



Helena Municipal Water & Sewer

Owned and operated by the
City of Helena-West Helena
702 Cherry Street
Helena-West Helena, Arkansas 72342
Office 870-572-6714 or 870-817-7460
Fax 870-572-6545 or 870-338-7477

April 10, 2019

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Ms. Leslie Allen-Daniel
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118

RE: Response to AFIN: 54-00083
Corrective Action Plan

Dear Ms. Allen-Daniel,

We received your request for a corrective action plan for the infractions outlined in your letter received February 5th, 2019 (see attached copy). We have gone through our records and have provided information collected in response to those violations submitted during the period of infractions.

The Helena WWTP which operates under NPDES Permit Number AR0043389 is a 105-acre facultative waste water treatment facility which is divided into 4 cells. Cell 1 is approximately 30 acres, cell 2 is 40 acres, cell 3 is 20 acres and cell 4 is 15 acres.

In June of 2018 Mayor Hollowell contacted Governor Hutchinson asking for emergency funding to repair a severely compromised exterior levee wall in cell 3 and secured a \$135,000 loan from ADNR to make repairs to the exterior levee wall of cell 3.

We had been advised (April 2018) by several engineering firms that the integrity of the levee wall had been severely compromised due to years of neglect and high-water conditions experienced in the system. Due to this emergency we were continuously discharging from the HWWTP to the Mississippi River through our #6 discharge station. ADEQ was notified of the increased discharge and the repairs we were completing to the pond. The low Dissolved Oxygen level recorded in June 2018 coincided with an increased discharge and an extremely hot hazy humid period in late June 2018. Our only way to increase dissolved oxygen is through natural oxygenation by ambient air flow.

During the months of September, October and into the middle of November 2018 Parker Construction rebuilt the exterior levee wall on cell 3 of the pond in order to prevent a potential complete collapse and breach of levee wall 3 onto private farm grounds adjacent to our facility. Due to their efficiency, we were also able to complete an additional 2200 Linear Feet of exterior levee wall repair along cells 1, 2, and 4.

We have been working diligently on securing funding to complete repairs on the interior walls and have been successful in securing funds from DRA (Delta Regional Authority) in the amount of \$425,000 along with a \$25,000 match from the HWH Water Department. The funding was to be released in the spring of 2019. However, the City of Helena has an unresolved debt issue from an old Army Corps of Engineers project dating back to the 1990s, that triggered a Bureau of Fiscal Service's Treasury Offset Program (TOP) confiscation of all Federal Grants. In March 2019 Mayor Kevin Smith met with Department of Justice and Army Corps of Engineer representatives in Washington, D.C. and was able to obtain a letter from the Department of Justice stating funds federal funding would not be subject to offset pending resolution of this issue with the Department of Justice (see attached letter).

Attached you will find the non-compliance notification reports that were submitted by our Responsible Operator in Charge Mr. Benzene Collier for those non-compliance notifications. I am currently the third Water Department General Manager since 2016 and as a result of the management turnover we have not received all the non-compliance notifications as best we can determine. I have attached our responses to every NCR we received and assure you we take every precaution to maintain our NPDES discharge limits. We are in the Delta Region of the Mississippi River and are prone to periods of very heavy rainfall (in excess of 4 to 8 inches in a 24-hour period) in which case we will see periods of water levels rising in our HWWTP ponds anywhere from 3 to an 8-inch level increase. The impact to our ponds for every inch of water level increase is approximately 2,851,000 gallons. A 3-inch water level increase to our ponds equates to 8,553,000 gallons.

On February 28, 2018, we had a catastrophic failure of our only discharge pump from the HWWTP. We immediately notified ADEQ (Mr. Layne Pemberton Enforcement Analyst, email attached) of the failure and the potential emergency due to the condition of the levee walls of the treatment ponds. The City has operated the #6 Lift Station with one pump operational (12") for the past 12 years. There are two other discharge pumps at #6 Lift Station (8") which have been non-operational and currently still are. This has limited the ability to remove storm water from the HWWT ponds during periods of heavy rain. In order to correct the problem, we installed a by-pass valve in line at the #6 station and rented 2 Xylem 8" by-pass pumps to continue operation while repairs were completed. Due to the age of the pumps and electrical motor, the repairs took approximately 90 days for completion.

After years of neglect and non-maintenance of the levee walls, the HWWTP has experienced complete collapse of interior levee walls between cells 2 and 3, and partial collapse of a levee wall between cells 3 and 4. Due to the condition of the interior levee walls we have been unable to maintain the grass height on the interior levee due to compromised levee integrity. Under normal operating conditions our system relies on our natural environment in order to operate in compliance to our NPDES permit guidelines. We have been fortunate with our dissolved oxygen levels having only been low with one reading. Under typical conditions we would have quit discharging by the middle of June during normal summer periods. In order to complete the recent repairs to the exterior levee wall, it was necessary to draw down the ponds to approximately 5.5 feet in order to do the exterior levee wall repair work.


The violations of our NPDES permit are primarily due to mechanical failures of pumps, excessive single event rainfalls, and years of neglect. Attached is our certified engineer designed CAP plan and timeline to complete repairs of the interior levee walls of the HWWTP. We are also in the process of investigating further treatment of our discharge waters to ensure compliance. We are looking into the possibility and feasibility of feeding PAA (Peracetic Acid) along with Hydrogen Peroxide in order to increase dissolved oxygen at our discharge and lower our fecal coliform levels eliminating any further discharge violations. Samples have been collected and are being analyzed for the feasibility of this approach and we should have program costs and recommendations later in April.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,



Jack Ross
General Manager
Helena-West Helena Water Department



Kevin Smith
Mayor, City of Helena-West Helena

CC: Andre Valley-City Attorney
Helen Halbert-Chief of Staff
Layne Pemberton-Enforcement Analyst ADEQ

