

**DOCKET NUMBER 2009-0363-MWD**

**APPLICATION BY FANNETT §  
SEWER SERVICE & WATER §  
SUPPLY CORPORATION FOR §  
TPDES PERMIT NO. WQ0014867001 §**

**BEFORE THE  
TEXAS COMMISSION ON  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S RESPONSE TO HEARING REQUESTS AND REQUESTS  
FOR RECONSIDERATION**

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**I. Introduction**

The Executive Director (ED) of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ or Commission) files this Response to Hearing Requests and Requests for Reconsideration on the application by Fannett Sewer Service and Water Supply Corporation (Applicant) for new Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0014867001.

L. J. Bergeron, Chris Betar, Chad Blanchard, Barbara and Roland Blanchard, Janette and Earl Callahan, John Callahan, Deborah and Ronnie Colston, Hope Colston, James Derouen, Christine Edmonds, John Floyd, Joyce Sewell Hankamer, Sharon Harvey, Jackie and Jerry Jordan, G.C. Kessler, Anita and Homer Kiker, Lindsay and Glen Kiker, Leonard King, Joe and Dorothy Kubicek, Roy Leger, Susan LeBlanc, Bert Manning, Chris Matak, Beth and James McGown, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Thornton & Candy Melancon, Cathy Pennell, Charlotte Rainey, Ann Tully, Missy and Eric Viator, Joey Villenez, James Walsh, Jim Wingate, Darwin Wood, Wayne Wright submitted contested case hearing (CCH) requests.

In addition to CCH requests, Dorothy and Joe Kubicek and Chris Betar also submitted Requests for Reconsideration (RFRs).

Attached for Commission consideration are the following:

Attachment A - Satellite Map of Area  
Attachment B - Fact Sheet and Executive Director's Preliminary Decision  
Attachment C - Draft Permit  
Attachment D - Executive Director's Response to Public Comments (RTC)  
Attachment E - Compliance History

**II. Description Of The Facility**

The Applicant has applied for a new permit to authorize the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 120,000 gallons per day. It is planned that the facility will be an activated sludge process plant operated in the extended aeration mode. Treatment units would include a lift station, bar screens, aeration basins, final clarifiers, a roll-off sludge

dewatering box, and a chlorine contact chamber. The draft permit authorizes the disposal of sludge at a TCEQ authorized land application site or landfill. The facility has not been constructed.

The treated effluent will be discharged via pipe to Burrell Gully, then to North Fork of Taylor Bayou, then to Taylor Bayou above tidal in Segment No. 0701 of the Neches-Trinity Coastal Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are limited aquatic life use for Burrell Gully. The designated uses for Segment No. 0701 are intermediate aquatic life uses and contact recreation.

It is planned that the facility will be located 6,200 feet south of the intersection of Highway 365 and Gualding Road in Jefferson County, Texas.

### **III. Procedural Background**

TCEQ received the permit application on December 11, 2007 and declared it administratively complete on January 7, 2008. The Notice of Application and Intent to Obtain Water Quality Permit (NORI) was published in the *Beaumont Enterprise* on January 13, 2008. Due to significant public interest, TCEQ originally scheduled a public meeting for September 30, 2008, but re-scheduled the meeting in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike. A combined Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision (NAPD) and Notice of Public Meeting were published in the *Beaumont Enterprise* on October 20, 2008. The re-scheduled public meeting was held on December 11, 2008 and the public comment period ended at the close of the public meeting. The ED's Response to Comment (RTC) was filed on February 5, 2009.

These hearing requests and RFRs were initially set on the May 20, 2009 Commission Agenda, but were remanded to the ED due to issues with the location of the proposed facility on the Applicant's maps. A NORI and NAPD was published in the *Beaumont Enterprise* on July 24, 2009 and the comment period ended on August 24, 2009. One additional comment letter was received during the re-opened comment period, so a revised RTC was filed by the ED on September 11, 2009. This application is subject to the procedural requirements adopted pursuant to House Bill 801, 76<sup>th</sup> Legislature, 1999.

### **IV. The Evaluation Process for Hearing Requests**

House Bill 801 established statutory procedures for public participation in certain environmental permitting proceedings. For those applications declared administratively complete on or after September 1, 1999, it established new procedures for providing public notice and public comment, and for the commission's consideration of hearing requests. The application was declared administratively complete on September 14, 2006 and therefore is subject to the HB 801 requirements. The Commission implemented HB 801 by adopting procedural rules in Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC) Chapters 39, 50, and 55.

## **A. Responses to Requests**

“The executive director, the public interest counsel, and the applicant may submit written responses to [hearing] requests . . . .” *See* 30 TAC Section (§) 55.209(d).

According to 30 TAC § 55.209(e), responses to hearing requests must specifically address:

- (1) whether the requestor is an affected person;
- (2) which issues raised in the hearing request are disputed;
- (3) whether the dispute involves questions of fact or of law;
- (4) whether the issues were raised during the public comment period;
- (5) whether the hearing request is based on issues raised solely in a public comment withdrawn by the commenter in writing by filing a withdrawal letter with the chief clerk prior to the filing of the Executive Director’s Response to Comment;
- (6) whether the issues are relevant and material to the decision on the application; and
- (7) a maximum expected duration for the contested case hearing.

## **B. Hearing Request Requirements**

In order for the Commission to consider a hearing request, the Commission must first determine whether the request meets certain requirements. As noted in 30 TAC § 55.201(c): "A request for a contested case hearing by an affected person must be in writing, must be filed with the chief clerk within the time provided . . . and may not be based on an issue that was raised solely in a public comment withdrawn by the commenter in writing by filing a withdrawal letter with the chief clerk prior to the filing of the Executive Director’s Response to Comment."

According to 30 TAC § 55.201(d), a hearing request must substantially comply with the following:

- (1) give the name, address, daytime telephone number, and where possible, fax number of the person who files the request. If the request is made by a group or association, the request must identify one person by name, address, daytime telephone number, and where possible, fax number, who shall be responsible for receiving all official communications and documents for the group;
- (2) identify the person’s personal justiciable interest affected by the application, including a brief, but specific, written statement explaining in plain language the requestor’s location and distance relative to the proposed facility or activity that is the subject of the application and how and why the requestor believes he or she will be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity in a manner not common to members of the general public;
- (3) request a contested case hearing;
- (4) list all relevant and material disputed issues of fact that were raised during the public comment period and that are the basis of the hearing request. To facilitate the commission’s determination of the number and scope of issues to be referred to hearing, the requestor should, to the extent possible, specify any of the executive

- director's responses to comments that the requestor disputes and the factual basis of the dispute and list any disputed issues of law or policy; and
- (5) provide any other information specified in the public notice of application.

### **C. Requirement that Requestor be an "Affected Person"**

In order to grant a contested case hearing, the Commission must determine that a requestor is an "affected person." The factors to consider in making this determination are found in 30 TAC § 55.203 and are as follows:

- (a) For any application, an affected person is one who has a personal justiciable interest related to a legal right, duty, privilege, power, or economic interest affected by the application. An interest common to members of the general public does not qualify as a personal justiciable interest.
- (b) Governmental entities, including local governments and public agencies with authority under state law over issues raised by the application may be considered affected persons.
- (c) In determining whether a person is an affected person, all factors shall be considered, including, but not limited to, the following:
  - (1) whether the interest claimed is one protected by the law under which the application will be considered;
  - (2) distance restrictions or other limitations imposed by law on the affected interest;
  - (3) whether a reasonable relationship exists between the interest claimed and the activity regulated;
  - (4) likely impact of the regulated activity on the health and safety of the person, and on the use of property of the person;
  - (5) likely impact of the regulated activity on use of the impacted natural resource by the person; and
  - (6) for governmental entities, their statutory authority over or interest in the issues relevant to the application.

### **D. Referral to the State Office of Administrative Hearings**

30 TAC § 50.115(b) details how the Commission refers a matter to the State Office of Administrative Hearings: "When the commission grants a request for a contested case hearing, the commission shall issue an order specifying the number and scope of the issues to be referred to SOAH for a hearing." 30 TAC § 50.115(c) further states: "The commission may not refer an issue to SOAH for a contested case hearing unless the commission determines that the issue: (1) involves a disputed question of fact; (2) was raised during the public comment period; and (3) is relevant and material to the decision on the application."

## V. Evaluation of Hearing Requests

### **A. Whether the Requestors Complied With 30 TAC §§ 55.201(c) and (d).**

All hearing requestors submitted timely written CCH requests that included relevant contact information and raised disputed issues. The ED concludes that all CCH requests substantially complies with the requirements of 30 TAC § 55.201.

### **B. Whether Requestors Meet the Requirements of an Affected Person**

Joe Kubicek, Jr. and Deborah Colston are identified as adjacent landowners on the Applicant's landowner map and own property adjacent to the property line of the Applicant and within 500 feet of the site of the proposed facility. The discharge route also runs through the Colston property immediately downstream from the point of discharge. *See* Attachment A. Both requestors raised issues regarding odor and the potential health effects of the discharge. Due to their proximity to the proposed location and the issues identified their hearing requests; they have raised a personal justiciable interest not common to other members of the general public.

In his original filing on this matter, the ED recommended denying the remaining hearing requestors affected person status primarily because they raised nuisance odor concerns and the rules intended to guide against nuisance odor did not afford them such status.<sup>1</sup> However, the ED reviewed

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<sup>1</sup> It is useful to distinguish between odor concerns and nuisance odor concerns. Generally speaking, odor concerns are most likely felt by the general public and not specifically addressed in the wastewater permitting rules. Nuisance odor concerns are mostly likely felt by those residents who reside close to the facility near or within the perimeter established by the buffer zone requirements in the Commission rules. Pursuant to the laws under which a wastewater discharge permit application is considered, in order to control and abate nuisance odors from wastewater treatment plant units, 30 TAC § 309.13(e) requires an applicant to comply with 1 of 3 alternative requirements. Section 309.13(e) states:

(e) One of the following alternatives must be met as a compliance requirement to abate and control a nuisance of odor prior to construction of a new wastewater treatment plant unit, or substantial change in the function or use of an existing wastewater treatment unit:

(1) Lagoons with zones of anaerobic activity (e.g., facultative lagoons, un-aerated equalization basins, etc.) may not be located closer than 500 feet to the nearest property line. All other wastewater treatment plant units may not be located closer than 150 feet to the nearest property line. Land used to treat primary effluent is considered a plant unit. Buffer zones for land used to dispose of treated effluent by irrigation shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The permittee must hold legal title or have other sufficient property interest to a contiguous tract of land necessary to meet the distance requirements specified in this paragraph during the time effluent is disposed by irrigation;

(2) The applicant must submit a nuisance odor prevention request for approval by the executive director. A request for nuisance odor prevention must be in the form of an engineering report, prepared and sealed by a licensed professional engineer in support of the request. At a minimum, the engineering report shall address existing climatological conditions such as wind velocity and atmospheric stability, surrounding land use which exists or which is anticipated in the future, wastewater characteristics in affected units pertaining to the area of the buffer zone, potential odor generating units, and proposed solutions to prevent nuisance conditions at the edge of the buffer zone

Commission precedents in the Houston Intercontinental Trade Center, L.P.<sup>2</sup> and Aqua Water Supply Corporation<sup>3</sup> cases. In those cases, the Commission found that persons residing within one mile of a facility or proposed facility established a personal justiciable interest with regards to odor issues. Based on these cases and the inclination of the Commission, the ED revised his earlier recommendation in this case and now recommends granting the hearing requests of the following requestors who reside within one mile of the proposed facility and who raised odor issues:

Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Thornton, Candy Melancon, Chris Matek, James Walsh, Ronnie Colston, Hope Colston, Missy & Eric Viator, Barbara & Roland Blanchard, Charlotte Rainey, Jackie & Jerry Jordan, Janette & Earl Callahan, Sharon Harvey, Lindsay & Glen Kiker, Joyce Sewell Hankamer, Beth & James McGown, and G.C. Kessler.

