

Henderson, Katie

From: Gilliam, Allen
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 9:05 AM
To: blytheville james yankee
Cc: Henderson, Katie
Subject: AR0022560_Blytheville AR0022578 AR0022586 August 2012 Annual Pretreatment Report reply and Hg suggestions_20120816

James,

Blytheville's August Annual Pretreatment Report was received (on 8/16/12), reviewed, deemed complete and compliant with the reporting requirements in 40 CFR 403.12(i). No further action is deemed necessary at this time.

However, the City's three (3) wastewater plants' effluent measurements either showed an exceedance of/or reasonable potential for exceeding ACPC&E's Reg. #2 WQ criteria for mercury. Blytheville's West plant (AR0022569) will have a monthly average Hg permit limit of 0.0328 ug/l beginning on 8/1/14. This annual report shows the West Plant's effluent results exceeded that upcoming limit two of the four quarters that samples were taken.

Per the City's compliance schedule the first (of three) progress report (dated 7/30/12) indicated "Hg sampling has been conducted at...the Hospital, Doctors and Dental offices." This office's advice would be to spread that sampling regime to your other industries and the domestic background. Low quality "industrial grade" sulfuric acid and sodium hydroxide are two known Hg containing chemicals.

As per our phone conversation today you indicated you have already discovered domestic products which have trace amounts of Hg in them. An outreach program via newspaper articles may be in order to help make the City's citizens knowledgeable of Hg containing detergents, bleach, soap and other personal care products. This may help them to discover Hg free alternatives if your domestic background results show appreciable amounts of Hg. The City's citizens are also stakeholders in this issue and possible contributors.

School laboratories and their janitors' cleaning supplies/wax/wax strippers should not be overlooked either. Reports show some schools' floor wax contain Hg. Where does that wax stripper wastewater end up? More than likely into your collection system(s) on weekends.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and if there are any questions or guidance sought please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Allen Gilliam
ADEQ State Pretreatment Coordinator
501.682.0625