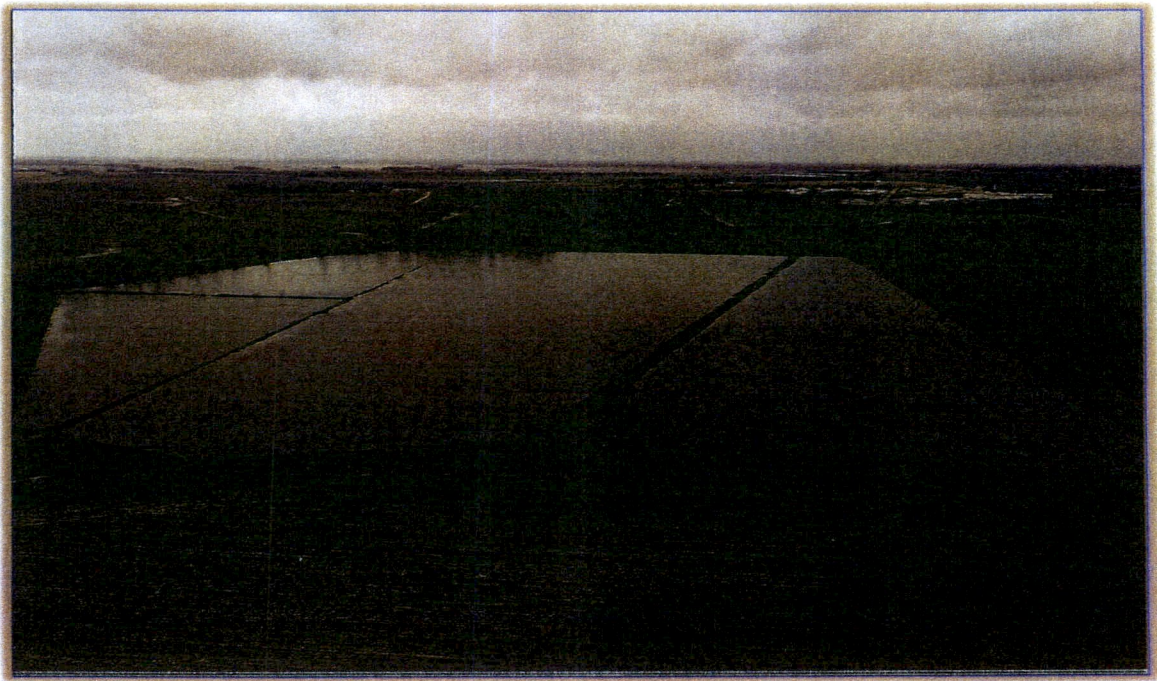
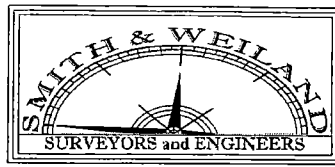


Figure 1: Helena Waste Water Treatment Pond



9 April 2019

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Water Quality, Enforcement Branch
c/o Leslie Allen-Daniel, Enforcement Analyst
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

Reference: City of Helena - AR0043389 AFIN 54-00083; ADEQ Request for Corrective Action Plan (CAP) dated 5 February 2019

In response to referenced CAP request we offer the following response:

1. The lagoon levees have experienced severe wave wash erosion on all exterior and interior levee sections. This has resulted in two very serious problems with the operation of the lagoon system, and its efficacy in the treatment of the influent from a fecal coliform standpoint. The interior levees separating the individual cells have breached allowing shortcutting of the influent to the discharge structure. This characteristic would be worse at the end of the spring wet season when the pond levels are higher, and is consistent with the elevated fecal levels in the months of May and June as reflected in referenced request letter. The second problem is the viability of the heavily eroded exterior levees. (See #2 below.)
2. Emergency funding was acquired by the city to address the worse sections of the exterior levees to minimize the risk of a breach of the levees and uncontrolled release from the ponds. At the same time, the city also made repairs to the effluent discharge pumps to increase their ability to discharge the volume necessary to return the ponds to low, operating pool levels so the exterior levee repairs could be made. This is likely the reason for the higher fecal level violation in September of 2018. These excessively high fecal levels should be reduced as long as the pumps remain functional and the pond levels are controlled.
3. To alleviate the existing short circuit between the lagoon cells at normal and high levels, the city has secured significant, additional grant funding to design and construct repairs to the interior levees to close the existing breaches. This action will allow the normal, design routing of effluent through the system with the corresponding increase in residence time. We anticipate this will reduce the fecal coliform levels at the discharge.
4. Funding for the proposed interior levee repairs was secured at the end of March, 2019. The milestone schedule for the interior levee repairs is as follows:

30 April 2019 – Secure engineering and survey services for plan development and boundary survey of available borrow areas and work limits;

28 June 2019 – Boundary, design, construction plans and bid documents complete; bid advertisement;

SMITH & WEILAND
SURVEYORS AND ENGINEERS, INC.

31 July 2019 – Construction contract award and Notice to Proceed issued;
15 November 2019 – Construction complete.

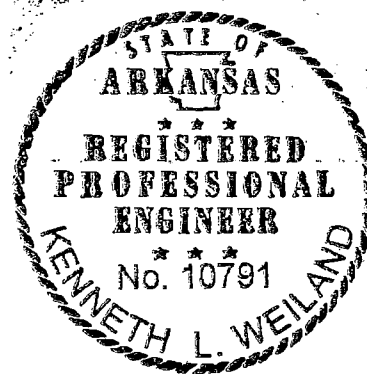
I hope the information above adequately addresses the CAP as requested in referenced letter.
Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions or need additional information

Respectfully submitted,



KENNETH L. WEILAND, P.E.
VICE PRESIDENT

KLW/mpc



SMITH & WEILAND
SURVEYORS AND ENGINEERS, INC.