The ED recommends denial of the hearing requests for the remaining requestors shown on Attachment A. Chad Blanchard (2.7 miles from the proposed facility); Leonard King (4.3 miles), Susan LeBlanc (5.1 miles), and Dorothy Kubicek (14.5 miles) were not shown on Attachment A due to their distance from the proposed facility. Chris Betar, though located very close to the proposed facility, did not raise any issues in his combined CCH/RFR other than objecting to the location of the facility, so the ED recommends finding that Mr. Betar has not established that he has a personal justiciable interest in this permit application. The location address along Highway 73 given by Joey Villenez could not be pinpointed by TCEQ GIS personnel, but Highway 73 runs generally east to west, more than three miles south of the proposed facility at its closest point.

The ED recommends that the Commission find that Joe Kubicek, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Thornton, Candy Melancon, Chris Matek, James Walsh, Debbie & Ronnie Colston, Hope Colston, Missy & Eric Viator, Barbara & Roland Blanchard, Charlotte Rainey, Jackie & Jerry Jordan, Janette & Earl Callahan, Sharon Harvey, Lindsay & Glen Kiker, Joyce Sewell Hankamer, Beth & James McGown, and G.C. Kessler are affected persons in regards to this permit application and deny the remaining hearing requests.

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and beyond. Proposed solutions shall be supported by actual test data or appropriate calculations. The request shall be submitted, prior to construction, either with a permit application and subject to review during the permitting process or submitted for executive director approval after the permitting process is completed; or

(3) The permittee must submit sufficient evidence of legal restrictions prohibiting residential structures within the part of the buffer zone not owned by the applicant. Sufficient evidence of legal restriction may, among others, take the form of a suitable restrictive easement, right-of-way, covenant, deed restriction, deed recorded, or a private agreement provided as a certified copy of the original document. The request shall be submitted, prior to construction, either with a permit application and subject to review during the permitting process or submitted for executive director approval after the permitting process is completed.

2 TCEQ Docket No. 2006-2247-MWD, April 11, 2007 Commission Agenda.

3 TCEQ Docket No. 2009-0896-MWD, September 9, 2009 Commission Agenda.

**C. Whether Issues Raised Are Referable to State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) for a Contested Case Hearing.**

The ED also analyzed the issues raised in accordance with the regulatory criteria and provides the following recommendations regarding whether the issues are referable to SOAH.

All of the issues discussed below were raised during the public comment period. None of the issues were withdrawn. All identified issues in the response are considered disputed, unless otherwise noted.

**1. Whether the quality or quantity of the discharge of treated wastewater from the facility will adversely affect the health of the requestors and their families.**

This issue is a question of fact. If either the quality or quantity of the discharge would impact the health of the requestors and their families, that information would be relevant and material to the decision on the permit application. The ED recommends referring this issue to SOAH.

**2. Whether the Applicant can comply with the nuisance odor requirements in 30 TAC § 309.13(e).**

This is a mixed question of fact and law. Pursuant to the laws under which a wastewater discharge permit application is considered, in order to control and abate nuisance odors from wastewater treatment plant units, 30 TAC § 309.13(e) requires an applicant to comply with 1 of 3 alternative requirements. Section 309.13(e) states:

(e) One of the following alternatives must be met as a compliance requirement to abate and control a nuisance of odor prior to construction of a new wastewater treatment plant unit, or substantial change in the function or use of an existing wastewater treatment unit:

(1) Lagoons with zones of anaerobic activity (e.g., facultative lagoons, un-aerated equalization basins, etc.) may not be located closer than 500 feet to the nearest property line. All other wastewater treatment plant units may not be located closer than 150 feet to the nearest property line. Land used to treat primary effluent is considered a plant unit. Buffer zones for land used to dispose of treated effluent by irrigation shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The permittee must hold legal title or have other sufficient property interest to a contiguous tract of land necessary to meet the distance requirements specified in this paragraph during the time effluent is disposed by irrigation;

(2) The applicant must submit a nuisance odor prevention request for approval by the executive director. A request for nuisance odor prevention must be in the form of an engineering report, prepared and sealed by a licensed professional engineer in support of the request. At a minimum, the engineering report shall address existing

climatological conditions such as wind velocity and atmospheric stability, surrounding land use which exists or which is anticipated in the future, wastewater characteristics in affected units pertaining to the area of the buffer zone, potential odor generating units, and proposed solutions to prevent nuisance conditions at the edge of the buffer zone and beyond. Proposed solutions shall be supported by actual test data or appropriate calculations. The request shall be submitted, prior to construction, either with a permit application and subject to review during the permitting process or submitted for executive director approval after the permitting process is completed; or

(3) The permittee must submit sufficient evidence of legal restrictions prohibiting residential structures within the part of the buffer zone not owned by the applicant. Sufficient evidence of legal restriction may, among others, take the form of a suitable restrictive easement, right-of-way, covenant, deed restriction, deed recorded, or a private agreement provided as a certified copy of the original document. The request shall be submitted, prior to construction, either with a permit application and subject to review during the permitting process or submitted for executive director approval after the permitting process is completed.

The Applicant indicated in the permit application that it owns the required buffer zone. Joe Kubicek and Deborah Colston are adjacent landowners and raised nuisance odor concerns in their hearing requests. Therefore, if evidence is introduced that can show that the Applicant does not own the required buffer zone and is otherwise unable to meet the requirements of 30 TAC § 309.13(e), then that information would be relevant and material to a decision on the application. The ED recommends referring this issue to SOAH.

**3. Whether the Applicant can meet the facility siting requirements of 30 TAC § 309.13(a)-(b) due to flooding concerns.**

This issue is a mixed question of law and fact. 30 TAC § 309.13(a) states that a “wastewater treatment plant unit may not be located in the 100-year flood plain unless the plant unit is protected from inundation and damage that may occur during that flood event.”

In addition, 30 TAC § 309.13(b) prohibits the location of a wastewater treatment plant unit in a natural wetland. As a matter of law, the Applicant is not prohibited from locating the facility in a flood prone area provided it is protected from a 100-year flood event, unless it is a naturally occurring wetland. However, there may be factual questions as to whether the Applicant has provided adequate protection from damages that could result from inundation by a 100-year flood event. The ED recommends referring this issue to SOAH.

**4. Whether the quality or quantity of the discharge of treated wastewater from the facility will adversely affect the quality of life of the requestors and their families.**

This issue is a question of fact. The requestors did not specifically detail what was meant by “quality of life” in the context of their requests. However, the ED does not consider “quality of life” issues e.g. property values when considering whether to issue a wastewater discharge permit. Therefore, if “quality of life” refers to property value types of concerns, it is not relevant and material to a decision on the application.

The form letter raising “quality of life” as an issue included this phrase in the same sentence that the health and odor issues were raised. To the extent this concern was raised as a health or odor issue, it is addressed in Issues #1 and #2, which the ED recommends referring to SOAH. The ED recommends not referring this issue to SOAH.

**5. Whether the location of the facility is appropriate relative to the subdivision or property to be served by the facility.**

The issue is a question of fact, but the proximity of the proposed facility to the service area has no bearing on the discharge being permitted in this matter. Therefore, regardless of the answer to this question it is not relevant and material to a decision in this matter. The ED recommends not referring this issue to SOAH.

**6. Whether the Applicant provided adequate notice of the application and permit documents as required by Chapter 39 of TCEQ rules.**

This is a mixed question of law and fact. The issue was raised as a general concern that there was insufficient notice. However, no details were provided regarding what failure of notice occurred in the process. As a matter of law, the Applicant met all the applicable notice requirements in 30 TAC Chapter 39, Subchapters H and J.

The NORI was published on January 13, 2008 in the *Beaumont Enterprise*. Subsequently, upon preliminary approval of the draft permit by the ED, the NAPD and Notice of Public Meeting were published in the *Beaumont Enterprise* on October 20, 2008. A second NORI and NAPD was published in the *Beaumont Enterprise* on July 24, 2009 after the location issues noted earlier were addressed. Additionally, TCEQ’s Office of the Chief Clerk mailed notice to adjacent and downstream landowners identified by the Applicant as required by the rules. The ED’s preliminary decision and draft permit were made available for viewing and copying at the Jefferson County Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace Office located at 19217 Farm-to-Market Road 365 in Beaumont, Texas. The ED recommends not referring this issue to SOAH.

**VI. Requests for Reconsideration**

Dorothy and Joe Kubicek and Chris Betar filed RFRs in this matter. The Kubicek’s request raised odor concerns and concerns about the location of the road to the planned facility. Mr. Betar simply

requested an RFR without raising any particular issues. Neither of the requests raised new issues or provided any factual documentation that would change the ED's decision on this permit application. Therefore, the ED recommends denial of the RFRs.

### **VII. Duration of the Contested Case Hearing**

Should there be a contested case hearing on this permit application, the ED recommends that the duration for a hearing on this matter be for a period of nine months from the preliminary hearing to the presentation of a proposal for decision before the commission.

### **VIII. Executive Director's Recommendation**

The ED recommends the following actions by the Commission:

1. Find that Joe Kubicek, Jr. and Deborah Colston are affected persons because they are adjacent landowners to the proposed facility and have raised justiciable issues not in common with other members of the general public. Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Thornton, Candy Melancon, Chris Matek, James Walsh, Ronnie Colston, Hope Colston, Missy & Eric Viator, Barbara & Roland Blanchard, Charlotte Rainey, Jackie & Jerry Jordan, Janette & Earl Callahan, Sharon Harvey, Lindsay & Glen Kiker, Joyce Sewell Hankamer, Beth & James McGown, and G.C. Kessler are affected persons because they either reside or own property within one mile of the proposed facility and have raised nuisance odor issues.
2. Find that Cathy Pennell, Chris Betar, Christine Edmonds, John Floyd, Roy Leger, Darwin Wood, James Derouen, L.J. Bergeron, Wayne Wright, Bert Manning, Anita and Homer Kiker, Ann Tully, John Callahan, Jim Wingate, Chad Blanchard, Dorothy Kubicek, Leonard King, Susan LeBlanc, and Joey Villenez are not affected persons in regards to this permit application.
3. Refer issues #1-#3 to SOAH for a proceeding of nine months duration with the time period beginning with the preliminary hearing and concluding with presentation of a proposal for decision before the Commission.
4. Deny the RFRs filed by Dorothy and Joe Kubicek and Chris Betar in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

TEXAS COMMISSION ON  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Mark R. Vickery, P.G., Executive Director

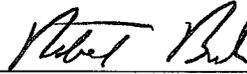
Robert Martinez, Director  
Environmental Law Division

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ATTORNEYS FOR  
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on November 16, 2009 the original and seven true and correct copies of the "Executive Director's Response to Hearing Requests and Requests for Reconsideration" relating to the application of Fannett Sewer Service and Water Supply Corporation for Permit No. WQ0014867001 were filed with the Chief Clerk of the TCEQ and a copy was served to all persons listed on the attached mailing list via hand delivery, facsimile transmission, inter-agency mail, or by deposit in the U.S. Mail.



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Robert D. Brush, Staff Attorney  
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**MAILING LIST**  
**FOR PERMIT NO. WQ0014867001**  
**Fannett Sewer Service and Water Supply Corporation**

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Beaumont, TX 77705

Debbie and Ronnie Colston  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

James Derouen  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

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Beaumont, TX 77705

John Floyd  
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Joyce Sewell Hankamer  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

Sharon Harvey  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

Jackie and Jerry Jordan  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

G.C. Kessler  
21372 Burrell Wingate Road  
Beaumont, TX 77705

Anita and Homer Kiker  
19476 Burrell Wingate Road  
Beaumont, TX 77705

Lindsay and Glen Kiker  
13910 Boondocks Road  
Beaumont, TX 77705

Leonard King  
17807 Boondocks Road  
Beaumont, TX 77705

Dorothy and Joe Kubicek  
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Roy Leger  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

Susan LeBlanc  
12221 Garner Road  
Beaumont, TX 77705

Bert Manning  
14911 Boondocks Road  
Beaumont, TX 77705

Chris Matak  
20803 Burrell Wingate Road  
Beaumont, TX 77705

Beth and James McGown  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Thornton & Candy Melancon  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

Cathy Pennell  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

Charlotte Rainey  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

Ann Tully  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

Missy and Eric Viator  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

Joey Villenez  
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Hampshire, TX 77622

James Walsh  
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Beaumont, TX 77705

Jim Wingate  
13312 Griffith Road  
Beaumont, TX 77705

Darwin Wood  
14539 Boondocks Road  
Beaumont, TX 77705

Wayne Wright  
14876 Boondocks Road  
Beaumont, TX 77705



## **Attachment A – Satellite Map of Area**



# Fannett Sewer and Water Supply Company WQ0014867001 Map Requested by TCEQ Office of Legal Services for Commissioners Agenda



Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
GIS Team (Mail Code 197)  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-5087  
October 29, 2009



Projection: Texas Statewide Mapping System (TSMMS)

Scale 1:30,000

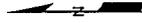
### Legend

- Proposed WWTP
- Protestant
- Proposed Discharge Point
- Discharge Route

Source: The location of the facility was provided by the TCEQ Office of Legal Services (OLS). OLS obtained the site location information and the requester information from the applicant. The counties are U.S. Census Bureau 1992 TIGER/Line Data (1:100,000). The background of this map is a source photograph from the 2004 U.S. Department of Agriculture Imagery Program. The imagery is one-meter, Color-Infrared (CIR). The image classification number is tx157\_1\_1.

