

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

January 30, 2024

Honorable Richard McCormac, Mayor City of Clinton P.O. Box 277 Clinton, AR 72031 EMAIL: clintonmayor@artelco.com

RE: NPDES Permit Number AR0048836, AFIN 71-00018 PROPOSED CONSENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Dear Mayor McCormac:

Attached is a proposed Consent Administrative Order (CAO) for violations of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-201 *et seq.*, at a site located on Factor Road in Clinton, Arkansas. The Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has determined that this CAO is necessary to ensure compliance with the Act.

The enclosed CAO enumerates the violations in the "Findings of Fact" section, and outlines the steps required to achieve compliance in the "Order and Agreement" section of the CAO. Additionally, a civil penalty in the amount of **\$14,400.00** is proposed by DEQ to settle the violations outlined in this CAO. However, DEQ will suspend and ultimately dismiss \$9400.00 if the City of Clinton fully complies with the CAO. If you choose to accept the terms of the CAO, please sign, date, and <u>return the originally signed copy</u> to the address below within twenty (**20**) calendar days of receipt of this letter. A City Council Resolution that approves the CAO and authorizes the Mayor and Clerk/Treasurer to sign the CAO Amendment on behalf of the City of Clinton must also be submitted. Subsequently, the Chief Administrator of DEQ will sign the CAO and you will be provided a copy, including information on the public notice process and the effective date of the CAO.

In addition, you may have the option of directing a portion of your penalty toward a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) to advance environmental interests. Generally a SEP will not reduce the recommended administrative civil penalty by more than thirty-five percent (35%); however, the DEQ Director has the final authority to establish the level of mitigation of a penalty. If you are interested in a SEP as part of your negotiated settlement, please refer to DEQ's SEP Policy and Proposal Guidelines at https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/legal/sep.aspx for additional information.

Failure to contact the DEQ's Office of Water Quality, Enforcement Branch in response to this CAO within **twenty (20) calendar days** of receipt of this letter will constitute rejection of the settlement offer and unilateral enforcement action may proceed through a Notice of Violation (NOV). Should you wish to discuss this matter further, or schedule a meeting, you may contact me at (501) 682-0736, or you may e-mail me at <u>thomas.harrington@adeq.state.ar.us</u>.

Sincerely,

Thomas Maurinston

Thomas Harrington Compliance Analyst, OWQ, DEQ

Cc: Jackie Hinchey, Manager <u>clintonwater9@gmail.com</u> Kyle Breckenridge, P.E. <u>kbreckenridge@saltengineers.com</u>