728 Cherry Street
Phone: (870) 338-6550

Helena, AR 72342
Fax: (870) 338-7730



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
5722 INTEGRITY DRIVE
MILLINGTON TENNESSEE 38054-5005

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Accounts Receivable/Debt Management Branch

March 19, 2019

Mr. Kevin Smith
Mayor
City of Helena-West Helena
P.O. Box 248
Helena, AK 72342

Re: Status of City of Helena-West Helena's Debt to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

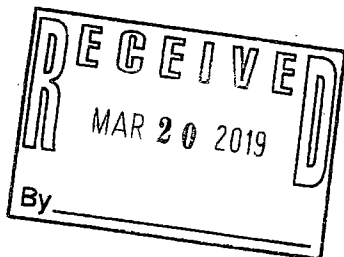
Dear Mr. Smith,

This letter is in reference to the City of Helena-West Helena's outstanding debt to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Due to our referral of this debt to the Department of Justice, this debt is not currently subject to the Bureau of Fiscal Service's Treasury Offset Program (TOP). Collection of this debt through TOP will remain inactive, pending the Department of Justice's review of the City of Helena-West Helena's ability to pay the debt. Accordingly, current payments made to the City will not be offset by the TOP program.

Please contact Amy Taylor, Chief of Accounts Receivable/Debt Management Branch, at 901-873-9166 or Amy.Taylor1@usace.army.mil with any questions.

Sincerely,

for Anne M. Schmitt-Shoemaker
Deputy Director of Finance
USACE Finance Center





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March 5, 2019

Ms. Leslie Allen-Daniel
Enforcement Analyst
ADEQ Office of Water Quality
Mail
Enforcement Branch
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317

Sent by Electronic & US First Class

Subject: Updated Status Report of NPDES Permit Number AR0043389

Dear Ms. Allen-Daniel:

We have received your Request for a Corrective Action Plan based upon your review of the certified Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) submitted by our facility from January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2018.

I have contracted Smith & Weiland Engineering who are P.E., to work with us in order to complete the CAP for our effluent violations. Due to the recent month of severe flooding we have been unable to complete this action plan within the March 5th deadline and respectfully request a six-week extension on the CAP in order to complete this request as thoroughly as possible.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Regards,

Jack Ross

Jack Ross
General Manager
Helena-West Helena Water Department

CC: Mayor Smith, Helen Halbert-COS



CITY OF HELENA-WEST HELENA

June 21, 2018

The Honorable Asa Hutchinson
Governor of Arkansas
State Capitol
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Via email: christian.gonzalez@governor.arkansas.gov

SUBJECT: Request for Emergency Funding

Dear Governor Hutchinson:


Pursuant to our recent conversation at the Municipal League Conference last Thursday, I am formally submitting a request to you for emergency funding to be used to repair the exterior levee walls of our Helena waste water treatment ponds. We have an urgent and immediate need for assistance and a very narrow window of time during which repairs can be made before winter.

I am attaching supporting documentation from my Water Department General Manager Jack Ross, illustrating the critical state of the sewer ponds. We are in the process of soliciting funding for additional repairs to the interior levee walls, but it is imperative we first ensure the integrity of the exterior levees to avoid a breach. The estimated cost for this emergency repair is \$116,000.00

I appreciate your willingness to speak with me about this issue and thank for your consideration of my request. You may contact me at 870-662-1105 or by email at mayor@helena-westhelena.us.

I look forward to hearing back from you soon.

Respectfully,


Mayor Jay Hollowell
City of Helena-West Helena

With attachments

Jay Hollowell, Mayor Sandi Ramsey, City Clerk Andre Valley, City Attorney Derrick Turner, Treasurer

P: 870.817.7400 | F: 870.338.7250 | PO Box 248 | 226 Perry Street | Helena, AR 72342



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6-20-18

City of Helena-West Helena
Honorable Mayor Jay Hollowell
226 Perry Street
Helena, AR 72342

Subject: Emergency Funds for Helena WWTP Repairs

Dear Honorable Hollowell,

The Helena sewer treatment lagoons (hereinafter referred to as WWTP) serving the population of Helena, Arkansas have sustained severe structural damage to both the exterior and interior WWTP levees of the lagoons over this past severe winter. Extremes in both temperature and rainfall have, along with equipment failures at the WWTP, caused a dire situation with the structural integrity of Cell 3. This damage has occurred over a long period of time; however, this past winter has caused catastrophic deterioration of the exterior levee walls and immediate repairs must be implemented to safely operate the WWTP moving forward.

We are in the process of applying for additional funding sources with Delta Regional Authority to assist with long range levee wall repairs. We have contacted ARWA and are working with ARWA on a Rate Study for the water department to assess our current system needs from a funding standpoint and project repair costs to complete work on the WWTP. At this point in time, due to the severe structural damage to the outer levee wall of Cell 3, the WWTP is in desperate need of immediate Emergency Funding to make repairs to prevent failure of the levee system.

We currently have a limited window available to complete those repairs (approximately 90 days +/- available). We have been working with Smith & Weiland Engineering here in Helena to come up with an estimate on Emergency Repairs needed to allow the system to operate for another year without failure. Our best estimate is we need to repair immediately 800 LF of levee wall (see attached photos) and the estimated cost/LF is \$145.00. We are requesting an amount of \$116,000 to begin immediately making repairs to maintain the structural integrity of the Helena WWTP.

Attached to this report are the project narrative of the Helena WWTP needed repairs and what we are trying to schedule and get approved through our City Council. I have also attached emails that have been shared with ADEQ over the past 6 months as we have tried to address the problem in our WWTP. Also attached are photographs of the actual extent of the system damage to Cell 3 and the reason for the critical nature of request for these Emergency Funds.

