soon as possible. He indicated that a crew was removing solids from the impacted area as practicable. Mr. Caler estimated that 1 million gallons of sewage may have been released. The ADEQ later received a report from a Fayetteville resident that the sewage odor in that area was present on 7/07/07.

On 7/12/07, I met with Mr. Caler at the Elkin's Water Department. He indicated that he was still trying to secure a vac truck. We drove to the release site. It appeared that during the active leak, waste water had flowed from the cleanout and was directed along various truck ruts in the dirt road and into the Middle Fork of the White River. River flow was relatively high, and there was no visible evidence that a fish kill had occurred. Several puddles of waste/wastewater were present, and waste sludge was widespread along the dirt road and the vegetated areas. I recommended to Mr. Caler that he block off access to the area and contact Arkansas Game & Fish, the City of Fayetteville, the Fayetteville POTW and the Washington County Health Department. We returned to his office and discussed remediation of the impacted area. Because rain was in the immediate forecast, I recommended that he contact a nearby outside source for a vac-truck and begin recovery. I also recommended that he remove and properly dispose of the sludge and impacted soils. He contacted the Fayetteville Water & Sewer, who were to mobilize immediately to the site with a vac-truck.

On 7/13/07, I called Mr. Caler for an update. He stated that the vac-truck was unable retrieve any waste liquids on 7/12/07 because it was not able to get close enough to the impacted area. Heavy rains had occurred on the afternoon of 7/12/07, and had made conditions worse. He indicated that on 7/13/07, they used a bulldozer to knock over vegetation in the impacted area and bulldozed the impacted soils, water and sludge together. He stated that they were unable; at that point, to effectively remove the slurry that had been created, so they heavily limed the area. He was unsure how to proceed next, so I recommended they create an impermeable barrier between the river and the impacted area in the event that it should rain again, wait for the waste/soils to dry enough for removal, and to again heavily blanket the area with hydrated lime. Because there was no forecast for substantial precipitation in the weekend forecast, he was confident they could continue the cleanup over the weekend.

On 7/16/07, I attempted to reach Mr. Caler for an update. Mr. Caler could not be reached. A letter from the ADEQ requiring a report from the Elkins Water Department detailing clean-up efforts and measures to prevent such occurrences from happening again will be issued.

# ADEQ

A R K A N S A S  
Department of Environmental Quality

July 23, 2007

Mr. Kevin Caler, Water & Sewer Superintendent  
Elkins Water Department  
P.O. Box 332  
Elkins, Arkansas 72727

Dear Mr. Caler:

On July 12, 2007, I investigated a reported release of sewage from your waste collection system. The Elkins waste collection system receives waste from residential and business sewer taps and discharges this waste to the City of Fayetteville POTW for treatment. On July 11, 2007, you reported to the ADEQ that following an odor complaint, the Elkins Water Department discovered that a cleanout along an 8" force main had been damaged. Upon investigation, it was documented that sewage waste had been released to a large area surrounding the cleanout and to the Middle Fork of the White River. The investigation revealed that you are in violation of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, the Federal Clean Water Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder. Specifically, I found the following violation:

- **Release of raw sewage from the Elkins waste collection system to the Waters of the State. This is a violation of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act 8-4-217.(a)(2).**

The aforementioned violation requires your immediate attention. Please submit a written response to this finding to the Water Division Enforcement Section detailing the circumstances of the release, the amount of waste estimated to have been released, the area impacted by the release and cleanup efforts. Please include in your response photographs documenting remediation results, as well as copies of disposal manifests and/or receipts documenting proper disposal of removed liquids and excavated sludge and soils. This response should contain documentation describing the course of action taken to prevent future releases at this location. This response is due no later than August 9, 2007.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact me at 479-267-0811, ext. 16.



Sincerely,





John Fazio  
District 1 Field Inspector  
Water Division

cc: Water Enforcement Branch

**Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)  
Official Photograph Sheet**


<b>Location:</b>		Elkins Sewage Collection System Release					
<b>Photographer:</b>		John Fazio			<b>Witness:</b>		
<b>Photo #</b>	1	<b>Of</b>	6		<b>Date:</b>	7/12/07	<b>Time:</b> 1104
<b>Description:</b>		Along Middle Fork of the White River access roads looking at sewage waste impacted areas.					
							
<b>Photographer:</b>		John Fazio			<b>Witness:</b>		
<b>Photo #</b>	2	<b>Of</b>	6		<b>Date:</b>	7/12/07	<b>Time:</b> 1104
<b>Description:</b>		Along Middle Fork of the White River access roads looking at sewage waste impacted areas.					
							

**Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)  
Official Photograph Sheet**

<b>Location:</b>		Elkins Sewage Collection System Release						
<b>Photographer:</b>		John Fazio			<b>Witness:</b>			
<b>Photo #</b>	3	<b>Of</b>	6		<b>Date:</b>	7/12/07	<b>Time:</b>	1106
<b>Description:</b>		Liquid waste accumulated in vehicle ruts.						
								
<b>Photographer:</b>		John Fazio			<b>Witness:</b>			
<b>Photo #</b>	4	<b>Of</b>	6		<b>Date:</b>	7/12/07	<b>Time:</b>	1104
<b>Description:</b>		Impacted area around 8" force main cleanout. Cleanout has been repaired and is to be marked/protected in future.						
								



**Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)  
Official Photograph Sheet**

<b>Location:</b>		Elkins Sewage Collection System Release					
<b>Photographer:</b>		John Fazio			<b>Witness:</b>		
<b>Photo #</b>	5	<b>Of</b>	6		<b>Date:</b>	7/12/07	<b>Time:</b> 1106
<b>Description:</b>		Liquid waste traveled along ruts and into the Middle Fork of the White River. River is located at end of road seen in background.					
							
<b>Photographer:</b>		John Fazio			<b>Witness:</b>		
<b>Photo #</b>	6	<b>Of</b>	6		<b>Date:</b>	7/12/07	<b>Time:</b> 1107
<b>Description:</b>		Looking toward the sewage release point to the river from the Hwy 16 bridge.					
		