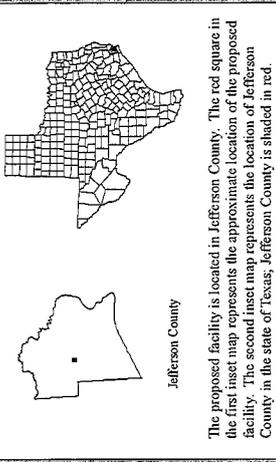
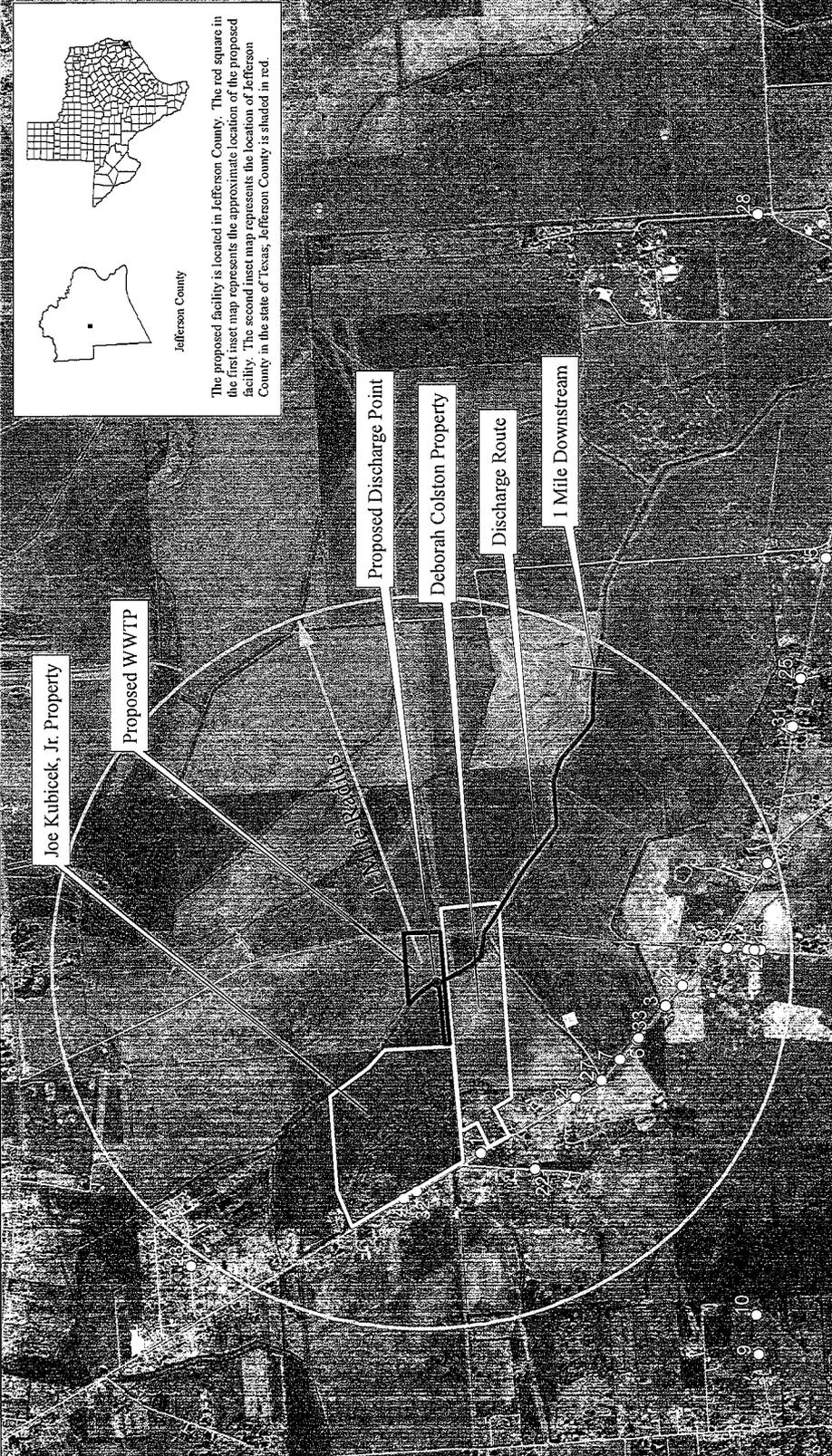
This map depicts the following:

- (1) The approximate location of the proposed facility. This is labeled "Proposed WWTP".
- (2) A circle and arrow depicting the 1-mile radius. This is labeled "1-Mile Radius".
- (3) The protestants. These are labeled with a number corresponding to a name on the list of protestants.
- (4) The proposed discharge point. This is labeled "Proposed Discharge Point".
- (5) The discharge route. This is labeled "Discharge Route".
- (6) Two protestants' properties. These are labeled with the protestants' names.



This map was generated by the Information Resources Division of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This map was not generated by a licensed surveyor, and is intended for illustrative purposes only. No claims are made to the accuracy or completeness of the data or to its suitability for a particular use. For more information concerning this map, contact the Information Resource Division at (512) 239-0800.

M. McDermott, CRF-090414053



The proposed facility is located in Jefferson County. The red square in the first inset map represents the approximate location of the proposed facility. The second inset map represents the location of Jefferson County in the state of Texas; Jefferson County is shaded in red.

ID	PROTESTANT
0	L.J. Bergeron
1	Chris Betar
2	Chad Blanchard (Not shown; 2.7 miles from facility)
3	Barbara & Roland Blanchard
4	Janette & Earl Callahan
5	John Callahan
6	Hope Colston
7	Debbie & Ronnie Colston
8	James Derouen
9	Christine Edmonds
10	John Floyd
11	Joyce Sewell Hankamer
12	Sharon Harvey
13	Jackie & Terry Jordan
14	G.C. Kessler
15	Lindsay & Glen Kiker
16	Leonard King (Not shown; 4.3 miles from facility)
17	Dorothy & Joe Kubicek (Not shown; 14.5 miles from facility)
18	Roy Leger
19	Susan LeBlanc (Not shown; 5.1 miles from facility)
20	Bert Manning
21	Chris Matak
22	Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Thornton & Candy Melancon
23	Cathy Pennell
24	Charlotte Rainey
25	Ann Tully
26	Joey Villenez (Not found)
27	James Walsh
28	Jin Wingate
29	Darwin Wood
30	Wayne Wright
31	Anita & Homer Kiker
32	Beth & James McGown
33	Missy & Eric Viator



**Attachment B – Fact Sheet and Executive  
Director’s Preliminary Decision**



**STATEMENT OF BASIS/TECHNICAL SUMMARY  
AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY DECISION**

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION

Applicant: Fannett Sewer Service and Water Supply Corporation;  
Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No.  
WQ0014867001, TX0131369

Regulated Activity: Domestic Wastewater Permit

Type of Application: New Permit

Request: New Permit

Authority: Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) §402; Texas Water Code (TWC) §26.027;  
30 TAC Chapters 30, 305, 307, 309, 312, and 319; Commission policies;  
and EPA guidelines.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION

The executive director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The proposed permit includes an expiration date of **July 01, 2013** according to 30 TAC §305.71, Basin Permitting.

REASON FOR PROJECT PROPOSED

The applicant has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a new permit to authorize the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 0.12 million gallons per day. The proposed wastewater treatment facility will serve Fannett Sewer Service and Water Supply Corporation.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The Fannett Sewer Service and Water Supply Corporation Wastewater Treatment Facility will be an activated sludge process plant operated in the extended aeration mode. Treatment units include lift station, bar screens, aeration basins, final clarifiers, roll-off sludge dewatering box and a chlorine contact chamber. The facility has not been constructed.

Sludge generated from the treatment facility will be hauled by a registered transporter and disposed of at a TCEQ permitted landfill, Golden Triangle Landfill, Permit No. 2027, in Jefferson County. The draft permit authorizes the disposal of sludge at a TCEQ authorized land application site or co-disposal landfill.

The plant site will be located 5,890 feet south of the intersection of Highway 365 and Gualding Road in Jefferson County, Texas.

The treated effluent will be discharged via pipe to Burrell Gully; thence to North Fork of Taylor Bayou; thence to Taylor Bayou Above Tidal in Segment No. 0701 of the Neches-Trinity Coastal Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are limited aquatic life use for Burrell Gully. The designated uses for Segment No. 0701 are intermediate aquatic life uses and contact recreation. The effluent limitations in the draft permit will maintain and protect the existing instream uses. In accordance with §307.5 and the TCEQ implementation procedures (January 2003) for the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, an antidegradation review of the receiving waters was performed. A Tier 1 antidegradation review has preliminarily determined that existing

water quality uses will not be impaired by this permit action. Numerical and narrative criteria to protect existing uses will be maintained. This review has preliminarily determined that no water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life uses are present within the stream reach assessed; therefore, no Tier 2 degradation determination is required. No significant degradation of water quality is expected in water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life uses downstream, and existing uses will be maintained and protected. The preliminary determination can be reexamined and may be modified if new information is received.

Effluent limitations for the conventional effluent parameters (i.e., Biochemical Oxygen Demand or Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand, Ammonia Nitrogen, etc.) are based on stream standards and waste load allocations for water quality limited streams as established in the Texas Water Quality Standards and the water quality management plan.

The effluent limits recommended above have been reviewed for consistency with the State of Texas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP). The proposed limits are not contained in the approved WQMP. However, these limits will be included in the next WQMP update. A Waste Load Evaluation has not been prepared for Segment 0701.

The discharge from this permit action is not expected to have an effect on any federal endangered or threatened aquatic or aquatic dependent species or proposed species or their critical habitat. This determination is based on the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) biological opinion on the State of Texas authorization of the Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES; September 14, 1998; October 21, 1998 update). To make this determination for TPDES permits, TCEQ and EPA only considered aquatic or aquatic dependent species occurring in watersheds of critical concern or high priority as listed in Appendix A of the USFWS biological opinion. The determination is subject to reevaluation due to subsequent updates or amendments to the biological opinion. The permit does not require EPA review with respect to the presence of endangered or threatened species.

Segment 0701 is currently listed on the State's inventory of impaired and threatened waters (the 2006 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list). The listing is specifically for depressed dissolved oxygen concentrations. The impaired region extends from the saltwater lock to the confluence of the North and South Forks of Taylor Bayou (AUs 0701\_01, 0701\_02). This discharge is in the watershed of the impaired region. This facility is intended to replace individual on-site wastewater systems in an area with a high failure rate. Based on information and calculations provided by the applicant, this discharge will result in a net decrease in the loading of oxygen-demanding substances to the watershed as compared to current wastewater disposal practices.

#### SUMMARY OF EFFLUENT DATA

Self-reporting data is not available since the facility is not in operation.

#### PROPOSED PERMIT CONDITIONS

The draft permit authorizes a discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 0.12 million gallons per day.

The effluent limitations in the draft permit, based on a 30-day average, are 10 mg/l CBOD<sub>5</sub>, 15 mg/l TSS, 3 mg/l NH<sub>3</sub>-N and 4.0 mg/l minimum dissolved oxygen (DO). The effluent shall contain a chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l and shall not exceed a chlorine residual of 4.0 mg/l after a detention time of at least 20 minutes based on peak flow.

