

City of Eureka Springs

Public Works Department
3174 East Van Buren Street
Eureka Springs, Arkansas 72632

Office of the Director, Dwayne Allen
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December 29, 2015

Layne Pemberton
Water Division Enforcement Section, ADEQ
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118

RE: NPDES Permit Number AR0021865

Mr. Pemberton

The Eureka Springs Wastewater Facility is in compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit, and as has been since our mixed liquor was restored to its operational range. This incident caused several exceedances and was related to the complete rebuilt of that pump two years ago, which makes up another large portion of the number of exceedances during the last three years. To be in compliance is not enough we must develop a plan that not only maintains our current status but also prepares us to meet our anticipated lower permit containment levels.

Our review revealed that our exceedances consisted entirely of nutrient removal overages and sanitary sewer overflows. Most of which were related to high water and mechanical issues. Our first step was refocusing the entire staff on teamwork and operation and maintenance, while emphasizing safety. Starting with our chemical feeds and working out through the collection system. If you take the history of this facility and understand where we started our improvements from to where we are today, I believe it is evident that we have made great strides and do have reasons to be proud of our progress. That being said I understand we still have a long way left to reach our goals. This coming year is critical in increasing the investment in our wastewater system. Our budget issues are tied to maintaining our distribution system and the need to reduce water loss and even to the larger issue of state tourism, which sustains our economy.

I started with our greatest need, plant operation and what capital improvements will be the most cost effective and sustainable. The City of Eureka Springs has signed a contract with McClelland Engineering for developing our plan. I have enclosed a copy of this contract. We have already had meetings with them and will send you a copy of our plan, upon completion.

I have hired Evans Electric to review our pumps, control panels, and wet wells. They have made several repairs already and are now focusing on our single phase duplex control panels. I have received a quote from Systems Incorporated on upgrading our PLC and computer system at the

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plant. I am working with Multi-Craft on improving our Supervisor Control and Data Acquisition System. Part of our plan we be reviewing our parts list that needs to be stored on site.

The collection system will require a greater time frame. I have contracted with Humbard Construction to begin inspecting our sewer mains, in January of 2016. We will begin downtown with our larger trunk lines and work out to identified basins with larger inflow and infiltration.

I will update you with our progress and will seek the Department's approval on any major changes or investments. Our investments will reduce our future costs and I believe our funding issues will be greatly improved in the coming year. If you believe we need to add anything to our immediate plans, please let me know.

Please call me at 479-253-9600 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dwayne Allen,
Public Works director

Enclosures:

1) Contract