



November 8, 2022

EMAIL

Ms. Jill Gray, Enforcement Analyst
Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

Re: NPDES Permit Number: AR0036692, AFIN-57-00423, CAO LIS 18-046
Notification of Permit Exceedance
Mena Wastewater Treatment Plant
HW Project No. 2020024

Dear Ms. Gray:

This letter will recap and summarize the permit exceedances that were recorded at the City of Mena's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) during the month of October 2022. Permit exceedances and their associated sampling dates are provided below:

<u>Sampling Date</u>	<u>Constituents Out of Compliance</u>
October 5, 2022	Dissolved Oxygen (DO)
October 13, 2022	Dissolved Oxygen (DO)

A notification was sent to DEQ on November 4, 2022, for a DO exceedance on October 6, 2022. However, there were no permit exceedances on October 6, 2022, and the exceedance sampling date should have been labeled as October 5, 2022.

The cause of the recorded DO exceedances is unknown; however, it is suspected to be a result of algal respiration and/or oxygen demand from excess sludge accumulations within the lagoons. As referenced in the City's Effluent Limits Compliance Quarterly Progress Report No. 12 submitted to the DEQ on October 13, 2022, the City held a Design Phase Kickoff Meeting for a new activated sludge wastewater treatment facility on October 27, 2022. This new facility is expected to provide increased operational flexibility and be less susceptible to the permit exceedances occurring at the City's existing facility.

Respectfully Submitted,

HAWKINS-WEIR ENGINEERS, INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Wes LeMonier'.

Wes LeMonier, P.E.

WJL/gch

cc: Mr. James Looney, Mena Water Utilities General Manager
Mr. Mike Spencer, Mena Water Utilities Wastewater Superintendent

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