



October 11, 2021

EMAIL

Ms. Sarah Pierce, 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. 8 – Effluent Limits Compliance

Dear Ms. Pierce:

The City of Mena, AR has agreed to provide quarterly progress 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. 8:

- 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-year variance extension by ADEQ to continue the trial until the Construction Permit and Revoke and Reissue Permit applications can be approved. The approval will allow for the permanent PAA disinfection system to be installed.
- USDA approved the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER).
- USDA approved the Environmental Assessment (EA). The City began advertising the EA for public notice on September 30, 2021. Following USDA's public comment period, the City's final funding application for the new WWTP project will be submitted.
- After receiving USDA approval of the EA and PER, the City submitted a funding application to the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) on September 14, 2021.



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- The funding process is anticipated to be complete by March 2022. After funding is secured for the project, the City will be able to finalize the design and construction schedule. At which time, the City will request a modification to their Corrective Action Plan schedule. Construction of the new wastewater treatment facility is anticipated to be completed in the Summer of 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

HAWKINS-WEIR ENGINEERS, INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth Heiles".

Elizabeth Heiles, P.E.

ESH/oab

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