# Richard Healey (adpce.ad)

From: Charles McDowell < CMcDowell@lsbindustries.com>

**Sent:** Friday, March 22, 2024 11:25 AM

**To:** Richard Healey (adpce.ad); Water-Enforcement-Report

Cc:Keith Long; Howard StevensSubject:EDCC, NPDES Permit AR0000752Attachments:EDC Weekly Update 2024-3-22.docx

#### Mr Healey,

Attached is the weekly update. However due to technical issues with our local network, I cannot pull the analytical data. It will be provided in the next weekly report.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Charles McDowell | Environmental Leader | LSB INDUSTRIES, Inc. (NYSE: LXU) | El Dorado Chemical Plant | 4500 North West Avenue, El Dorado, Arkansas 71731

# Weekly Report Required by Interim Measures Letter dated 8/4/2023

LSB Chemical Company, NPDES Permit Number: AR0000752, AFIN: 70-00040 Weekly Report Date: <u>15 March 2023</u>, Updated portions are underlined.

#### Discharges and Implementation of Emergency Action Plan

Over the last week, the facility received 0.88 inches of rain. We received 7.1 inches in the morning of the 15<sup>th</sup>. Lake Kildeer is currently at 16.5 feet. We have closed Outfall 001 and are discharging solely though Outfall 010. LSB is attempting to keep the levels of Kildeer below 17.00 feet. In the event of additional rain, LSB will manage the discharge from Kildeer as necessary to ensure water does not overtop the emergency spillway in accordance with the August 4, 2023 Interim Measures letter. Weekly data for Kildeer and rainfall is not available currently due to onsite IT issues, we will submit this data in the next report.

## Conduct Daily Sampling of Lake Lee, Lake Killdeer, and Pond 004

LSB commenced this required sampling on August 5, 2023. <u>However, due to onsite IT issues we are</u> unable to pull the data from the network. We will be resubmitting this data in the next weekly report.

# Provide Copies of Sampling of Lake Lee, Lake Killdeer, and Pond 004 Since January 1, 2023

Please see the LSB Interim Measures response dated August 9, 2023.

### Corrective Action Plan Activities [updates from the previous week are underlined]

During our August  $17^{\text{th}}$  conference call we discussed that these proposed activities may trigger a communication to the ADEQ and possible permit changes. We will continue to communicate plans and improvements to obtain ADEQ's guidance on proper permitting.

# Minimize Wastewater Contaminant Loading Water Reuse:

LSB has evaluated its processes to assess locations where water can be reutilized in processes. Currently we are reusing as much wastewater as possible, that would otherwise flow into Pond 004, and are reusing some water from Pond 004 when the opportunity arises.

#### Minimize Wastewater Inflow

The stormwater diversion project has been completed. LSB met with ADEQ on the 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss permit applicability. Based on the discussions this action will not require a construction permit. Physical work on the project has been completed and we can now divert a total of 30% of the stormwater flow from 004. This is currently a manual process, to automate additional work will be required. Additionally, we have started an engineering study to divert additional water away from the Ammonia Nitrate facility. This project will focus on paving in and around the Ammonia Nitrate area and is upstream of any waste/process water connections and will not require a construction permit. LSB has utilized seven frac tanks to increase the storage capacity of Ammonia Nitrate water to reduce the overflow into Pond 004 from rain events.

Maximize Treatment Efficiency and Capacity

#### Lake Lee Ammonia Stripper

LSB continues to operate the ammonia stripper with an approximate 20% efficiency. However, the stripper has to be shut down during freezing weather due to the lack of heat load on the stripper. Cold weather operation can/will cause freezing of the cooling tower.

#### Treatment of Pond 004

LSB met with Black & Veatch, a wastewater consulting firm, to determine the best treatment possibilities for Pond 004. Based on these initial conversations a biological system seems to be the best path forward. The B&V report was attached in the 13 Oct 2023 report.

Based on review of the Black and Veatch data, LSB is proceeding with biological treatment of 004, but we are still assessing how to address treatment barriers such as predilution, carbon addition, and sludge generation. The design basis is complete. The design basis is under internal technical review and review from Alliance Technical Group who will be submitting the permit application.

