SUBJECT-Regulation No. 2
Water Quality Standards
Third-Party Rulemaking
CITY OF HARRISON AND
CITY OF YELLVILLE
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS

**DOCKET NO. 15-002-R** 

MINUTE ORDER NO. 15-18

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On August 5, 2015 the Cities of Harrison and Yellville Wastewater Treatment Plants ("the Cities") filed a Petition to Initiate Third Party Rulemaking to Amend Regulation No. 2, Water Quality Standards (Petition). Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-202(c), the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APCEC or the Commission) has sixty (60) days in which to either institute rulemaking proceedings or to give written notice denying the petition for rulemaking.

The Commission's Regulations Committee met on August 28, 2015 to review the Cities' Petition. Having considered the Petition, the Regulations Committee recommends the Commission institute a rulemaking proceeding to consider adopting the proposed revision to Regulation No. 2. The Regulations Committee also proposes adoption of the following procedural schedule so consideration of this matter may proceed in an efficient and orderly manner.

- 1. The Cities and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) shall file an original and one (1) copy and a computer disk in Word of all material required under this Minute Order. This requirement does not apply to transcripts.
- 2. Persons submitting written public comments shall submit their written comments to ADEQ and ADEQ will deliver the originals of all comments to the Commission Secretary at the conclusion of the proceeding.
- 3. The Cities shall submit to ADEQ's Public Outreach and Assistance Division (POA) the following:
  - a. A proposed public notice to be used in mailing notice to interested persons, for publishing in appropriate industry, trade, or professional publications as the Commission may select. The proposed public notice may, at the ADEQ's discretion, be approved for use or ADEQ may choose to prepare its own public notice. The public notice shall conform to the requirements of Regulation No. 8.803. The public notice shall be published not later than 45 days prior to the first public hearing. By agreement, the Cities shall pay the costs of the newspaper publications and the costs of the appropriate industry, trade or professional publication with the Commission and shall file only the original proof of publication with the Commission. ADEQ shall be responsible for mailing the

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public notice to all persons who have requested advance notice of rulemaking proceedings and the cost of the mailing.

- b. Fifty (50) copies of the executive summary of the proposed rulemaking.
- c. Bound copies of the Petition and all supporting documentation, the number of which is to be determined by POA.
- 4. A public hearing shall be conducted Monday, October 19, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Durand Conference Center B, North Arkansas Community College, 1515 Pioneer Drive, Harrison, AR 72601.
- 5. The period for receiving all written comments from the Cities, the public and ADEQ shall conclude ten (10) business days after the date of the public hearing, unless an extension of time is granted.
- 6. The Cities and ADEQ shall each file, not later than 14 days before the Commission meets to consider adoption of the proposed regulation, a Statement of Basis and Purpose and Responsiveness Summary as required by Regulation No. 8.815. In addition, the Cities and ADEQ shall file a proposed Minute Order deciding this matter.
- 7. ADEQ shall seek review of the proposed rule from the Joint Interim Committee on Public Health and Welfare and from the Joint Interim Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations.
- 8. The Regulations Committee and the Commission may consider this matter at or before their February, 2016 meeting. In the event the appropriate legislative committees do not complete review of the proposed rule by the above date, the Regulations Committee and the Commission will consider the proposed amendments to the regulation after review by the appropriate legislative committees. Members of the Regulations Committee may ask questions of any persons that made oral or written comments and it will make a recommendation to the Commission.
- 9. At the commission meeting, the presentation of oral statements and legal arguments will be regulated as follows:

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- a. The Chair of the Commission will permit members of the public to make a statement to the Commission. No more than three (3) minutes will be allowed for each statement. The period for statements will close at the end of one (1) hour, or sooner if all interested persons have completed their statements. At the discretion of the Chair, the one (1) hour oral statement period may be extended.
- b. At the discretion of the Chair, an attorney representing one or more individuals, a corporation or other legal entity may be permitted five (5) minutes in which to address the Commission.
- c. Legal counsel or other designated persons representing the Cities and the ADEQ shall be permitted ten (10) minutes in which to address the Commission.
- d. At the conclusion of all statements, the Chair will call on each Commissioner for the purpose of asking the attorneys or persons sponsoring statements who are present, any questions they may have. Attorneys will not be permitted to respond or ask follow-up questions of any person questioned by a Commissioner.

After each Commissioner has had an opportunity to ask questions, the Chair will entertain a motion on the matter, allow discussion, and call for a vote of the Commission members.

- 10. If the Cities desire a transcript of the public hearing, Regulations Committee meeting, and Commission meetings, or if required by the Commission, the Cities agree to pay all costs for the preparation of a transcript of the public hearing, Regulations Committee meetings, and Commission meetings which concern this docket and occur after the adoption of this Minute Order. If a transcript is required, the Cities shall employ the court reporter and the court reporter shall deliver the original transcript to the Commission Secretary.
- 11. The Commission finds the proposed regulation does not affect small businesses and therefore concludes that Act 143 of 2007, as amended by Act 809 is not applicable.

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The Commission accepts the recommendation of the Regulations Committee and initiates the rulemaking proceeding in this docket. The Commission adopts, without modification, the procedural schedule set forth above.

**COMMISSIONERS:** 

J. Bates

L. Bengal

J. Chamberlin

R. Chastain

J. Fox

C. Gardner

M. Goggans

S. Moss, Jr.

R. Reynolds RECUSE

U. Stites

B. White

R. Young

Chair, Ann Henry

Submitted by: Allan Gates

DATE PASSED: 08/28/15