If you have any further questions or need additional information do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Regards,



Jack Ross
General Manager
Helena-West Helena Water Department
jross@hwhwater.com
870-817-7460 o
870-338-7477 f
870-816-7917 e

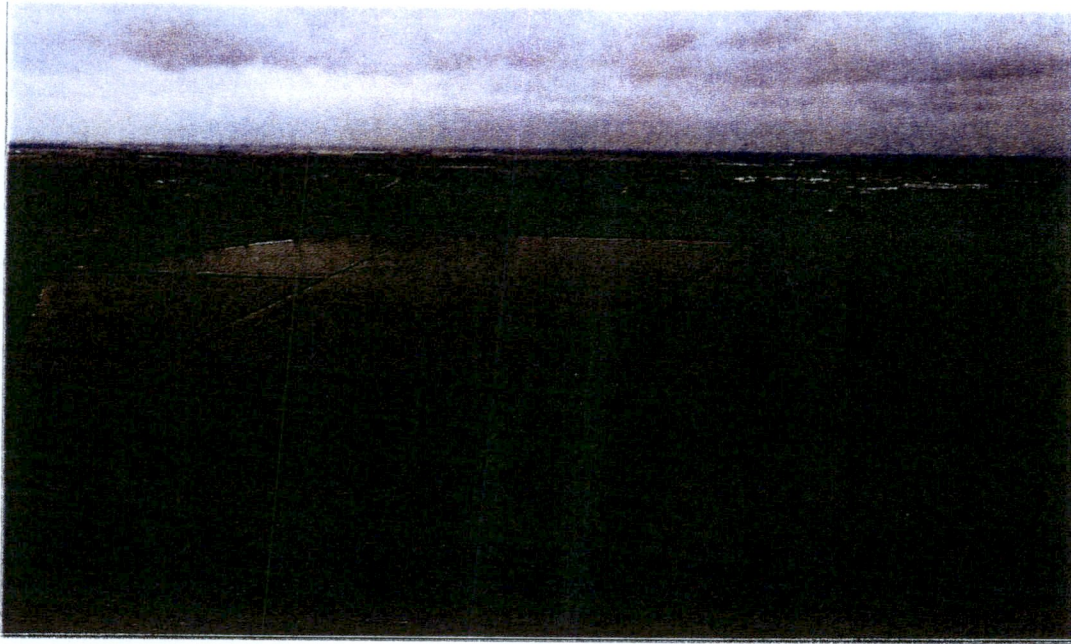


Photo 1. Helena WWTP Aerial view of all cells

Photo 2. Helena WWTP South Wall Cell 3 Showing whole top of levee is gone



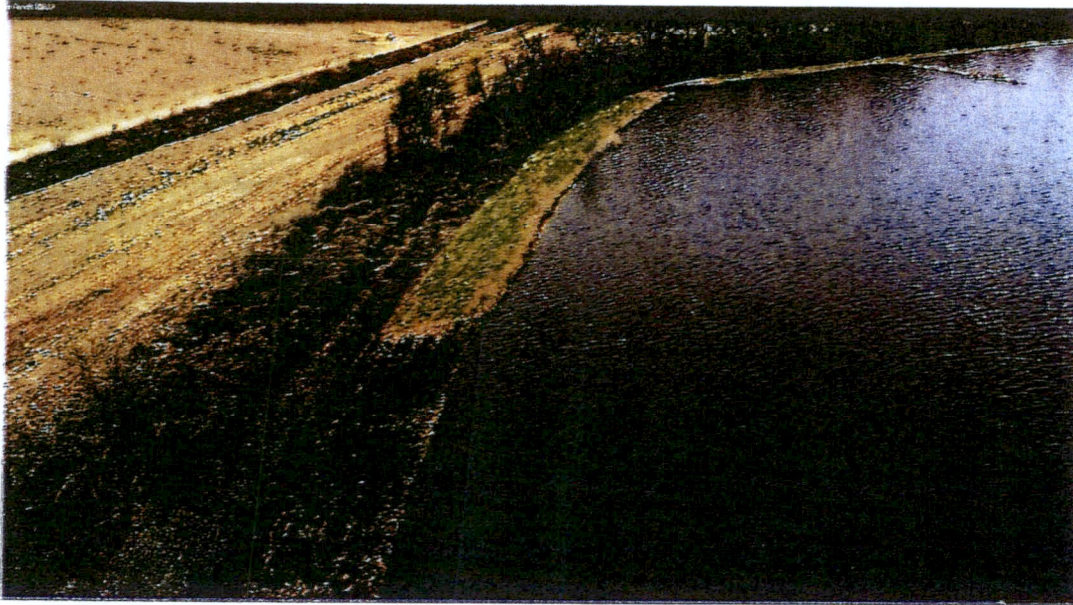


Photo 3. Helena WWTP Cell 3 South Wall Frontal View of Deterioration

Photo 4. Helena WWTP Cell 3 South Wall Anterior View

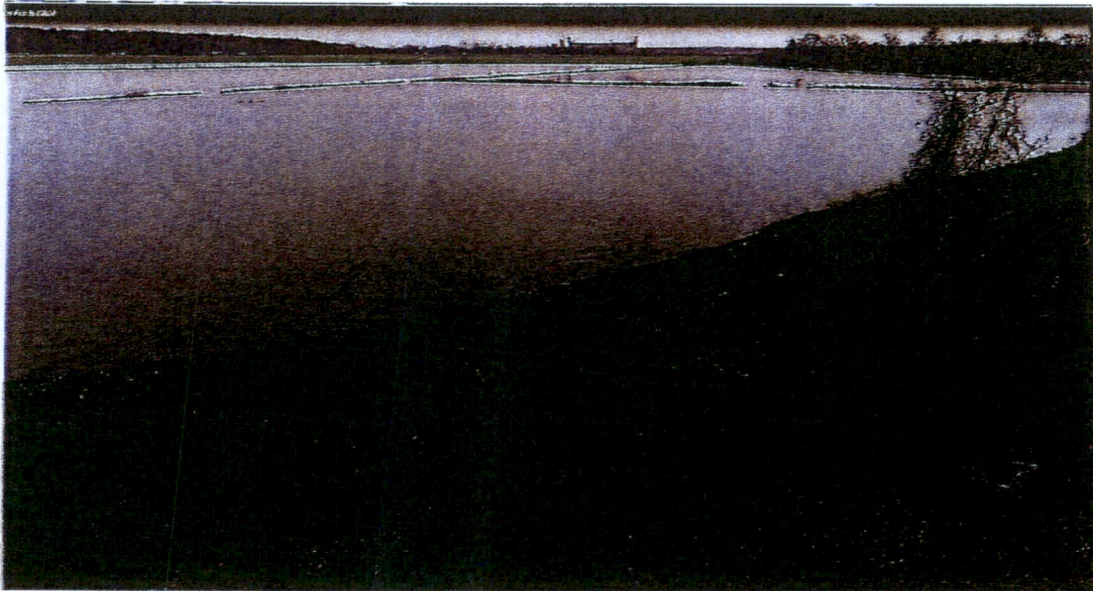




Photo 5. Helena WWTP Cell 3 South-west corner aerial view

Photo 6. Helena WWTP Cell 3 SW corner frontal aerial view





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May 10, 2018

Mr. Layne Pemberton
Enforcement Analyst
ADEQ Office of Water Quality
Mail
Enforcement Branch
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317

Sent by Electronic & US First Class

Subject: Updated Status Report of NPDES Permit Number AR0043389

Dear Mr. Layne:

Since February of this year I have been keeping you posted on our challenges and progress as we work on the issues we have faced with Pump Station Number 6 and the high level in our Helena Treatment Ponds. We have made progress, but challenges remain.

Due to the excessive rains and the high levels in our ponds, it appears we experienced a brief overflow at Cell 3. Fortunately, the wall did not breach. The recent dry weather, along with the success of restoring one of our main pumps at Station Number 6, has allowed us to see measurable progress in lowering the levels of our ponds.

We are working with John C. Edwards of the Helena-West Helena/Phillips County Port Authority to secure grants to help replace the pumps at Station Number 6. On behalf of the City of Helena-West Helena, he has submitted a \$200,000.00 CDBG grant. He is now working with the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) to secure a \$400,000.00 grant, contingent upon approval of the Helena-West Helena City Council, to help rebuild the exterior treatment pond walls which are at high risk of breaching. This grant must be submitted to the DRA by the end of June.

It has been a year since I was appointed by Mayor Jay Hollowell to take responsibility of the Helena-West Helena water and sewer systems. I am committed to doing my best to

correct the issues we identify. It is challenging but rewarding work. I welcome your advice and assistance as we continue to move forward to have a safe and environmentally sound system.

I will continue to keep you apprised of our situation. Do not hesitate to contact me with any additional questions.

Best Regards,

Jack Ross

Jack Ross
General Manager
Helena-West Helena Water Department

Project Narrative

