



October 13, 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 18-046-001
Progress Report No. 12 – Effluent Limits Compliance
HWEI Project No. 2020024

Dear Ms. Gray:

The City of Mena, Arkansas, has agreed to provide quarterly reports detailing the progress made towards final compliance with their effluent requirements per the Order and Agreement Section of CAO LIS 18-046-001. We offer the following update as Progress Report No. 12:

- During the reporting period, the City has continued a full-scale peracetic acid (PAA) pilot study at their existing Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to evaluate its effectiveness for achieving consistent final effluent compliance with Fecal Coliform Bacteria and Total Residual Chlorine. The City was granted a one (1) year variance extension by DEQ to continue this trial until their Construction Permit and Revoke and Reissue Permit applications can be approved. These approvals will allow for a permanent PAA disinfection system to be installed at their existing WWTP. On October 2, 2022, ADEQ advertised the Public Notice of Draft Discharge Permit that includes residual limits for PAA.
- The City has contracted with HW to perform a Sewer Rate Study. This Study will ensure sewer revenues are sufficient to pay for operation and maintenance expenses, fund necessary reserve accounts, and pay debt service with a minimum coverage of 110%.
- The City of Mena has secured local interim financing to fund design phase services for the proposed WWTP. A Kickoff Meeting for the Design Phase has been scheduled for October 27, 2022.
- Now that project funding has been secured and a Design Phase Kickoff Meeting has been scheduled, the City intends to submit a modification request to their CAO milestone schedule.

Respectfully Submitted,

HAWKINS-WEIR ENGINEERS, INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Wesley J. LeMonier'.

Wesley J. LeMonier, P.E.

WJL/gch

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