The permittee shall comply with the requirements of 30 TAC §309.13 (a) through (d). In addition, by ownership of the required buffer zone area, the permittee shall comply with the requirements of 30 TAC §309.13(e).

The draft permit includes Sludge Provisions according to the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 312, Sludge Use, Disposal and Transportation. Sludge generated from the treatment facility will be hauled by a registered transporter and disposed of at a TCEQ permitted landfill, Golden Triangle Landfill, Permit No. 2027, in Jefferson County. The draft permit authorizes the disposal of sludge at a TCEQ authorized land application site or co-disposal landfill.

#### SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM APPLICATION

The applicant requested effluent limitations, based on a 30-day average, of 10 mg/l CBOD<sub>5</sub>, 15 mg/l TSS, 3 mg/l NH<sub>3</sub>-N and 2.0 mg/l minimum dissolved oxygen (DO). However, effluent limitations in the draft permit, based on a 30-day average, are 10 mg/l CBOD<sub>5</sub>, 15 mg/l TSS, 3 mg/l NH<sub>3</sub>-N, and 4.0 mg/l minimum dissolved oxygen (DO).

#### SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM EXISTING PERMIT

N/A.

#### BASIS FOR PROPOSED DRAFT PERMIT

The following items were considered in developing the proposed permit draft:

1. Application received December 11, 2007 and additional information received December 27, 2007 and May 13, 2008.
2. The effluent limitations and/or conditions in the draft permit comply with the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, 30 TAC §§307.1 - 307.10.
3. The effluent limitations in the draft permit meet the requirements for secondary treatment and the requirements for disinfection according to 30 TAC Chapter 309, Subchapter A: Domestic Wastewater Effluent Limitations.
4. Interoffice memoranda from the Water Quality Assessment Section of the TCEQ Water Quality Division.
5. Consistency with the Coastal Management Plan: The Executive Director has reviewed this action for consistency with the goals and policies of the Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) in accordance with the regulations of the Coastal Coordination Council (CCC) and has determined that the action is consistent with the applicable CMP goals and policies.
6. "Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards", Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, January 2003.
7. Texas 2006 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, June 27, 2007; approved by USEPA on February 8, 2008.
8. TNRCC Guidance Document for Establishing Monitoring Frequencies for Domestic and Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permits, Document No. 98-001.000-OWR-WQ, May 1998.

PROCEDURES FOR FINAL DECISION

When an application is declared administratively complete, the Chief Clerk sends a letter to the applicant advising the applicant to publish the Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Permit in the newspaper. In addition, the Chief Clerk instructs the applicant to place a copy of the application in a public place for review and copying in the county where the facility is or will be located. This application will be in a public place throughout the comment period. The Chief Clerk also mails this notice to any interested persons and, if required, to landowners identified in the permit application. This notice informs the public about the application, and provides that an interested person may file comments on the application or request a contested case hearing or a public meeting.

Once a draft permit is completed, it is sent, along with the Executive Director's preliminary decision, as contained in the technical summary or fact sheet, to the Chief Clerk. At that time, Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision will be mailed to the same people and published in the same newspaper as the prior notice. This notice sets a deadline for making public comments. The applicant must place a copy of the Executive Director's preliminary decision and draft permit in the public place with the application. This notice sets a deadline for public comment.

Any interested person may request a public meeting on the application until the deadline for filing public comments. A public meeting is intended for the taking of public comment, and is not a contested case proceeding.

After the public comment deadline, the Executive Director prepares a response to all significant public comments on the application or the draft permit raised during the public comment period. The Chief Clerk then mails the Executive Director's Response to Comments and Final Decision to people who have filed comments, requested a contested case hearing, or requested to be on the mailing list. This notice provides that if a person is not satisfied with the Executive Director's response and decision, they can request a contested case hearing or file a request to reconsider the Executive Director's decision within 30 days after the notice is mailed.

The Executive Director will issue the permit unless a written hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed within 30 days after the Executive Director's Response to Comments and Final Decision is mailed. If a hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. If a contested case hearing is held, it will be a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

If the Executive Director calls a public meeting or the Commission grants a contested case hearing as described above, the Commission will give notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting or hearing. If a hearing request or request for reconsideration is made, the Commission will consider all public comments in making its decision and shall either adopt the Executive Director's response to public comments or prepare its own response.

For additional information about this application contact Michael A. Redda at (512) 239-4631.

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Michael A. Redda  
Municipal Permits Team  
Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148)

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June 24, 2008  
Date

**Attachment C – Draft Permit**





TPDES PERMIT NO. WQ0014867001  
[For TCEQ office use only -  
EPA I.D. No. TX0131369]

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

PERMIT TO DISCHARGE WASTES  
under provisions of  
Section 402 of the Clean Water Act  
and Chapter 26 of the Texas Water Code

Fannett Sewer Service and Water Supply Corporation

whose mailing address is

P.O. Box 22285  
Beaumont, Texas 77720

is authorized to treat and discharge wastes from the Fannett Sewer Service and Water Supply Corporation Wastewater Treatment Facility, SIC Code 4952

located 6,200 feet south of the intersection of Farm-to-Market Road 365 and Gaulding Road in Jefferson County, Texas

via pipe to Burrell Gully; thence to North Fork of Taylor Bayou; thence to Taylor Bayou Above Tidal in Segment No. 0701 of the Neches-Trinity Coastal Basin

only according with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in this permit, as well as the rules of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the laws of the State of Texas, and other orders of the TCEQ. The issuance of this permit does not grant to the permittee the right to use private or public property for conveyance of wastewater along the discharge route described in this permit. This includes, but is not limited to, property belonging to any individual, partnership, corporation, or other entity. Neither does this permit authorize any invasion of personal rights nor any violation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations. It is the responsibility of the permittee to acquire property rights as may be necessary to use the discharge route.

This permit shall expire at midnight, **July 01, 2013**.

ISSUED DATE:

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For the Commission

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Outfall Number: 001

1. During the period beginning upon the date of issuance and lasting through the date of expiration, the permittee is authorized to discharge subject to the following effluent limitations:

The daily average flow of effluent shall not exceed 0.12 million gallons per day (MGD); nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 333 gallons per minute (gpm).

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations			Minimum Self-Monitoring Requirements	
	Daily Avg mg/(lbs/day)	7-day Avg mg/l	Daily Max mg/l	Report Daily Avg. & Max. Measurement Frequency	Single Grab Sample Type
Flow, MGD	Report	N/A	Report	Five/week	Instantaneous
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	10 (10)	15	25	One/week	Grab
Total Suspended Solids	15 (15)	25	40	One/week	Grab
Ammonia Nitrogen	3 (3)	6	10	One/week	Grab

2. The effluent shall contain a chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l and shall not exceed a chlorine residual of 4.0 mg/l after a detention time of at least 20 minutes (based on peak flow), and shall be monitored five times per week by grab sample. An equivalent method of disinfection may be substituted only with prior approval of the Executive Director.

3. The pH shall not be less than 6.0 standard units nor greater than 9.0 standard units and shall be monitored once per month by grab sample.

4. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts and no discharge of visible oil.

5. Effluent monitoring samples shall be taken at the following location(s): Following the final treatment unit.

6. The effluent shall contain a minimum dissolved oxygen of 4.0 mg/l and shall be monitored once per week by grab sample.

**DEFINITIONS AND STANDARD PERMIT CONDITIONS**

As required by Title 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 305, certain regulations appear as standard conditions in waste discharge permits. 30 TAC §§305.121 - 305.129 (relating to Permit Characteristics and Conditions) as promulgated under the Texas Water Code (TWC) §§5.103 and 5.105, and the Texas Health and Safety Code (THSC) §§361.017 and 361.024(a), establish the characteristics and standards for waste discharge permits, including sewage sludge, and those sections of 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 122 adopted by reference by the Commission. The following text includes these conditions and incorporates them into this permit. All definitions in TWC §26.001 and 30 TAC Chapter 305 shall apply to this permit and are incorporated by reference. Some specific definitions of words or phrases used in this permit are as follows:

**1. Flow Measurements**

- a. Annual average flow - the arithmetic average of all daily flow determinations taken within the preceding 12 consecutive calendar months. The annual average flow determination shall consist of daily flow volume determinations made by a totalizing meter, charted on a chart recorder, and limited to major domestic wastewater discharge facilities with one million gallons per day or greater permitted flow.
- b. Daily average flow - the arithmetic average of all determinations of the daily flow within a period of one calendar month. The daily average flow determination shall consist of determinations made on at least four separate days. If instantaneous measurements are used to determine the daily flow, the determination shall be the arithmetic average of all instantaneous measurements taken during that month. Daily average flow determination for intermittent discharges shall consist of a minimum of three flow determinations on days of discharge.
- c. Daily maximum flow - the highest total flow for any 24-hour period in a calendar month.
- d. Instantaneous flow - the measured flow during the minimum time required to interpret the flow measuring device.
- e. 2-hour peak flow (domestic wastewater treatment plants) - the maximum flow sustained for a two-hour period during the period of daily discharge. The average of multiple measurements of instantaneous maximum flow within a two-hour period may be used to calculate the 2-hour peak flow.
- f. Maximum 2-hour peak flow (domestic wastewater treatment plants) - the highest 2-hour peak flow for any 24-hour period in a calendar month.

**2. Concentration Measurements**

- a. Daily average concentration - the arithmetic average of all effluent samples, composite or grab as required by this permit, within a period of one calendar month, consisting of at least four separate representative measurements.
  - i. For domestic wastewater treatment plants - When four samples are not available in a calendar month, the arithmetic average (weighted by flow) of all values in the previous four consecutive month period consisting of at least four measurements shall be utilized as the daily average concentration.
  - ii. For all other wastewater treatment plants - When four samples are not available in a calendar month, the arithmetic average (weighted by flow) of all values taken during the month shall be utilized as the daily average concentration.
- b. 7-day average concentration - the arithmetic average of all effluent samples, composite or grab as required by this permit, within a period of one calendar week, Sunday through Saturday.
- c. Daily maximum concentration - the maximum concentration measured on a single day, by the sample type specified in the permit, within a period of one calendar month.
- d. Daily discharge - the discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with limitations expressed in terms of mass, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the sampling day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the sampling day.

The "daily discharge" determination of concentration made using a composite sample shall be the concentration of the composite sample. When grab samples are used, the "daily discharge" determination of concentration shall be the arithmetic average (weighted by flow value) of all samples collected during that day.

- e. Fecal coliform bacteria concentration - the number of colonies of fecal coliform bacteria per 100 milliliters effluent. The daily average fecal coliform bacteria concentration is a geometric mean of the values for the effluent samples collected in a calendar month. The geometric mean shall be determined by calculating the  $n$ th root of the product of all measurements made in a calendar month, where  $n$  equals the number of measurements made; or, computed as the antilogarithm of the arithmetic mean of the logarithms of all measurements made in a calendar month. For any measurement of fecal coliform bacteria equaling zero, a substituted value of one shall be made for input into either computation method. The 7-day average for fecal coliform bacteria is the geometric mean of the values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar week.
  - f. Daily average loading (lbs/day) - the arithmetic average of all daily discharge loading calculations during a period of one calendar month. These calculations must be made for each day of the month that a parameter is analyzed. The daily discharge, in terms of mass (lbs/day), is calculated as ( Flow, MGD x Concentration, mg/l x 8.34).
  - g. Daily maximum loading (lbs/day) - the highest daily discharge, in terms of mass (lbs/day), within a period of one calendar month.
3. Sample Type
- a. Composite sample - For domestic wastewater, a composite sample is a sample made up of a minimum of three effluent portions collected in a continuous 24-hour period or during the period of daily discharge if less than 24 hours, and combined in volumes proportional to flow, and collected at the intervals required by 30 TAC §319.9 (a). For industrial wastewater, a composite sample is a sample made up of a minimum of three effluent portions collected in a continuous 24-hour period or during the period of daily discharge if less than 24 hours, and combined in volumes proportional to flow, and collected at the intervals required by 30 TAC §319.9 (b).
  - b. Grab sample - an individual sample collected in less than 15 minutes.
4. Treatment Facility (facility) - wastewater facilities used in the conveyance, storage, treatment, recycling, reclamation and/or disposal of domestic sewage, industrial wastes, agricultural wastes, recreational wastes, or other wastes including sludge handling or disposal facilities under the jurisdiction of the Commission.
5. The term "sewage sludge" is defined as solid, semi-solid, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in 30 TAC Chapter 312. This includes the solids that have not been classified as hazardous waste separated from wastewater by unit processes.
6. Bypass - the intentional diversion of a waste stream from any portion of a treatment facility.

## MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

### 1. Self-Reporting

Monitoring results shall be provided at the intervals specified in the permit. Unless otherwise specified in this permit or otherwise ordered by the Commission, the permittee shall conduct effluent sampling and reporting in accordance with 30 TAC §§319.4 - 319.12. Unless otherwise specified, a monthly effluent report shall be submitted each month, to the Enforcement Division (MC 224), by the 20th day of the following month for each discharge that is described by this permit whether or not a discharge is made for that month. Monitoring results must be reported on an approved self-report form that is signed and certified as required by Monitoring and Reporting Requirements No. 10.

As provided by state law, the permittee is subject to administrative, civil and criminal penalties, as applicable, for negligently or knowingly violating the Clean Water Act, the TWC Chapters 26, 27, and 28, and THSC Chapter 361, including but not limited to knowingly making any false statement, representation, or certification on any report, record, or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance, or falsifying, tampering with or knowingly rendering inaccurate any monitoring device or method required by this permit or violating any other requirement imposed by state or federal regulations.

### 2. Test Procedures

- a. Unless otherwise specified in this permit, test procedures for the analysis of pollutants shall comply with procedures specified in 30 TAC §§319.11 - 319.12. Measurements, tests, and calculations shall be accurately accomplished in a representative manner.
- b. All laboratory tests submitted to demonstrate compliance with this permit must meet the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 25, Environmental Testing Laboratory Accreditation and Certification.

### 3. Records of Results

- a. Monitoring samples and measurements shall be taken at times and in a manner so as to be representative of the monitored activity.
- b. Except for records of monitoring information required by this permit related to the permittee's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years (or longer as required by 40 CFR Part 503), monitoring and reporting records, including strip charts and records of calibration and maintenance, copies of all records required by this permit, records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, and the certification required by 40 CFR § 264.73(b)(9) shall be retained at the facility site, or shall be readily available for review by a TCEQ representative for a period of three years from the date of the record or sample, measurement, report, application or certification. This period shall be extended at the request of the Executive Director.
- c. Records of monitoring activities shall include the following:
  - i. date, time and place of sample or measurement;
  - ii. identity of individual who collected the sample or made the measurement.
  - iii. date and time of analysis;
  - iv. identity of the individual and laboratory who performed the analysis;
  - v. the technique or method of analysis; and
  - vi. the results of the analysis or measurement and quality assurance/quality control records.

The period during which records are required to be kept shall be automatically extended to the date of the final disposition of any administrative or judicial enforcement action that may be instituted against the permittee.

### 4. Additional Monitoring by Permittee

If the permittee monitors any pollutant at the location(s) designated herein more frequently than required by this permit using approved analytical methods as specified above, all results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the values submitted on the approved self-report form. Increased frequency of sampling shall be indicated on the self-report form.

### 5. Calibration of Instruments

All automatic flow measuring or recording devices and all totalizing meters for measuring flows shall be accurately calibrated by a trained person at plant start-up and as often thereafter as necessary to ensure accuracy, but not less often than annually unless authorized by the Executive Director for a longer period. Such person shall verify in writing that the device is operating properly and giving accurate results. Copies of the verification shall be retained at the facility site and/or shall be readily available for review by a TCEQ representative for a period of three years.

### 6. Compliance Schedule Reports

Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of the permit shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date to the Regional Office No. 10 and the Enforcement Division (MC 224).

### 7. Noncompliance Notification

- a. In accordance with 30 TAC §305.125(9) any noncompliance that may endanger human health or safety, or the environment shall be reported by the permittee to the TCEQ. Report of such information shall be provided orally or by facsimile transmission (FAX) to the Regional Office within 24 hours of becoming aware of the noncompliance. A written submission of such information shall also be provided by the permittee to the Regional Office and the Enforcement Division (MC 224) within five working days of becoming aware of the noncompliance. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the potential danger to human health or safety, or the environment; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times; if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance, and to mitigate its adverse effects.
- b. The following violations shall be reported under Monitoring and Reporting Requirement 7.a.:
  - i. Unauthorized discharges as defined in Permit Condition 2(g).
  - ii. Any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit.
  - iii. Violation of a permitted maximum daily discharge limitation for pollutants listed specifically in the Other Requirements section of an Industrial TPDES permit.

- c. In addition to the above, any effluent violation that deviates from the permitted effluent limitation by more than 40% shall be reported by the permittee in writing to the Regional Office and the Enforcement Division (MC 224) within 5 working days of becoming aware of the noncompliance.
  - d. Any noncompliance other than that specified in this section, or any required information not submitted or submitted incorrectly, shall be reported to the Enforcement Division (MC 224) as promptly as possible. For effluent limitation violations, noncompliances shall be reported on the approved self-report form.
8. In accordance with the procedures described in 30 TAC §§35.301 - 35.303 (relating to Water Quality Emergency and Temporary Orders) if the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice by applying for such authorization.
9. Changes in Discharges of Toxic Substances

All existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural permittees shall notify the Regional Office, orally or by facsimile transmission within 24 hours, and both the Regional Office and the Enforcement Division (MC 224) in writing within five (5) working days, after becoming aware of or having reason to believe:

- a. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant listed at 40 CFR Part 122, Appendix D, Tables II and III (excluding Total Phenols) which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":
    - i. One hundred micrograms per liter (100 µg/L);
    - ii. Two hundred micrograms per liter (200 µg/L) for acrolein and acrylonitrile; five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L) for 2,4-dinitrophenol and for 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
    - iii. Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or
    - iv. The level established by the TCEQ.
  - b. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in any discharge, on a nonroutine or infrequent basis, of a toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":
    - i. Five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L);
    - ii. One milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
    - iii. Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or
    - iv. The level established by the TCEQ.
10. Signatories to Reports
- All reports and other information requested by the Executive Director shall be signed by the person and in the manner required by 30 TAC §305.128 (relating to Signatories to Reports).
11. All publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) must provide adequate notice to the Executive Director of the following:
- a. Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger that would be subject to CWA §301 or §306 if it were directly discharging those pollutants;
  - b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that POTW by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW at the time of issuance of the permit; and
  - c. For the purpose of this paragraph, adequate notice shall include information on:
    - i. The quality and quantity of effluent introduced into the POTW; and
    - ii. Any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.

**PERMIT CONDITIONS**

## 1. General

- a. When the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in an application or in any report to the Executive Director, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.
- b. This permit is granted on the basis of the information supplied and representations made by the permittee during action on an application, and relying upon the accuracy and completeness of that information and those representations. After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this permit may be modified, suspended, or revoked, in whole or in part, in accordance with 30 TAC Chapter 305, Subchapter D, during its term for good cause including, but not limited to, the following:
  - i. Violation of any terms or conditions of this permit;
  - ii. Obtaining this permit by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts; or
  - iii. A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge.
- c. The permittee shall furnish to the Executive Director, upon request and within a reasonable time, any information to determine whether cause exists for amending, revoking, suspending, or terminating the permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the Executive Director, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by the permit.

## 2. Compliance

- a. Acceptance of the permit by the person to whom it is issued constitutes acknowledgment and agreement that such person will comply with all the terms and conditions embodied in the permit, and the rules and other orders of the Commission.
- b. The permittee has a duty to comply with all conditions of the permit. Failure to comply with any permit condition constitutes a violation of the permit and the Texas Water Code or the Texas Health and Safety Code, and is grounds for enforcement action, for permit amendment, revocation, or suspension, or for denial of a permit renewal application or an application for a permit for another facility.
- c. It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of the permit.
- d. The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal or other permit violation that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.
- e. Authorization from the Commission is required before beginning any change in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with any permit requirements.
- f. A permit may be amended, suspended and reissued, or revoked for cause in accordance with 30 TAC §§305.62 and 305.66 and TWC §7.302. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit amendment, suspension and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition.
- g. There shall be no unauthorized discharge of wastewater or any other waste. For the purpose of this permit, an unauthorized discharge is considered to be any discharge of wastewater into or adjacent to water in the state at any location not permitted as an outfall or otherwise defined in the Other Requirements section of this permit.
- h. In accordance with 30 TAC §305.535(a), the permittee may allow any bypass to occur from a TPDES permitted facility that does not cause permitted effluent limitations to be exceeded or an unauthorized discharge to occur, but only if the bypass is also for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation.
- i. The permittee is subject to administrative, civil, and criminal penalties, as applicable, under TWC §§7.051 - 7.075 (relating to Administrative Penalties), 7.101 - 7.111 (relating to Civil Penalties), and 7.141 - 7.202 (relating to Criminal Offenses and Penalties) for violations including, but not limited to, negligently or knowingly violating the federal CWA §§301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405, or any condition or limitation implementing any sections in a permit issued under the CWA §402, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under the CWA §§402 (a)(3) or 402 (b)(8).

### 3. Inspections and Entry

- a. Inspection and entry shall be allowed as prescribed in the TWC Chapters 26, 27, and 28, and THSC Chapter 361.
- b. The members of the Commission and employees and agents of the Commission are entitled to enter any public or private property at any reasonable time for the purpose of inspecting and investigating conditions relating to the quality of water in the state or the compliance with any rule, regulation, permit or other order of the Commission. Members, employees, or agents of the Commission and Commission contractors are entitled to enter public or private property at any reasonable time to investigate or monitor or, if the responsible party is not responsive or there is an immediate danger to public health or the environment, to remove or remediate a condition related to the quality of water in the state. Members, employees, Commission contractors, or agents acting under this authority who enter private property shall observe the establishment's rules and regulations concerning safety, internal security, and fire protection, and if the property has management in residence, shall notify management or the person then in charge of his presence and shall exhibit proper credentials. If any member, employee, Commission contractor, or agent is refused the right to enter in or on public or private property under this authority, the Executive Director may invoke the remedies authorized in TWC § 7.002. The statement above, that Commission entry shall occur in accordance with an establishment's rules and regulations concerning safety, internal security, and fire protection, is not grounds for denial or restriction of entry to any part of the facility, but merely describes the Commission's duty to observe appropriate rules and regulations during an inspection.

### 4. Permit Amendment and/or Renewal

- a. The permittee shall give notice to the Executive Director as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility if such alterations or additions would require a permit amendment or result in a violation of permit requirements. Notice shall also be required under this paragraph when:
  - i. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in accordance with 30 TAC §305.534 (relating to New Sources and New Dischargers);
  - ii. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants that are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements in Monitoring and Reporting Requirements No. 9; or
  - iii. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan.
- b. Prior to any facility modifications, additions, or expansions that will increase the plant capacity beyond the permitted flow, the permittee must apply for and obtain proper authorization from the Commission before commencing construction.
- c. The permittee must apply for an amendment or renewal at least 180 days prior to expiration of the existing permit in order to continue a permitted activity after the expiration date of the permit. If an application is submitted prior to the expiration date of the permit, the existing permit shall remain in effect until the application is approved, denied, or returned. If the application is returned or denied, authorization to continue such activity shall terminate upon the effective date of the action. If an application is not submitted prior to the expiration date of the permit, the permit shall expire and authorization to continue such activity shall terminate.
- d. Prior to accepting or generating wastes that are not described in the permit application or that would result in a significant change in the quantity or quality of the existing discharge, the permittee must report the proposed changes to the Commission. The permittee must apply for a permit amendment reflecting any necessary changes in permit conditions, including effluent limitations for pollutants not identified and limited by this permit.
- e. In accordance with the TWC §26.029(b), after a public hearing, notice of which shall be given to the permittee, the Commission may require the permittee, from time to time, for good cause, in accordance with applicable laws, to conform to new or additional conditions.
- f. If any toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is promulgated under CWA §307(a) for a toxic pollutant that is present in the discharge and that standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation on the pollutant in this permit, this permit

shall be modified or revoked and reissued to conform to the toxic effluent standard or prohibition. The permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under CWA §307(a) for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that established those standards or prohibitions, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.