The sewer treatment lagoons serving the population of residents in Helena proper have sustained heavy damage to the exterior and interior containment levees. The damage resulted from excessively high stages in the pond cells for an extended period of time. The condition of the levees, and their viability and capacity to safely contain the raw sewage in the ponds has reached a very critical stage. The interior levees separating the cells have eroded to the point that there is no separation between three of the cells. This separation is necessary to achieve the retention time necessary to properly treat the effluent to within permitted limits before it is discharged to the Mississippi River. Of more concern, however, is the gross degradation of the outer containment levees that prevent the escape of raw sewage onto the surrounding land. These levees have eroded through the crown in some locations, and are in imminent danger of breaching.

To put the magnitude of this problem into perspective, there are approximately 18,000 LF of levee wall comprising the interior (both sides) and exterior levees. The Helena-West Helena Water Department (HW) has spent significant funds and undertaken substantial effort to rehabilitate the pumps required to discharge treated waste from the ponds and control the level of the water in the ponds. Applications have been submitted for funding to fully rehabilitate the pump station so that the excessive high pond stages that cause damage to the levees can be controlled.

HW is hereunder applying for funds to make emergency repairs to the outer levees of the treatment lagoons. This work takes priority over work to correct the interior levees as failure of the outer levees would result in significant environmental damages. A preliminary project cost estimate for this work, per linear foot (L.F.) of exterior levee is as follows:

DESCRIPTION	PRICE PER LINEAR FOOT
	\$ / L.F.
Clay fill – placed and compacted	50.00
“B” stone protection blanket & filter cloth	48.00
Clearing and grubbing, Re-turfing disturbed area	5.00
Allowance for outer structure repairs, mobilization & demobilization, erosion protection	20.00
Engineering planning, reports & approvals, design, bid coordination and construction engineering and observation	22.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED L.F. COST FOR EXTERIOR LEVEE REPAIRS*	USE \$145.00 / L.F.

**NOTE: The above estimate is based on our best judgement as to what the average cross sectional repair would require. This estimate should be considered as very general for planning and funding application purposes only.*

There is approximately 8,051 total linear feet of exterior levees. The level of damage to the outer levee varies. The total project funds that would be made available under this grant

application are approximately \$425,000. Obviously, this amount of funding will not repair all of the outer levees. Repairs will be made to the most damaged and dangerous sections of the levee to reduce the risk of those sections failing while HW pursues additional funding sources to repair the remaining exterior and interior levees and structures.

The above estimate may be conservative in that not all of the levee length is damaged to the average extent used for the estimate quantities. Detailed field measurements and surveys will be required to determine what sections will take priority and what the average LF cost to repair those sections will be. Sections of levee that are not as damaged will obviously cost less per LF.

The seriousness of this situation cannot be emphasized enough. HW respectfully requests your consideration of this important funding application.

