



ARKANSAS
Department of Environmental Quality

January 29, 2008

Mr. James Boston, Public Works Director
City of Decatur
P.O. Box 247
Decatur, Arkansas 72722

RE: Sanitary Sewer Overflow Reporting

AFIN: 04-00052 NPDES Permit No.: AR0022292

Dear Mr. Boston:

On January 07, 2008, Alison West, Field Inspector, and I performed a reconnaissance inspection of the waste water treatment facility in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act, the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, and the regulations promulgated thereunder. Peterson Farms of Decatur had previously provided the ADEQ Storm Water Section in their annual report a record of sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) that had occurred on or adjacent to their facility grounds during their reporting period for 2007. These records documented SSOs from city sewer mains between April and November of 2007. It appears that all of the overflows that Peterson had notified you of during this time period were not reported by the City of Decatur to the ADEQ. This inspection revealed the following violations:

1. Failure to notify the ADEQ of SSOs as required by Part II.D.6.a of your permit. Peterson Farms had provided the Department evidence of, including photo documentation, sewage overflows that occurred on April 16th, May 9th, May 10th, July 30th, August 16th, October 8th, and November 29th of 2007. In all instances, Peterson personnel stated that they had notified the City of Decatur of the overflows. During this time period, the ADEQ has record of only one SSO reported by the City, which was reported as having occurred at an unspecified location on July 2, 2007.
2. Failure to take steps to reduce, eliminate and prevent reoccurrence of the SSOs. According to Peterson Farms, the City responded to the sewage overflows at their facility on April 16th and August 16th of 2007 only. This is in violation of Part II.D.6.a.3 of your permit.
3. During the course of the site visit to Peterson Farms, it appeared that there was a combined sewer (sanitary and storm) in a lot near the live haul building; this violates Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission Regulation 6.202. Not only can this result in a large amount of storm water overwhelming the collection system, but it also allows sediment and other material to enter into the system where it can cause blockages and accelerate pump wear.

James Boston, City of Decatur
January 29, 2008
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The above items require your immediate attention. Please submit a written response to these findings to the Water Division Enforcement Branch at the following address:

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

This response should contain detailed documentation describing the course of action taken to correct the items noted. This corrective action should be completed as soon as possible, and the written response is due by February 20, 2008.

For additional information you may contact the Enforcement Branch by telephone at 501-682-0639 or by fax at 501-682-0910.

If I can be of any assistance, please contact me at 479-267-0811, ext. 16.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Fazio". The signature is stylized and cursive.

John Fazio
District 1 Field Inspector
Water Division

cc: Water Division Enforcement Branch
Water Division Permits Branch
Juan Ibarra, EPA, Region 6



Form Approved
OMB No. 2040-0003

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Washington, D.C. 20460

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

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	2	2	9	2	11	12	0	8	0	1	0	7	17	18	V	19	S	20	1											
Remarks																																							
A F I N						0 4 - 0 0 0 5 2																																	
Inspection Work Days						Facility Evaluation Rating						BI		QA		-----Reserved-----																							
67						70						71		72		73 74 75 80																							

Section B: Facility Data

Name and Location of Facility Inspected (<i>For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number</i>) City of Decatur POTW 985 Austin St. Decatur Arkansas		Entry Time/Date 1340 / 01-07-08	Permit Effective Date 10-01-03
		Exit Time/Date 1440 / 01-07-08	Permit Expiration Date 09-30-08
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s) James Boston, Public Works Director, 479-752-3912, 479-752-8336		Other Facility Data 36 20' 39.019", -94 28' 21.806"	
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number James Boston, Public Works Director City of Decatur P.O. Box 247 Decatur, Arkansas 72722 479-752-3912, 479-752-8336		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)

S	Permit	N	Flow Measurement	N	Operations & Maintenance	N	Sampling
U	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 following violations were noted:

1. Failure to notify the ADEQ of SSOs.
2. Failure to take steps to reduce, eliminate and prevent reoccurrence of SSOs.
3. Evidence of combined sewer (sanitary and storm) unnecessarily allowing large amounts of storm water into the collection system.

