City of Galveston

Public Works Department
P.O. Box 779 / Galveston, Texas 77553

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
2008 NOV 17 PM 4: 32
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Office of Chief Clerk, MC-105 c/o Ms. LaDonna Castanuela
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

November 17, 2008

Re: Docket No. 2008-1453-MWD
City of Galveston
Request filed on Permit No. WQ0010688005 (Terramar Beach WWTP)

The City of Galveston is a barrier island located on the Texas Gulf Coast. The waters surrounding the island are listed on the impaired waterways list for the State of Texas.

The City, in an effort to minimize the number of on-site sewage treatment systems, is currently engaged in a major design effort to provide a municipal collection and treatment system for the areas that currently are operating these on-site systems. It is believed that these failing on-site systems are a major contributing factor to the high levels of bacteria that can be found in the water surrounding the island.

In September of 2006 the City of Galveston brought a new sequenced batch reactor (SBR) wastewater treatment plant on-line, replacing a failing twenty-five year old conventional treatment package plant. The new plant was designed and built for the protection of the waters surrounding Galveston Island. Since its startup the new SBR plant has not had a permit violation.

The proposed permit amendment and SBR plant expansion are being proposed in a manner that is inline with the regionalization efforts put forth by the TCEQ with respect to sanitary sewer collection and treatment systems. The current collection system basin

that is being served by the Terramar Includes; Point West, Terramar Beach, Sea Isle, Isla Del Sol, Sunset Cove, Sand Hill Shores, The Dunes, and Silverleaf. The SBR expansion will provide the capacity to provide service to Indian Beach, Bay Harbor, Half Moon Beach, Miramar Beach, as well as, currently undeveloped tracts located within the plants service area.

The proposed permit amendment will allow the City to expand the WWTP to provide sanitary sewer service to areas that are currently served by onsite treatment systems in a well operated, regulated manner. The City's record of compliance in recent years is very good and the City is committed to being good stewards of the environment.

Respectfully,

Eric K. Wilson
Director of Municipal Utilities
City of Galveston

Cc: Ben W. Bickham, P.E.; Houston
John Williams, Staff Attorney; TCEQ
Kent Trede, Technical Staff; TCEQ
Blas Coy, Jr., Attorney; TCEQ
Bridget Bohac, Director; TCEQ
Kyle Lucas; TCEQ
Mark Plagens; Houston
Anthony Osso; Houston

Management Services Division – Public Works Department

CITY OF GALVESTON ★ 1839 ★

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CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE
TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Fax

To:	**Ms LaDonna Castanuela**	**From:**	**Eric Wilson**
Fax:	**512.239.3311**	**Pages:**	**3** (Including Fax Cover)
Phone:	**512.239.3300**	**Date:**	**September 17, 2008** 16:25
Re:	**Response to Docket #2008-1453-MWD**	**CC:**	

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● Comments:

Copied via fax and certified mail to: Ben W. Bickham, P.E., Steve LeBlanc-City Manager, John Williams- Staff Attorney, Ken Harder Trede – Technical Staff, Mr. Blas J. Coy, Jr. –Attorney, Ms. Bridget Bohac – Director TCEQ, Mr. Kyle Lucas – TCEQ, Mark Plagens, & Anthony Osso