



April 15, 2024

EMAIL

Ms. Kristen Graham, Compliance 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. 18 – Effluent Limits Compliance
HWEI Project No. 2020024

Dear Ms. Graham:

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. 18:

- The City bid the proposed wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) project on February 27, 2024, and bids were significantly higher than the funding available for the project. Unfortunately, due to the significant cost overrun, value engineering of the current design is not feasible. As outlined in a meeting with DEQ on April 11, 2024, the City intends to rehabilitate their current facility to achieve permit compliance until they can build the new WWTF.
- The City plans to request to withdraw their NPDES Permit and Construction Permit for the new WWTF.
- The City intends to close the Construction Permit that has been left open for PAA revisions.
- The City intends to revise the CAO since its expiration has placed them on the SNC list. Following revisions to the CAO, the City will submit a revised 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/mcw

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

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