



March 3, 2020

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

Re: NPDES Permit Number: AR0036692, AFIN: 57-00423, CAO LIS 18-046-001
Progress Report – Effluent Limits Compliance

Dear Ms. Harbin:

The City of Mena, AR has agreed to provide quarterly progress reports detailing the progress made towards final compliance with their effluent requirements, as detailed in the Order and Agreement Section of CAO LIS 18-046-001. The first progress report was required to be submitted by January 15, 2020. We regret to have missed that deadline and offer the following update as Progress Report No. 1:

- The City of Mena submitted a Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Master Plan to DEQ on August 21, 2019.
- The City of Mena submitted a Lagoon Levee Analysis to DEQ on August 29, 2019.
- The City of Mena met with DEQ on September 9, 2019 to discuss the recommendations included in the WWTP Master Plan and to outline the revised compliance timeline for incorporation into the CAO.
- The City of Mena submitted an application to the Water/Wastewater Advisory Committee on September 12, 2019 for guidance and recommendations on financing the improvements outlined in the WWTP Master Plan.
- The City of Mena met with representatives from Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, USDA Rural Development, and the Arkansas Economic Development Commission on December 11, 2019 to discuss potential funding sources for the improvements outlined in the WWTP Master Plan.
- Hawkins-Weir Engineers is currently preparing a construction permit application and designing improvements to the City of Mena's chlorine disinfection system to achieve consistent compliance with Total Residual Chlorine limits.

Respectfully Submitted,

HAWKINS-WEIR ENGINEERS, INC.

Aaron M. Benzing, P.E.

AMB/slh

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

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