The units are currently on site and are in a staging area. A construction permit will be submitted as soon as engineering is completed.

Black and Veatch is developing the processes to operate the plants and develop a written plan to use these package plants in the setup they are proposing. Once the plans are developed, we can propose permit modification to facilitate this. We are currently developing a list of longer lead time items (i.e. Transformers) to try to find alternative sources of procurement to prevent unforeseen delays. It was expected the transformer would be a potential long lead time element, with the design bases completed, we have sized transformers and this appears to no longer be the critical path. Ancillary equipment for these units is undergoing inspection and repaired as needed.

LSB internal engineering is evaluating siting and location for these package plants, this has been narrowed down to two locations. LSB contracted HSG to do site investigations for the foundation and to develop the foundation plans. We have selected a site for the foundations. We are currently drafting plot plans and potential layouts for the units.

Additionally, we are evaluating possibilities of reuse of the process wastewater as an input into a product.

#### Increased Efficiency in Lake Killdeer Biological Activity

Based upon discussion with supplier of nitrification/denitrification bacteria, LSB will begin dosing Lake Killdeer with calcium carbonate or magnesium carbonate to increase the available of carbon and alkalinity in Lake Killdeer. Increasing available carbon should promote additional biological activity to reduce the amount of ammonia in Lake Killdeer and the effluent discharge. LSB has also ordered one ton of lime and will begin dosing Lake Lee with the lime in efforts to increase alkalinity in Lake Lee which flows into Lake Kildeer. Before any dosing begins a construction, permit will be submitted.

#### Baffles in Lake Killdeer

LSB selected a vendor to install baffles in Lake Killdeer. As discussed in our August 17th conference call, this should promote longer residence time and further increase biological activity to reduce the amount of ammonia in Lake Killdeer and the effluent discharge. Baffles have arrived onsite. Construction

drawings and design basis have been submitted to apply for the construction permit. The permit application was submitted on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January. The installation is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2024 or as soon as approval is received from the ADEQ. ADEQ submitted the public notice on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February. The 10 day comment period is closed and LSB has submitted proof of publication and payment.

# Water Quality Sampling Results

Water quality sampling required by the Interim Measures letter is included in the attached 2023 spreadsheet.

#### Water Column Profile Measurements

LSB has contracted with Alliance Technology Group (formerly GBMc) to complete the profile and sampling of Pond 004, Lake Lee, and Lake Killdeer. The field work was completed on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### KT French Drain

KT French Drain is located southwest of the KT plant on the west edge of the facility. Water is collected in a wet well then pumped back into the facility, much like a municipality utilized lift stations. During the previous inspection the pump was not operating and the wet well was overflowing. LSB has implemented daily inspections to ensure that the pump remains operational.

As requested, LSB collected samples from KT Wier. Samples collected on December 8<sup>th</sup> were collected based on the December 7, 2023 conversation with ADEQ and before we received the official request thus all requested in-situ parameters were not collected. Data is presented below:

Date	Temp	рН	D.O.	Cond.	Ammonia	Nitrate	Nitrite	Total – N	Nitrate +
					mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	Nitrite
12-8-2023	NA	4.35	NA	79,150	6,600	10,351	0.43	16,951.4	10,351.4
12-12-	16	4.40	5.63	79,250	6,500	10,633	0.41	16,833.4	10,633.4
2023									
12-14-	18	4.37	5.16	77,440	6,350	10,669	0.46	17,019.46	10,669.46
2023									
12-19-	16	4.35	6.16	78630	12080	11,477	ND	23,557	11,477
2023									
12-21-	18	4.35	5.43	77,750	9200	11,108	ND	20,308	11,108
2023									

#### Other Actions

In this call LSB was informed we need to obtain a wastewater operator's license as quickly as possible. Charles McDowell is planning on completing the advanced industrial wastewater class on March 26<sup>th</sup> thru the 28th. LSB currently has three certified operators. Second, ADEQ advised that LSB should coordinate with other Joint Pipeline members regarding discharges and volumes. We have initiated this communication.

LSB has contracted Alliance Technology to conduct a bathometric survey of 004. The results of the study indicate that Pond 004 contains approximately 1.5 Million Gallons of water.