



October 30, 2020

EMAIL

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

Re: Mena Water Utilities
NPDES Permit Number: AR0036692, AFIN-57-00423, CAO LIS 18-046
Notification of Permit Exceedances

Dear Ms. Harbin:

This letter is intended to provide notification of permit exceedances that were recorded at the City of Mena's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) during the month of September 2020. Permit exceedances and their associated sampling dates are provided below.

<u>Sampling Date</u>	<u>Constituents Out of Compliance</u>
September 2, 2020	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)
September 3, 2020	pH

The cause of the recorded pH and TSS exceedances are unknown. However, the City indicated that the pH exceedance may have resulted from a higher than normal Alum dosing in their filters. The TSS exceedance occurred during a peak wet weather event. The effluent was filtered prior to discharge, but it is suspected that the abnormally high flows associated with this event limited the effectiveness of the WWTP's filtration system. Laboratory results related to these exceedances will be provided by the City separate from this notification. As referenced in the City's Effluent Limits Compliance Quarterly Progress Report No. 4 submitted to the Division of Environmental Quality on October 15, 2020, the City is currently taking steps toward constructing a new activated sludge wastewater treatment facility. This new facility is expected to provide more operational flexibility and be less susceptible to the permit excursions occurring at the City's existing facility. The preliminary design phase of the WWTP project commenced in October 2020 and construction of the new WWTP is scheduled to be complete by November 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

HAWKINS-WEIR ENGINEERS, INC.


Adrian J. Kaufman, P.E.

AJK/oab

cc: Mr. Charles Pitman, Mena Water Utilities General Manager
Mr. Mike Spencer, Mena Water Utilities Wastewater Superintendent

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