



July 13, 2020

EMAIL

Ms. Danielle Harbin, Enforcement Analyst
Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
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 recap and summarize the permit exceedances that were recorded at the City of Mena's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) during the month of June 2020. Permit exceedances and their associated sampling dates are provided below.

Table with 2 columns: Sampling Date and Constituents Out of Compliance. Rows include June 10, 2020 (Fecal Coliform Bacteria), June 18, 2020 (Total Suspended Solids and Dissolved Oxygen), June 24, 2020 (pH and Total Residual Chlorine), and June 25, 2020 (DO and TRC).

Notifications for the FCB and TSS permit exceedances on June 10th and June 18th were provided to DEQ in letters dated June 18, 2020 and June 24, 2020, respectively. As mentioned previously, Mena's treatment process currently does not include a means of dechlorinating to control TRC. The City is scheduled to begin a full-scale peracetic acid (PAA) disinfection trial evaluation in August 2020. Through this trial, the City intends to evaluate PAA as a long-term solution to achieving consistent compliance with their FCB and TRC limits. The cause of the recorded pH and DO exceedances are unknown. However, the City indicated that the pH exceedance may have resulted from a higher than normal Alum dosing in their filters. 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. 2 submitted to DEQ on April 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. Hawkins-Weir Engineers is currently preparing a Site Selection Study to identify a location for the new WWTP which is scheduled to be complete this month. Construction of the new WWTP is scheduled to be complete by November 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,
HAWKINS-WEIR ENGINEERS, INC.

Signature of Adrian J. Kaufman, P.E.

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