5. Permit Transfer

- a. Prior to any transfer of this permit, Commission approval must be obtained. The Commission shall be notified in writing of any change in control or ownership of facilities authorized by this permit. Such notification should be sent to the Applications Review and Processing Team (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division.
- b. A permit may be transferred only according to the provisions of 30 TAC §305.64 (relating to Transfer of Permits) and 30 TAC §50.133 (relating to Executive Director Action on Application or WQMP update).

6. Relationship to Hazardous Waste Activities

This permit does not authorize any activity of hazardous waste storage, processing, or disposal, which requires a permit or other authorization pursuant to the Texas Health and Safety Code.

7. Relationship to Water Rights

Disposal of treated effluent by any means other than discharge directly to water in the state must be specifically authorized in this permit and may require a permit pursuant to TWC Chapter 11.

8. Property Rights

A permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege.

9. Permit Enforceability

The conditions of this permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit, or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstances, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit, shall not be affected thereby.

10. Relationship to Permit Application

The application pursuant to which the permit has been issued is incorporated herein; provided, however, that in the event of a conflict between the provisions of this permit and the application, the provisions of the permit shall control.

11. Notice of Bankruptcy.

- a. Each permittee shall notify the executive director, in writing, immediately following the filing of a voluntary or involuntary petition for bankruptcy under any chapter of Title 11 (Bankruptcy) of the United States Code (11 USC) by or against:
  - i. the permittee;
  - ii. an entity (as that term is defined in 11 USC, §101(14)) controlling the permittee or listing the permit or permittee as property of the estate; or
  - iii. an affiliate (as that term is defined in 11 USC, §101(2)) of the permittee.
- b. This notification must indicate:
  - i. the name of the permittee and the permit number(s);
  - ii. the bankruptcy court in which the petition for bankruptcy was filed; and
  - iii. the date of filing of the petition.

## OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. The permittee shall at all times ensure that the facility and all of its systems of collection, treatment, and disposal are properly operated and maintained. This includes, but is not limited to, the regular, periodic examination of wastewater solids within the treatment plant by the operator in order to maintain an appropriate quantity and quality of solids inventory as described in the various operator training manuals and according to accepted industry standards for process control. Process control, maintenance, and operations records shall be retained at the facility site, or shall be readily available for review by a TCEQ representative, for a period of three years.

2. Upon request by the Executive Director, the permittee shall take appropriate samples and provide proper analysis in order to demonstrate compliance with Commission rules. Unless otherwise specified in this permit or otherwise ordered by the Commission, the permittee shall comply with all applicable provisions of 30 TAC Chapter 312 concerning sewage sludge use and disposal and 30 TAC §§319.21 - 319.29 concerning the discharge of certain hazardous metals.
3. Domestic wastewater treatment facilities shall comply with the following provisions:
  - a. The permittee shall notify the Municipal Permits Team, Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division, in writing, of any facility expansion at least 90 days prior to conducting such activity.
  - b. The permittee shall submit a closure plan for review and approval to the Municipal Permits Team, Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division, for any closure activity at least 90 days prior to conducting such activity. Closure is the act of permanently taking a waste management unit or treatment facility out of service and includes the permanent removal from service of any pit, tank, pond, lagoon, surface impoundment and/or other treatment unit regulated by this permit.
4. The permittee is responsible for installing prior to plant start-up, and subsequently maintaining, adequate safeguards to prevent the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated wastes during electrical power failures by means of alternate power sources, standby generators, and/or retention of inadequately treated wastewater.
5. Unless otherwise specified, the permittee shall provide a readily accessible sampling point and, where applicable, an effluent flow measuring device or other acceptable means by which effluent flow may be determined.
6. The permittee shall remit an annual water quality fee to the Commission as required by 30 TAC Chapter 21. Failure to pay the fee may result in revocation of this permit under TWC §7.302(b)(6).
7. Documentation

For all written notifications to the Commission required of the permittee by this permit, the permittee shall keep and make available a copy of each such notification under the same conditions as self-monitoring data are required to be kept and made available. Except for information required for TPDES permit applications, effluent data, including effluent data in permits, draft permits and permit applications, and other information specified as not confidential in 30 TAC §1.5(d), any information submitted pursuant to this permit may be claimed as confidential by the submitter. Any such claim must be asserted in the manner prescribed in the application form or by stamping the words "confidential business information" on each page containing such information. If no claim is made at the time of submission, information may be made available to the public without further notice. If the Commission or Executive Director agrees with the designation of confidentiality, the TCEQ will not provide the information for public inspection unless required by the Texas Attorney General or a court pursuant to an open records request. If the Executive Director does not agree with the designation of confidentiality, the person submitting the information will be notified.

8. Facilities that generate domestic wastewater shall comply with the following provisions; domestic wastewater treatment facilities at permitted industrial sites are excluded.
  - a. Whenever flow measurements for any domestic sewage treatment facility reach 75% of the permitted daily average or annual average flow for three consecutive months, the permittee must initiate engineering and financial planning for expansion and/or upgrading of the domestic wastewater treatment and/or collection facilities. Whenever the flow reaches 90% of the permitted daily average or annual average flow for three consecutive months, the permittee shall obtain necessary authorization from the Commission to commence construction of the necessary additional treatment and/or collection facilities. In the case of a domestic wastewater treatment facility that reaches 75% of the permitted daily average or annual average flow for three consecutive months, and the planned population to be served or the quantity of waste produced is not expected to exceed the design limitations of the treatment facility, the permittee shall submit an engineering report supporting this claim to the Executive Director of the Commission.

If in the judgment of the Executive Director the population to be served will not cause permit noncompliance, then the requirement of this section may be waived. To be effective, any waiver must be in writing and signed by the Director of the Enforcement Division (MC 149) of the Commission, and such waiver of these requirements will be reviewed upon expiration of the existing permit; however, any such waiver shall not be interpreted as condoning or excusing any violation of any permit parameter.

- b. The plans and specifications for domestic sewage collection and treatment works associated with any domestic permit must be approved by the Commission and failure to secure approval before commencing construction of such works or making a discharge is a violation of this permit and each day is an additional violation until approval has been secured.

- c. Permits for domestic wastewater treatment plants are granted subject to the policy of the Commission to encourage the development of area-wide waste collection, treatment, and disposal systems. The Commission reserves the right to amend any domestic wastewater permit in accordance with applicable procedural requirements to require the system covered by this permit to be integrated into an area-wide system, should such be developed; to require the delivery of the wastes authorized to be collected in, treated by or discharged from said system, to such area-wide system; or to amend this permit in any other particular to effectuate the Commission's policy. Such amendments may be made when the changes required are advisable for water quality control purposes and are feasible on the basis of waste treatment technology, engineering, financial, and related considerations existing at the time the changes are required, exclusive of the loss of investment in or revenues from any then existing or proposed waste collection, treatment or disposal system.
9. Domestic wastewater treatment plants shall be operated and maintained by sewage plant operators holding a valid certificate of competency at the required level as defined in 30 TAC Chapter 30.
10. For Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs), the 30-day average (or monthly average) percent removal for BOD and TSS shall not be less than 85%, unless otherwise authorized by this permit.
11. Facilities that generate industrial solid waste as defined in 30 TAC §335.1 shall comply with these provisions:
- Any solid waste, as defined in 30 TAC §335.1 (including but not limited to such wastes as garbage, refuse, sludge from a waste treatment, water supply treatment plant or air pollution control facility, discarded materials, discarded materials to be recycled, whether the waste is solid, liquid, or semisolid), generated by the permittee during the management and treatment of wastewater, must be managed in accordance with all applicable provisions of 30 TAC Chapter 335, relating to Industrial Solid Waste Management.
  - Industrial wastewater that is being collected, accumulated, stored, or processed before discharge through any final discharge outfall, specified by this permit, is considered to be industrial solid waste until the wastewater passes through the actual point source discharge and must be managed in accordance with all applicable provisions of 30 TAC Chapter 335.
  - The permittee shall provide written notification, pursuant to the requirements of 30 TAC §335.8(b)(1), to the Environmental Cleanup Section (MC 127) of the Remediation Division informing the Commission of any closure activity involving an Industrial Solid Waste Management Unit, at least 90 days prior to conducting such an activity.
  - Construction of any industrial solid waste management unit requires the prior written notification of the proposed activity to the Registration and Reporting Section (MC 129) of the Registration, Review, and Reporting Division. No person shall dispose of industrial solid waste, including sludge or other solids from wastewater treatment processes, prior to fulfilling the deed recordation requirements of 30 TAC §335.5.
  - The term "industrial solid waste management unit" means a landfill, surface impoundment, waste-pile, industrial furnace, incinerator, cement kiln, injection well, container, drum, salt dome waste containment cavern, or any other structure vessel, appurtenance, or other improvement on land used to manage industrial solid waste.
  - The permittee shall keep management records for all sludge (or other waste) removed from any wastewater treatment process. These records shall fulfill all applicable requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 335 and must include the following, as it pertains to wastewater treatment and discharge:
    - Volume of waste and date(s) generated from treatment process;
    - Volume of waste disposed of on-site or shipped off-site;
    - Date(s) of disposal;
    - Identity of hauler or transporter;
    - Location of disposal site; and
    - Method of final disposal.
- The above records shall be maintained on a monthly basis. The records shall be retained at the facility site, or shall be readily available for review by authorized representatives of the TCEQ for at least five years.
12. For industrial facilities to which the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 335 do not apply, sludge and solid wastes, including tank cleaning and contaminated solids for disposal, shall be disposed of in accordance with THSC Chapter 361.

## SLUDGE PROVISIONS

The permittee is authorized to dispose of sludge only at a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) authorized land application site or co-disposal landfill. **The disposal of sludge by land application on property owned, leased, or under the direct control of the permittee is a violation of the permit unless the site is authorized with the TCEQ. This provision does not authorize Distribution and Marketing of sludge. This provision does not authorize land application of Class A Sludge. This provision does not authorize the permittee to land apply sludge on property owned, leased or under the direct control of the permittee.**

### SECTION I. REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO ALL SEWAGE SLUDGE LAND APPLICATION

#### A. General Requirements

1. The permittee shall handle and dispose of sewage sludge in accordance with 30 TAC Chapter 312 and all other applicable state and federal regulations in a manner that protects public health and the environment from any reasonably anticipated adverse effects due to any toxic pollutants that may be present in the sludge.
2. In all cases, if the person (permit holder) who prepares the sewage sludge supplies the sewage sludge to another person for land application use or to the owner or leaseholder of the land, the permit holder shall provide necessary information to the parties who receive the sludge to assure compliance with these regulations.
3. The permittee shall give 180 days prior notice to the Executive Director in care of the Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division of any change planned in the sewage sludge disposal practice.

#### B. Testing Requirements

1. Sewage sludge shall be tested once during the term of this permit in accordance with the method specified in both 40 CFR Part 261, Appendix II and 40 CFR Part 268, Appendix I [Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP)] or other method, that receives the prior approval of the TCEQ for the contaminants listed in Table 1 of 40 CFR §261.24. Sewage sludge failing this test shall be managed according to RCRA standards for generators of hazardous waste, and the waste's disposition must be in accordance with all applicable requirements for hazardous waste processing, storage, or disposal. Following failure of any TCLP test, the management or disposal of sewage sludge at a facility other than an authorized hazardous waste processing, storage, or disposal facility shall be prohibited until such time as the permittee can demonstrate the sewage sludge no longer exhibits the hazardous waste toxicity characteristics (as demonstrated by the results of the TCLP tests). A written report shall be provided to both the TCEQ Registration and Reporting Section (MC 129) of the Permitting and Remediation Support Division and the Regional Director (MC Region 10) within 7 days after failing the TCLP Test.

The report shall contain test results, certification that unauthorized waste management has stopped and a summary of alternative disposal plans that comply with RCRA standards for the management of hazardous waste. The report shall be addressed to: Director, Registration, Review, and Reporting Division (MC 129), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P. O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. In addition, the permittee shall prepare an annual report on the results of all sludge toxicity testing. This annual report shall be submitted to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 10) and the Water Quality Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division by September 1 of each year.