DRAFT

Jack Ross

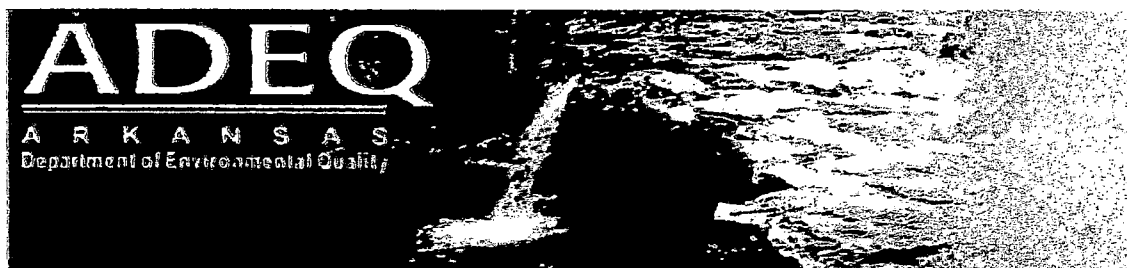
From: Pemberton, Layne <PEMBERTON@adeq.state.ar.us>
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 3:41 PM
To: Jack Ross
Cc: benzenecollier@yahoo.com; odonabyjr@gmail.com; mayor@helena-westhelena.us; Helen Halbert; Jennefier Hudson
Subject: RE: Increased Discharge Flow for NPDES Permit Number AR0043389

Mr. Ross,

Thank you for the follow-up. Please keep me in the loop concerning this matter.

Thank you.

Layne Pemberton
Enforcement Analyst
ADEQ Office of Water Quality
Enforcement Branch
Phone: 501-682-0664
Fax: 501-682-0880
pemberton@adeq.state.ar.us



From: Jack Ross [mailto:jross@hwhwater.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 3:05 PM
To: Pemberton, Layne
Cc: benzenecollier@yahoo.com; odonabyjr@gmail.com; mayor@helena-westhelena.us; Helen Halbert; Jennefier Hudson
Subject: RE: Increased Discharge Flow for NPDES Permit Number AR0043389

Dear Mr. Layne,

While trying to lower our ponds due to excessive rain, we have had a motor failure on our discharge pump. The motor failed on 2-28-18 and we immediately installed a bypass pump on the system and as a result cannot measure flow rates as before. We estimate our discharge flow rate to be approximately 1500 GPM and are working to make repairs as quickly as possible. We will keep you informed of our progress and if you need any additional information do not hesitate to contact Benzene Collier or myself at the numbers listed below.

Again, thank you for all your assistance.

Best Regards,

Benzene Collier

Responsible Operator in Charge
cell 870-816-8246
Helena Municipal Water and Sewer Department

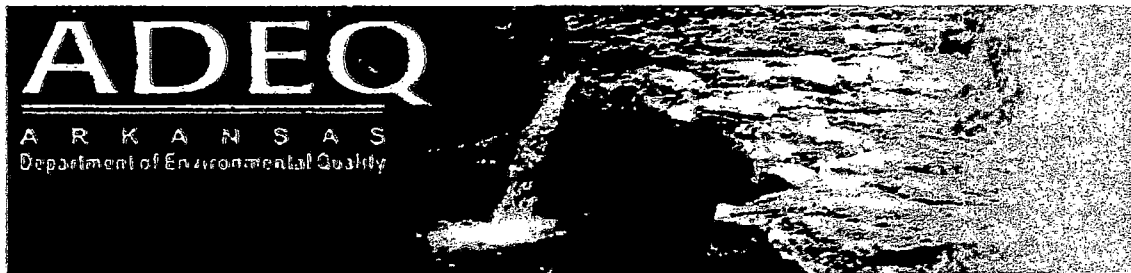
Jack Ross
General Manager Water Dept.
Helena-West Helena Arkansas
o 870-817-7460
c 870-816-7917
www.hwhwater.com
watergeneralmanager@helena-westhelena.us
jross@hwhwater.com

From: Pemberton, Layne [<mailto:PEMBERTON@adeq.state.ar.us>]
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2018 9:14 AM
To: Jack Ross <jross@hwhwater.com>
Cc: mayor@helena-westhelena.us; Jennifer Hudson <judson@hwhwater.com>; benzenecollier@yahoo.com; odonabyjr@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Increased Discharge Flow for NPDES Permit Number AR0043389

Benzene.
Your report has been received. Please keep the Department informed of your progress.

Thank you.

Layne Pemberton
Enforcement Analyst
ADEQ Office of Water Quality
Enforcement Branch
Phone: 501-682-0664
Fax: 501-682-0880
pemberton@adeq.state.ar.us



From: Jack Ross [<mailto:jross@hwhwater.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 2:32 PM
To: Pemberton, Layne
Cc: mayor@helena-westhelena.us; Jennifer Hudson; benzenecollier@yahoo.com; odonabyjr@gmail.com; Jack Ross
Subject: Increased Discharge Flow for NPDES Permit Number AR0043389
Importance: High

Dear Mr. Lane,

Over the past 4 weeks, we have received higher than usual amounts of rain. Our sanitary sewer system has infiltration of water from the storm sewer system. Over the past two months we have gone from draught conditions to flooding conditions along with extreme temperature fluctuations. This combination of events has caused a very high level in our Helena Treatment Ponds. Due to the high-water levels in our ponds we have had to open our discharge gates fully and are working on identifying storm water intrusion into the sanitary sewer system and checking all equipment pumping into and out of the ponds.

We are working to correct this issue as quickly as possible. We thank you for your assistance and if you need additional information do not hesitate to contact us at (o 870-817-7460) my cell 870-817-8246.

Again, thank you for all your assistance.

Best Regards,

Benzene Collier
Responsible Operator in Charge
Helena Municipal Water and Sewer Department

Jack Ross
General Manager Water Dept.
Helena-West Helena Arkansas
o 870-817-7460
c 870-816-7917
www.hwhwater.com
watergeneralmanager@helena-westhelena.us
jross@hwhwater.com

Jack Ross

From: Christian Gonzalez <christian.gonzalez@governor.arkansas.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 1:53 PM
To: mayor@helena-westhelena.us
Cc: Helen Halbert; Jack Ross; 'John Edwards'; 'Ken Weiland, P.E.'; Caleb Stanton
Subject: Re: Emergency Funding Request

Mayor,

I just left you a voicemail from my cell at 479.685.0499. Please call me back when you are available. CCing Caleb Stanton from our office, he will be able to assist with this as well.

