

December 29, 2022

Guy Lester Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality 5301 Northshore Drive North Little Rock, AR 72118

RE: City of Blytheville – Treatment Facility Updates NPDES Permit No. AR0022578 & AR0022560 & AR0022586

Mr. Lester:

This letter is intended to serve as an update to the Blytheville wastewater treatment facility construction progress. As of the writing of this letter, construction of the SBR treatment plant is in the final stage of commissioning and startup. Work is also ongoing at the North plant to replace the Biolac components.

Prior to commissioning of the SBR and Biolac replacement, all basins at the South, West, and North plants were drained and sludge was removed. The South and West have pump stations installed per the construction plans submitted to DEQ and will now function as equalization basins and primary clarifiers which will ultimately feed the SBR. The North plant was drained and cleaned prior to the new Biolac equipment being installed.

Draining and cleaning took place beginning during early December and work on commissioning continues to date. During this timeframe water has been stored in the existing treatment facilities lagoons therefore no discharge has occurred. Scheduled sampling for December (including the 4th Quarter WET testing) will not be performed as there has been no discharge during this time. The duration of the no discharge was not anticipated to be prolonged however issues with startup at both facilities has necessitated the storage continue until both plants are completely operational. The SBR and Biolac facilities are scheduled to be online in early January and resume discharging. At that time PMI will submit the necessary paperwork to DEQ for termination of the West plant and operation under the new South SBR.

Should you have any questions or require additional information please contact me at 501-221-7122 or <u>bwingfield@pmico.com</u>.

Sincerely, **PMI**

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Brad Wingfield, P.E. Principal – Engineering Division