2. Sewage sludge shall not be applied to the land if the concentration of the pollutants exceeds the pollutant concentration criteria in Table 1. The frequency of testing for pollutants in Table 1 is found in Section I.C.

TABLE 1

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Ceiling Concentration</u> (Milligrams per kilogram)*
Arsenic	75
Cadmium	85
Chromium	3000
Copper	4300
Lead	840
Mercury	57
Molybdenum	75
Nickel	420
PCBs	49
Selenium	100
Zinc	7500

\* Dry weight basis

3. Pathogen Control

All sewage sludge that is applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, or a reclamation site shall be treated by one of the following methods to ensure that the sludge meets either the Class A or Class B pathogen requirements.

- a. Six alternatives are available to demonstrate compliance with Class A sewage sludge. The first 4 options require either the density of fecal coliform in the sewage sludge be less than 1000 Most Probable Number (MPN) per gram of total solids (dry weight basis), or the density of Salmonella sp. bacteria in the sewage sludge be less than three MPN per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed. Below are the additional requirements necessary to meet the definition of a Class A sludge.

Alternative 1 - The temperature of the sewage sludge that is used or disposed shall be maintained at or above a specific value for a period of time. See 30 TAC §312.82(a)(2)(A) for specific information.

Alternative 2 - The pH of the sewage sludge that is used or disposed shall be raised to above 12 std. units and shall remain above 12 std. units for 72 hours.

The temperature of the sewage sludge shall be above 52° Celsius for 12 hours or longer during the period that the pH of the sewage sludge is above 12 std. units.

At the end of the 72-hour period during which the pH of the sewage sludge is above 12 std. units, the sewage sludge shall be air dried to achieve a percent solids in the sewage sludge greater than 50%.

Alternative 3 - The sewage sludge shall be analyzed for enteric viruses prior to pathogen treatment. The limit for enteric viruses is less than one plaque-forming unit per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) either before or following pathogen treatment. See 30 TAC §312.82(a)(2)(C)(i-iii) for specific information. The sewage sludge shall be analyzed for viable helminth ova prior to pathogen treatment. The limit for viable helminth ova is less than one per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) either before or following pathogen treatment. See 30 TAC §312.82(a)(2)(C)(iv-vi) for specific information.

Alternative 4 - The density of enteric viruses in the sewage sludge shall be less than one plaque-forming unit per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed. The density of viable helminth ova in the sewage sludge shall be less than one per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed.

Alternative 5 (PFRP) - Sewage sludge that is used or disposed of shall be treated in one of the processes to Further Reduce Pathogens (PFRP) described in 40 CFR Part 503, Appendix B. PFRP include composting, heat drying, heat treatment, and thermophilic aerobic digestion.

Alternative 6 (PFRP Equivalent) - Sewage sludge that is used or disposed of shall be treated in a process that has been approved by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as being equivalent to those in Alternative 5.

- b. Three alternatives are available to demonstrate compliance with Class B criteria for sewage sludge.

Alternative 1 -

- i. A minimum of seven random samples of the sewage sludge shall be collected within 48 hours of the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed of during each monitoring episode for the sewage sludge.
- ii. The geometric mean of the density of fecal coliform in the samples collected shall be less than either 2,000,000 MPN per gram of total solids (dry weight basis) or 2,000,000 Colony Forming Units per gram of total solids (dry weight basis).

Alternative 2 - Sewage sludge that is used or disposed of shall be treated in one of the Processes to Significantly Reduce Pathogens (PSRP) described in 40 CFR Part 503, Appendix B, so long as all of the following requirements are met by the generator of the sewage sludge.

- i. Prior to use or disposal, all the sewage sludge must have been generated from a single location, except as provided in paragraph v. below;
- ii. An independent Texas Licensed Professional Engineer must make a certification to the generator of a sewage sludge that the wastewater treatment facility generating the sewage sludge is designed to achieve one of the PSRP at the permitted design loading of the facility. The certification need only be repeated if the design loading of the facility is increased. The certification shall include a statement indicating the design meets all the applicable standards specified in Appendix B of 40 CFR Part 503;
- iii. Prior to any off-site transportation or on-site use or disposal of any sewage sludge generated at a wastewater treatment facility, the chief certified operator of the wastewater treatment facility or other responsible official who manages the processes to significantly reduce pathogens at the wastewater treatment facility for the permittee, shall certify that the sewage sludge underwent at least the minimum operational requirements necessary in order to meet one of the PSRP. The acceptable processes and the minimum operational and record keeping requirements shall be in accordance with established EPA final guidance;
- iv. All certification records and operational records describing how the requirements of this paragraph were met shall be kept by the generator for a minimum of three years and be available for inspection by commission staff for review; and
- v. If the sewage sludge is generated from a mixture of sources, resulting from a person who prepares sewage sludge from more than one wastewater treatment facility, the resulting derived product shall meet one of the PSRP, and shall meet the certification, operation, and record keeping requirements of this paragraph.

Alternative 3 - Sewage sludge shall be treated in an equivalent process that has been approved by the EPA so long as all of the following requirements are met by the generator of the sewage sludge.

- i. Prior to use or disposal, all the sewage sludge must have been generated from a single location, except as provided in paragraph v. below;
- ii. Prior to any off-site transportation or on-site use or disposal of any sewage sludge generated at a wastewater treatment facility, the chief certified operator of the wastewater treatment facility or other responsible official who manages the processes to significantly reduce pathogens at the wastewater treatment facility for the permittee, shall certify that the sewage sludge underwent at least the minimum operational requirements necessary in order to meet one of the PSRP. The acceptable processes and the minimum operational and record keeping requirements shall be in accordance with established EPA final guidance;
- iii. All certification records and operational records describing how the requirements of this paragraph were met shall be kept by the generator for a minimum of three years and be available for inspection by commission staff for review;
- iv. The executive director will accept from the EPA a finding of equivalency to the defined PSRP; and

- v. If the sewage sludge is generated from a mixture of sources resulting from a person who prepares sewage sludge from more than one wastewater treatment facility, the resulting derived product shall meet one of the processes to significantly reduce pathogens, and shall meet the certification, operation, and record keeping requirements of this paragraph.

In addition, the following site restrictions must be met if Class B sludge is land applied:

- vi. Food crops with harvested parts that touch the sewage sludge/soil mixture and are totally above the land surface shall not be harvested for 14 months after application of sewage sludge.
- vii. Food crops with harvested parts below the surface of the land shall not be harvested for 20 months after application of sewage sludge when the sewage sludge remains on the land surface for 4 months or longer prior to incorporation into the soil.
- viii. Food crops with harvested parts below the surface of the land shall not be harvested for 38 months after application of sewage sludge when the sewage sludge remains on the land surface for less than 4 months prior to incorporation into the soil.
- ix. Food crops, feed crops, and fiber crops shall not be harvested for 30 days after application of sewage sludge.
- x. Animals shall not be allowed to graze on the land for 30 days after application of sewage sludge.
- xi. Turf grown on land where sewage sludge is applied shall not be harvested for one year after application of the sewage sludge when the harvested turf is placed on either land with a high potential for public exposure or a lawn.
- xii. Public access to land with a high potential for public exposure shall be restricted for one year after application of sewage sludge.
- xiii. Public access to land with a low potential for public exposure shall be restricted for 30 days after application of sewage sludge.
- xiv. Land application of sludge shall be in accordance with the buffer zone requirements found in 30 TAC §312.44.

#### 4. Vector Attraction Reduction Requirements

All bulk sewage sludge that is applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, or a reclamation site shall be treated by one of the following alternatives 1 through 10 for Vector Attraction Reduction.

- Alternative 1 - The mass of volatile solids in the sewage sludge shall be reduced by a minimum of 38%.
- Alternative 2 - If Alternative 1 cannot be met for an anaerobically digested sludge, demonstration can be made by digesting a portion of the previously digested sludge anaerobically in the laboratory in a bench-scale unit for 40 additional days at a temperature between 30° and 37° Celsius (C). Volatile solids must be reduced by less than 17% to demonstrate compliance.
- Alternative 3 - If Alternative 1 cannot be met for an aerobically digested sludge, demonstration can be made by digesting a portion of the previously digested sludge with a percent solids of two percent or less aerobically in the laboratory in a bench-scale unit for 30 additional days at 20° C. Volatile solids must be reduced by less than 15% to demonstrate compliance.
- Alternative 4 - The specific oxygen uptake rate (SOUR) for sewage sludge treated in an aerobic process shall be equal to or less than 1.5 milligrams of oxygen per hour per gram of total solids (dry weight basis) at a temperature of 20° C.
- Alternative 5 - Sewage sludge shall be treated in an aerobic process for 14 days or longer. During that time, the temperature of the sewage sludge shall be higher than 40° C and the average temperature of the sewage sludge shall be higher than 45° C.

- Alternative 6 - The pH of sewage sludge shall be raised to 12 or higher by alkali addition and, without the addition of more alkali shall remain at 12 or higher for two hours and then remain at a pH of 11.5 or higher for an additional 22 hours at the time the sewage sludge is prepared for sale or given away in a bag or other container.
- Alternative 7 - The percent solids of sewage sludge that does not contain unstabilized solids generated in a primary wastewater treatment process shall be equal to or greater than 75% based on the moisture content and total solids prior to mixing with other materials. Unstabilized solids are defined as organic materials in sewage sludge that have not been treated in either an aerobic or anaerobic treatment process.
- Alternative 8 - The percent solids of sewage sludge that contains unstabilized solids generated in a primary wastewater treatment process shall be equal to or greater than 90% based on the moisture content and total solids prior to mixing with other materials at the time the sludge is used. Unstabilized solids are defined as organic materials in sewage sludge that have not been treated in either an aerobic or anaerobic treatment process.
- Alternative 9 -
  - i. Sewage sludge shall be injected below the surface of the land.
  - ii. No significant amount of the sewage sludge shall be present on the land surface within one hour after the sewage sludge is injected.
  - iii. When sewage sludge that is injected below the surface of the land is Class A with respect to pathogens, the sewage sludge shall be injected below the land surface within eight hours after being discharged from the pathogen treatment process.
- Alternative 10-
  - i. Sewage sludge applied to the land surface or placed on a surface disposal site shall be incorporated into the soil within six hours after application to or placement on the land.
  - ii. When sewage sludge that is incorporated into the soil is Class A with respect to pathogens, the sewage sludge shall be applied to or placed on the land within eight hours after being discharged from the pathogen treatment process.

**C. Monitoring Requirements**

- Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) Test - once during the term of this permit
- PCBs - once during the term of this permit

All metal constituents and Fecal coliform or *Salmonella sp.* bacteria shall be monitored at the appropriate frequency shown below, pursuant to 30 TAC §312.46(a)(1):

<u>Amount of sewage sludge (*) metric tons per 365-day period</u>	<u>Monitoring Frequency</u>
0 to less than 290	Once/Year
290 to less than 1,500	Once/Quarter
1,500 to less than 15,000	Once/Two Months
15,000 or greater	Once/Month

(\*) *The amount of bulk sewage sludge applied to the land (dry weight basis).*

Representative samples of sewage sludge shall be collected and analyzed in accordance with the methods referenced in 30 TAC §312.7.

**SECTION II. REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO BULK SEWAGE SLUDGE FOR APPLICATION TO THE LAND MEETING CLASS A or B PATHOGEN REDUCTION AND THE CUMULATIVE LOADING RATES IN TABLE 2, OR CLASS B PATHOGEN REDUCTION AND THE POLLUTANT CONCENTRATIONS IN TABLE 3**

For those permittees meeting Class A or B pathogen reduction requirements and that meet the cumulative loading rates in Table 2 below, or the Class B pathogen reduction requirements and contain concentrations of pollutants below listed in Table 3, the following conditions apply:

**A. Pollutant Limits**

**Table 2**

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Cumulative Pollutant Loading Rate (pounds per acre)*</u>
Arsenic	36
Cadmium	35
Chromium	2677
Copper	1339
Lead	268
Mercury	15
Molybdenum	Report Only
Nickel	375
Selenium	89
Zinc	2500

**Table 3**

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Monthly Average Concentration (milligrams per kilogram)*</u>
Arsenic	41
Cadmium	39
Chromium	1200
Copper	1500
Lead	300
Mercury	17
Molybdenum	Report Only
Nickel	420
Selenium	36
Zinc	2800

\* Dry weight basis

**B. Pathogen Control**

All bulk sewage sludge that is applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, a reclamation site, shall be treated by either Class A or Class B pathogen reduction requirements as defined above in Section I.B.3.

