

January 25, 2016

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 referenced above, and as has been since their 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.

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. The first step was refocusing the entire staff on teamwork and operation and maintenance, while emphasizing safety. Starting with chemical feeds and working out through the collection system. Taking the history of this facility into consideration and understand where we started our improvements from to where we are today, I believe it is evident that great strides have been made the City has reasons to be proud of their progress. That being said they still have a long way left to reach their goals. This coming year is critical in increasing the investment in the wastewater system. 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.

The City started with their 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.

The City hired Evans Electric to review the 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 plant. The City is working with Multi-Craft on improving our Supervisor Control and Data Acquisition System. Part of our plan we be reviewing the parts list that needs to be stored on site.

The collection system will require a greater time frame. They have contracted with Humbard Construction to begin inspecting our sewer mains, in January of 2016. The City 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. 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 479-443-2377 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



A. Todd Beaver, P.E.
Project Manager, MCE

