

City of Eureka Springs

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

Office of the Director, Dwayne Allen
Phone: 479-253-9600
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February 05, 2014

Ms. Marilyn Stout
Enforcement Coordinator
Water Division Enforcement Section, ADEQ
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118

RE: NPDES Permit Number AR0021865, AFIN 08-0036, CAO LIS NO. 07-100
Consent Order – Milestone Schedule and Corrective Action Plan Update

Dear Ms. Stout,

In accordance with the above referenced Consent Administrative Order LIS No. 07-100, we are updating you on behalf of the City of Eureka Springs Public Works Department on the status of the fifth year of the corrective action plan.

The weather had a large impact on Public Works in 2013. First we had a spring storm that caused major wind damage in a wide path through the city limits. In August we had severe flooding resulting in Carroll County beginning declared a disaster area, DR 4143. We experienced higher than normal precipitation during the entire year. In December we had two ice and snow storms and extreme cold conditions throughout the month. Water and wastewater funding were down as all bond funds were depleted in 2012 and due to the wet weather and a reduction in our customer base we sold less water than we have in the last five years.

During the course of 2013 we made several improvements to the wastewater plant including, new underground three phase wiring, repairs to the head works, including rebuilding the screw assembly a new effluent flow meter, maintenance on one of the motive pumps, including a new impeller, we had two collection lift station pumps rebuilt, including a 30 horse. We repaired several of our building's doors and windows improving our resistance to freezing weather while decreasing our utility costs. We installed a new caustic pump. We cut our plant water usage by half by repairing service line leaks and adjusting plant procedures. We repaired numerous sewer mains due to failing pipe and root intrusion, continued lining manholes and installing rain bonnets resulting in a slight decrease of inflow in our collection system, as proven by our influent numbers. We had our sewer camera rebuilt and are improving our ability to correct problems before they become an emergency. The Glenn Street sewer rehab project was started. We have several rehab projects planned for the coming year and plan to utilize pipe bursting under the concrete streets downtown.

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Reviewing 2013 and planning for 2014 has caused concerns with available funding for our planned projects. We are due to exit the consent order in 2015. After we are removed from the consent we still must apply all of our available resources in repairing our infrastructure and the city must realize that a sufficient amount of funding must be in place to maintain our systems and that the capital funds invested in infrastructure will decrease our operating costs and allow us to maintain a reserve. I have proposed a water and sewer increase along with fee increases. We have asked all options be explored including fees for bond payments and sales taxes. I have attached my report to the Mayor, which includes planned projects any additional projects will be based on the increase or any savings occurring during 2014 operations. The projects identified by camera and field reports are our top priority for this year. Our goals are to camera a portion of the collection system yearly and upgrade our equipment to allow us to better evaluate our system.

I have enclosed my report to the Mayor which explains a portion of our requests. Also I shared data from the last few years with the City Council with a brief history of our rate structure. We have made a lot of progress over last few years which I hope will translate into trust by our citizens thus allowing an increase this year. The political climate of our elected officials could certainly change in November. I anticipate an improvement in revenue this year which will be reflected on my next update.

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

Sincerely,


Dwayne Allen,
Public Works Director

Enclosures:

1) Departmental Report

City of Eureka Springs
Department of Public Works
3174 East Van Buren
Eureka Springs, AR 72632-9498



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ADEQ
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North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