Thanks,

--
Christian Gonzalez
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Office: 501.683.1828

From: "mayor@helena-westhelena.us" <mayor@helena-westhelena.us>
Date: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at 11:16 AM
To: Christian Gonzalez <christian.gonzalez@governor.arkansas.gov>
Cc: Helen Halbert <chiefstaff@helena-westhelena.us>, 'Jack Ross' <jross@hwhwater.com>, 'John Edwards' <johnedwardsoffice@gmail.com>, "'Ken Weiland, P.E.'" <kensw@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Re: Emergency Funding Request

Christian,

As I explained to the Governor at the Municipal League meeting, we are in an emergency situation in that we only have a narrow window of time to make the repairs to allow us to make it through the winter and then pursue these other funding options for more extensive repairs.

My General manager of the Water Department, Jack Ross is sure that if we are not able to make these emergency repairs in the next 90 days, our levee walls will breach before the next spring when we can make more extensive repairs. That is the urgency that I tried to convey to the Governor that we need emergency funds NOW and then we will be able to make it until next spring to begin the other necessary work that will be funded by loans, grants, etc.

I was under the impression from the Governor at the League meeting that he said that he had emergency funds available to help us until we can secure other funding and be able to do the more extensive repairs in the Spring when weather will permit.

Thanks,

-----Original Message-----

From: "Christian Gonzalez"

<christian.gonzalez@governor.arkansas.gov>

Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 1:11pm

To: "Helen Halbert" <chiefofstaff@helena-westhelena.us>

Cc: "mayor@helena-westhelena.us" <mayor@helena-westhelena.us>, "Jack Ross" <jross@hwhwater.com>, "John Edwards" <johnedwardsoffice@gmail.com>, "Ken Weiland, P.E." <kensw@sbcglobal.net>

Subject: Re: Emergency Funding Request

Good morning,

Apologies for getting back so late. I've been out of the office. We have passed along the supporting documentation to the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission. ANRC does have available State funding to assist Helena-West Helena. They report they have worked with Helena-West Helena in the past and last we knew they have loan capacity. I am happy to connect you all with Ryan Benefield at ANRC if you all would like or if he has not already reached out to you all.

Thanks,

Christian Gonzalez
Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Office: 501.683.1828

From: Helen Halbert <chiefstaff@helena-westhelena.us>

Date: Thursday, June 21, 2018 at 4:30 PM

To: Christian Gonzalez <christian.gonzalez@governor.arkansas.gov>

Cc: "mayor@helena-westhelena.us" <mayor@helena-westhelena.us>, 'Jack Ross' <jross@hwhwater.com>, 'John Edwards' <johnedwardsoffice@gmail.com>, "'Ken Weiland, P.E.'" <kensw@sbcglobal.net>

Subject: Emergency Funding Request

Good afternoon Mr. Gonzalez. Please see the attached letter from Mayor Hollowell to Governor Hutchinson along with supporting documentation.

This is an urgent and time sensitive matter. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention.

Helen Halbert

Chief of Staff

226 Perry Street -P. O. Box 248

Helena, Arkansas 72342

P (370) 817-7439

C (370) 662-1148

Jay Hollowell, Mayor

870-817-7435 office

870-662-1105 cell

Jack Ross

From: Emily Hathcock <ehathcock@eapdd.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 12:33 PM
To: John Edwards; Jack Ross
Subject: RE: Helena West Helena Sewer Pond DRA Grant Request

Hi John & Jack,

I'm in a Brownfield workshop all day today, but am reviewing your DRA application in the portal. I have a couple of additional questions.

For the budget, will all \$392,000 of DRA funds (\$400k-8k admin fee) be toward construction? What will the \$25k local funding be used for (design, construction, legal fees, etc.)?

Also, will you give me just a couple of sentences/notes/bullet points that I can expound upon in on the following questions:

1. Description of work to be done
2. Purpose of project
3. What benefits/outcomes do you anticipate as a result of the project?

Thanks!!

Kind Regards,
Emily

Emily Hathcock | Economic & Community Development Manager East Arkansas Planning & Development District
2905 KING STREET | PO BOX 1403 | JONESBORO, AR 72403
870.932.3957 OFFICE
870.932.0135 FAX
ehathcock@eapdd.com
www.eapdd.com

EAPDD is a non-profit regional planning and development agency serving a 12 county area of eastern Arkansas. The District's purpose is to promote and support the economic development of the region. It does this by providing technical assistance to the cities, counties, businesses, and other development organizations in the area, and by networking extensively with state and federal resource agencies.

-----Original Message-----

From: John Edwards <johnedwardsoffice@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 1:36 PM
To: Emily Hathcock <ehathcock@eapdd.com>
Subject: Helena West Helena Sewer Pond DRA Grant Request

Emily: The amount of the DRA grant request was \$400,000.00 and the city has committed a \$25,000.00 cash match. The application was turned in last week. The total amount of funds to work with was \$417,000 after the \$8,000.00 fee to East Arkansas was deducted.

Thanks. John

Sent from my iPhone

Jack Ross

From: mayor@helena-westhelena.us
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 11:17 AM
To: Christian Gonzalez
Cc: Helen Halbert; Jack Ross; 'John Edwards'; 'Ken Weiland, P.E.'
Subject: Re: Emergency Funding Request

Christian,

As I explained to the Governor at the Municipal League meeting, we are in an emergency situation in that we only have a narrow window of time to make the repairs to allow us to make it through the winter and then pursue these other funding options for more extensive repairs.

My General manager of the Water Department, Jack Ross is sure that if we are not able to make these emergency repairs in the next 90 days, our levee walls will breach before the next spring when we can make more extensive repairs. That is the urgency that I tried to convey to the Governor that we need emergency funds NOW and then we will be able to make it until next spring to begin the other necessary work that will be funded by loans, grants, etc.

I was under the impression from the Governor at the League meeting that he said that he had emergency funds available to help us until we can secure other funding and be able to do the more extensive repairs in the Spring when weather will permit.