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s) John Fazio	Agency/Office/Telephone/Fax AR Dept. of Environmental Quality - Fayetteville 479-267-0811, ext. 16; 479-267-0819	Date 01-15-08
Signature of Reviewer	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers	Date

Water Division NPDES Photographic Evidence Sheet

Location: Peterson Farms – Decatur SSO locations

Photographer: John Fazio **Witness:** Alison West

Photo # 1 **Of** 3 **Date:** 1/7/08 **Time:** 1352

Description: SSO location in road near live haul building at Peterson Farms. Outfall to creek in background.



Photographer: John Fazio **Witness:** Alison West

Photo # 2 **Of** 3 **Date:** 1/7/08 **Time:** 1354

Description: Area of a sewer line repair made by city on 8/16/07.



Water Division NPDES Photographic Evidence Sheet

Location:	Peterson Farms – Decatur SSO locations
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Photographer:	John Fazio	Witness:	Alison West
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Photo #	3	Of	3	Date:	1/7/08	Time:	1355
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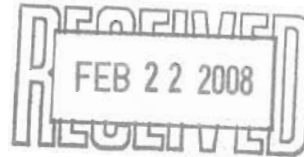
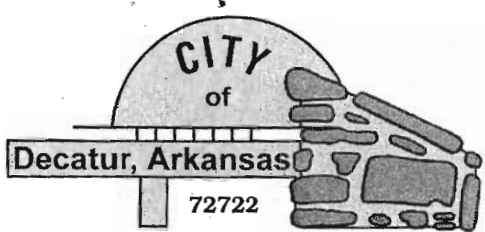
Description:	Another SSO location along creek at Peterson Farms.
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Photographer:		Witness:	None
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Photo #		Of		Date:		Time:	
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Description:	
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310 Maple Avenue Box 247

Phone: (479) 752-3912

February 15, 2008

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

Permit Number AR0022292 AFIN: 04-00052

Dear Mr. Fazio,

This letter is in response to your January 29, 2008 letter concerning SSO reporting. I will address the three findings in the order you have listed.

The first stated failure dealt with not notifying all of the SSO's that occurred to ADEQ. Although the Peterson Farm person who apparently took a lot of pictures that appeared to be from several different days, I can say that I or my departments were not notified on all of these occasions as he or she has claimed. We have had no reason to or will we, to hide or cover up any SSO. Without any more he said or she said statements this is how we will do better in the future to ensure this does not happen again. We have a great relation with the new Peterson Farm Wastewater manager who has a very good vantage point or view of the manholes in question. I have told him to contact me directly or if I am not available one of my department heads so that it can be reported and the problem rectified. If I am not available the day of the SSO one of the department heads will have the phone number and or web address to make sure the SSO is reported to ADEQ. And lastly all personnel in the water, wastewater and street departments know to contact me or a department head if an overflow is noticed or reported to them.

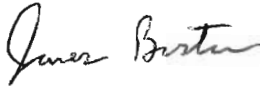
Finding number two I do disagree with you that we have failed to take steps to reduce or eliminate SSO's. We have made great strides I believe with money that is available and budgeted to reduce problems along the sewer line that is in question. We have relined eight manholes so far with gunnite to reduce or stop water from seeping or sometimes pouring in around brick manholes. We have begun to camera a lot of this very long sewer line system and have found problem areas that have been addressed. One example is that we have put rain caps in low lying manholes; we know this has helped considerably. I certainly agree that we have much work to do along this line, and we will continue to take it seriously and work on it diligently. Six manholes have been budgeted for this year to be relined.

Finding number three was not mentioned to me the day of the inspection but is a problem for us and Peterson Farms that is and has been addressed to find a permanent solution to. The runoff from this area could contain poultry litter waste that I feel like is better to go

to the treatment plant instead of going to the nearby stream. This is not the best solution now for the City but one that does prevent this as being a possible stream contamination point. Since there is no pumps or pumping on our part there is no wear and tear on our pumps. However this is a situation we are trying to rectify by possibly sending this small amount of rain water back to the Peterson DAF unit for pretreatment. A lot of work has been done already on trying to solve this problem and we will continue to do so until a permanent solution is reached.

We can and will do better as will as find solutions for the findings and faults you have pointed out to us. If you need to contact me on the above comments I can be reached at City Hall at phone number (479) 752-3912.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Boston".

James Boston
Public Works Manager
City of Decatur