Thanks,

-----Original Message-----

From: "Christian Gonzalez"

<christian.gonzalez@governor.arkansas.gov>

Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 1:11pm

To: "Helen Halbert" <chiefofstaff@helena-westhelena.us>

Cc: "mayor@helena-westhelena.us" <mayor@helena-westhelena.us>, "'Jack Ross'" <jross@hwhwater.com>, "'John Edwards'" <johnedwardsoffice@gmail.com>, "'Ken Weiland, P.E.'"

<kensw@sbcglobal.net>

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Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
Office: 501.683.1828

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Chief of Staff
226 Perry Street -P. O. Box 248
Helena, Arkansas 72342

P (870) 817-7439
C (870) 562-1148

Jay Hollowell, Mayor
870-817-7435 office
870-662-1105 cell

From Benzene Collier 2-22-19

- * Pump & motor has been replaced
- * Repairing 2 other pumps @ (1/5/19)
- * Have a by-pass on hand in case something ~~might~~ happen (flow will continue)
- * Installed bypass hook-up on station

Notes

- All violations were addressed that we were aware of,
- * 7/31/2016 I didn't see or get this report was under another General Manager
- I checked the data and it seem like we were running too low of flow & should of not ~~flow~~ that month because we shut-down the next month.

NON-COMPLIANCE NOTIFICATION

DMR Monitoring Period 5/01/2017 - 5/31/2017

FROM: City of Helena
Hwy 44 & Phillips Road 301
Helena, AR 72342

DATE: 6/14/17

PERMIT #: AR0043389

TO: NPDES Enforcement
ADEQ
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118

allex

1. DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION 001

2. NON-COMPLIANCE DESCRIPTION

The Fecal Coliform exceeded the 7 day geo. & 30 day geo permit values during May.

3. CAUSE FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

THERE WAS AN EXCESSIVE AMOUNT OF RAIN FALL & INFILTRATION INTO THE SYSTEM. THIS CAUSED PROBLEMS CONTROLLING & ADJUSTING FLOW. THE FLOATS & TRANSDUCER GOT STUCK CAUSING THE PUMP TO CONTINUALLY RUN.

4. DURATION OF NON-COMPLIANCE

The non compliance description above took place between May 1st-30th, 2017.

5. CORRECTIVE ACTION BEING TAKEN

CLEANED THE FLOATS & TRANSDUCER OFF ALLOWED THE PUMP TO OPERATE PROPERLY. MONITOR THE SYSTEM MORE CLOSELY WHEN WEATHER IS BAD. CHECKING FOR POSSIBLE AREA OF INFILTRATION IN THE SYSTEM.

SIGNATURE



NON-COMPLIANCE NOTIFICATION

DMR Monitoring Period 6/01/2017 - 6/30/2017

FROM: City of Helena
Hwy 44 & Phillips Road 301
Helena, AR 72342

DATE: 7/20/17

PERMIT #: AR0043389

TO: NPDES Enforcement
ADEQ
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118

1. DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION 001

2. NON-COMPLIANCE DESCRIPTION:

The Fecal Coliform exceeded the 7 day geo permit values during June.

3. CAUSE FOR NON-COMPLIANCE:

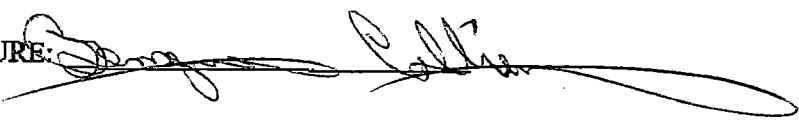
WE had problems with pump equipment and cooling at the station. Caused the pump to stay on too long & sometimes not come on at all.

4. DURATION OF NON-COMPLIANCE:

The non compliance description above took place between June 6th-10th, 2017.

5. CORRECTIVE ACTION BEING TAKEN:

WE worked on the pumps and fixed the fans; WE had to call an electrician to fix the problem.

SIGNATURE: 

ATTN: Benzene Collier
Helena September 2018 ncn
Fax to 870-338-7477

Good Morning Benzene,

Attached to this fax is the soft non compliance notification for the Fc that we discussed over the phone last month. Please complete/sign this and fax it back to me. Please mention the equipment failure on the ncn that we discussed over the phone. Whenever you send the ncn back to me I can then validate the netDMR and we can get it submitted early before the October 25th due date. Thanks Benzene.

Matt Bienvenu
MCE Lab Manager
Phone 501-378-7808
Fax 501-376-4677

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
NPDES Enforcement Section
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118

RE: NPDES Permit No: AR0043389 Discharge Number: 001-A-Monthly

Facility: Helena Municipal Water and Sewer System

Address: Hwy 44 & Phillips Road 301

City: Helena State: AR Zip: 72342

Contact: Benzene Collier Phone: 870-816-8246

Date of Non-Compliance	Parameter Exceeded	Quality or Concentration	Permit Limits
September 24, 25, 28th, 2018	Fecal Coliform	1,565 col/100mls 7 Day Geometric	400 col/100mls 7 Day Geometric

We feel this problem was due to: STORM AND EQUIPMENT FAILURE!!!

We plan on correcting the problem in this manner:
Monitor the station more closely & have a by-pass pump on hand. We are also repairing other pumps.

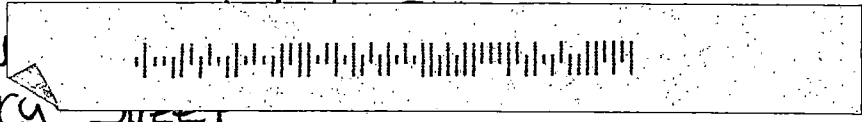
Time estimated that it will take to correct the problem/s:
The main pump is back on line w/ a by-pass pump on stand-by; the other pumps are in the shop waiting on parts.

Sincerely,


Authorized Signature

10/18/18
Date

Helena Mu
702 Cherry Street
Helena, Arkansas 72342



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Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Lanane Pemberton - Enforcement Analyst
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118