**C. Management Practices**

1. Bulk sewage sludge shall not be applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, or a reclamation site that is flooded, frozen, or snow-covered so that the bulk sewage sludge enters a wetland or other waters in the State.
2. Bulk sewage sludge not meeting Class A requirements shall be land applied in a manner that complies with the Management Requirements in accordance with 30 TAC §312.44.
3. Bulk sewage sludge shall be applied at or below the agronomic rate of the cover crop.

4. An information sheet shall be provided to the person who receives bulk sewage sludge sold or given away. The information sheet shall contain the following information:
  - a. The name and address of the person who prepared the sewage sludge that is sold or given away in a bag or other container for application to the land.
  - b. A statement that application of the sewage sludge to the land is prohibited except in accordance with the instruction on the label or information sheet.
  - c. The annual whole sludge application rate for the sewage sludge application rate for the sewage sludge that does not cause any of the cumulative pollutant loading rates in Table 2 above to be exceeded, unless the pollutant concentrations in Table 3 found in Section II above are met.

#### D. Notification Requirements

1. If bulk sewage sludge is applied to land in a State other than Texas, written notice shall be provided prior to the initial land application to the permitting authority for the State in which the bulk sewage sludge is proposed to be applied. The notice shall include:
  - a. The location, by street address, and specific latitude and longitude, of each land application site.
  - b. The approximate time period bulk sewage sludge will be applied to the site.
  - c. The name, address, telephone number, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit number (if appropriate) for the person who will apply the bulk sewage sludge.
2. The permittee shall give 180 days prior notice to the Executive Director in care of the Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division of any change planned in the sewage sludge disposal practice.

#### E. Record keeping Requirements

The sludge documents will be retained at the facility site and/or shall be readily available for review by a TCEQ representative. The person who prepares bulk sewage sludge or a sewage sludge material shall develop the following information and shall retain the information at the facility site and/or shall be readily available for review by a TCEQ representative for a period of five years. If the permittee supplies the sludge to another person who land applies the sludge, the permittee shall notify the land applier of the requirements for record keeping found in 30 TAC §312.47 for persons who land apply.

1. The concentration (mg/kg) in the sludge of each pollutant listed in Table 3 above and the applicable pollutant concentration criteria (mg/kg), or the applicable cumulative pollutant loading rate and the applicable cumulative pollutant loading rate limit (lbs/ac) listed in Table 2 above.
2. A description of how the pathogen reduction requirements are met (including site restrictions for Class B sludges, if applicable).
3. A description of how the vector attraction reduction requirements are met.
4. A description of how the management practices listed above in Section II.C are being met.
5. The following certification statement:

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the applicable pathogen requirements in 30 TAC §312.82(a) or (b) and the vector attraction reduction requirements in 30 TAC §312.83(b) have been met for each site on which bulk sewage sludge is applied. This determination has been made under my direction and supervision in accordance with the system designed to ensure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information used to determine that the management practices have been met. I am aware that there are significant penalties for false certification including fine and imprisonment."
6. The recommended agronomic loading rate from the references listed in Section II.C.3. above, as well as the actual agronomic loading rate shall be retained.

The person who applies bulk sewage sludge or a sewage sludge material shall develop the following information and shall retain the information at the facility site and/or shall be readily available for review by a TCEQ representative indefinitely. If the permittee supplies the sludge to another person who land applies the sludge, the permittee shall notify the land applier of the requirements for record keeping found in 30 TAC §312.47 for persons who land apply.

1. A certification statement that all applicable requirements (specifically listed) have been met, and that the permittee understands that there are significant penalties for false certification including fine and imprisonment. See 30 TAC §312.47(a)(4)(A)(ii) or 30 TAC §312.47(a)(5)(A)(ii), as applicable, and to the permittee's specific sludge treatment activities.
2. The location, by street address, and specific latitude and longitude, of each site on which sludge is applied.
3. The number of acres in each site on which bulk sludge is applied.
4. The date and time sludge is applied to each site.
5. The cumulative amount of each pollutant in pounds/acre listed in Table 2 applied to each site.
6. The total amount of sludge applied to each site in dry tons.

The above records shall be maintained on-site on a monthly basis and shall be made available to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality upon request.

#### F. Reporting Requirements

The permittee shall report annually to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 10 and Water Quality Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division, by September 1 of each year the following information:

1. Results of tests performed for pollutants found in either Table 2 or 3 as appropriate for the permittee's land application practices.
2. The frequency of monitoring listed in Section I.C. that applies to the permittee.
3. Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) results.
4. Identity of hauler(s) and TCEQ transporter number.
5. PCB concentration in sludge in mg/kg.
6. Date(s) of disposal.
7. Owner of disposal site(s).
8. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality registration number, if applicable.
9. Amount of sludge disposal dry weight (lbs/acre) at each disposal site.
10. The concentration (mg/kg) in the sludge of each pollutant listed in Table 1 (defined as a monthly average) as well as the applicable pollutant concentration criteria (mg/kg) listed in Table 3 above, or the applicable pollutant loading rate limit (lbs/acre) listed in Table 2 above if it exceeds 90% of the limit.
11. Level of pathogen reduction achieved (Class A or Class B).
12. Alternative used as listed in Section I.B.3.(a. or b.). Alternatives describe how the pathogen reduction requirements are met. If Class B sludge, include information on how site restrictions were met.
13. Vector attraction reduction alternative used as listed in Section I.B.4.
14. Annual sludge production in dry tons/year.

15. Amount of sludge land applied in dry tons/year.
16. The certification statement listed in either 30 TAC §312.47(a)(4)(A)(ii) or 30 TAC §312.47(a)(5)(A)(ii) as applicable to the permittee's sludge treatment activities, shall be attached to the annual reporting form.
17. When the amount of any pollutant applied to the land exceeds 90% of the cumulative pollutant loading rate for that pollutant, as described in Table 2, the permittee shall report the following information as an attachment to the annual reporting form.
  - a. The location, by street address, and specific latitude and longitude.
  - b. The number of acres in each site on which bulk sewage sludge is applied.
  - c. The date and time bulk sewage sludge is applied to each site.
  - d. The cumulative amount of each pollutant (i.e., pounds/acre) listed in Table 2 in the bulk sewage sludge applied to each site.
  - e. The amount of sewage sludge (i.e., dry tons) applied to each site.

The above records shall be maintained on a monthly basis and shall be made available to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality upon request.

**SECTION III. REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO ALL SEWAGE SLUDGE DISPOSED IN A MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL**

- A. The permittee shall handle and dispose of sewage sludge in accordance with 30 TAC Chapter 330 and all other applicable state and federal regulations to protect public health and the environment from any reasonably anticipated adverse effects due to any toxic pollutants that may be present. The permittee shall ensure that the sewage sludge meets the requirements in 30 TAC Chapter 330 concerning the quality of the sludge disposed in a municipal solid waste landfill.
- B. If the permittee generates sewage sludge and supplies that sewage sludge to the owner or operator of a Municipal Solid Waste Landfill (MSWLF) for disposal, the permittee shall provide to the owner or operator of the MSWLF appropriate information needed to be in compliance with the provisions of this permit.
- C. The permittee shall give 180 days prior notice to the Executive Director in care of the Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division of any change planned in the sewage sludge disposal practice.
- D. Sewage sludge shall be tested once during the term of this permit in accordance with the method specified in both 40 CFR Part 261, Appendix II and 40 CFR Part 268, Appendix I (Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure) or other method that receives the prior approval of the TCEQ for contaminants listed in Table 1 of 40 CFR §261.24. Sewage sludge failing this test shall be managed according to RCRA standards for generators of hazardous waste, and the waste's disposition must be in accordance with all applicable requirements for hazardous waste processing, storage, or disposal.

Following failure of any TCLP test, the management or disposal of sewage sludge at a facility other than an authorized hazardous waste processing, storage, or disposal facility shall be prohibited until such time as the permittee can demonstrate the sewage sludge no longer exhibits the hazardous waste toxicity characteristics (as demonstrated by the results of the TCLP tests). A written report shall be provided to both the TCEQ Registration and Reporting Section (MC 129) of the Permitting and Remediation Support Division and the Regional Director (MC Region 10 ) of the appropriate TCEQ field office within 7 days after failing the TCLP Test.

The report shall contain test results, certification that unauthorized waste management has stopped and a summary of alternative disposal plans that comply with RCRA standards for the management of hazardous waste. The report shall be addressed to: Director, Registration, Review, and Reporting Division (MC 129), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P. O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. In addition, the permittee shall prepare an annual report on the results of all sludge toxicity testing. This annual report shall be submitted to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 10) and the Water Quality Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division by September 1 of each year.

- E. Sewage sludge shall be tested as needed, in accordance with the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 330.
- F. Record keeping Requirements

The permittee shall develop the following information and shall retain the information for five years.

1. The description (including procedures followed and the results) of all liquid Paint Filter Tests performed.
2. The description (including procedures followed and results) of all TCLP tests performed.

The above records shall be maintained on-site on a monthly basis and shall be made available to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality upon request.

## G. Reporting Requirements

The permittee shall report annually to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 10) and Water Quality Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division by September 1 of each year the following information:

1. Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) results.
2. Annual sludge production in dry tons/year.
3. Amount of sludge disposed in a municipal solid waste landfill in dry tons/year.
4. Amount of sludge transported interstate in dry tons/year.
5. A certification that the sewage sludge meets the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 330 concerning the quality of the sludge disposed in a municipal solid waste landfill.
6. Identity of hauler(s) and transporter registration number.
7. Owner of disposal site(s).
8. Location of disposal site(s).
9. Date(s) of disposal.
10. The above records shall be maintained on-site on a monthly basis and shall be made available to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality upon request.

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

1. The permittee shall employ or contract with one or more licensed wastewater treatment facility operators or wastewater system operations companies holding a valid license or registration according to the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 30, Occupational Licenses and Registrations and in particular 30 TAC Chapter 30, Subchapter J, Wastewater Operators and Operations Companies.

This Category C facility must be operated by a chief operator or an operator holding a Category C license or higher. The facility must be operated a minimum of five days per week by the licensed chief operator or an operator holding the required level of license or higher. The licensed chief operator or operator holding the required level of license or higher must be available by telephone or pager seven days per week. Where shift operation of the wastewater treatment facility is necessary, each shift that does not have the on-site supervision of the licensed chief operator must be supervised by an operator in charge who is licensed not less than one level below the category for the facility.

2. The Executive Director has reviewed this action for consistency with the goals and policies of the Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) in accordance with the regulations of the Coastal Coordination Council (CCC) and has determined that the action is consistent with the applicable CMP goals and policies.
  3. The permittee is hereby placed on notice that this permit may be reviewed by the TCEQ after the completion of any new intensive water quality survey on Segment No. 0701 of the Neches-Trinity Coastal Basin and any subsequent updating of the water quality model for Segment No. 0701, in order to determine if the limitations and conditions contained herein are consistent with any such revised model. The permit may be amended, pursuant to 30 TAC §305.62, as a result of such review. The permittee is also hereby placed on notice that effluent limits may be made more stringent at renewal based on, for example, any change to modeling protocol approved in the TCEQ Continuing Planning Process.
  4. The permittee shall comply with the requirements of 30 TAC §309.13 (a) through (d). In addition, by ownership of the required buffer zone area, the permittee shall comply with the requirements of 30 TAC §309.13(e).
  5. The permittee shall provide facilities for the protection of its wastewater treatment facilities from a 100-year flood.
  6. Prior to construction of the treatment facilities, the permittee shall submit to the TCEQ Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) a summary submittal letter in accordance with the requirements in 30 TAC Section 317.1. If requested by the Wastewater Permitting Section, the permittee shall submit plans, specifications and a final engineering design report which comply with 30 TAC Chapter 317, Design Criteria for Sewerage Systems. The permittee shall clearly show how the treatment system will meet the final permitted effluent limitations required on Page 2 of the permit.
  7. Reporting requirements according to 30 TAC Sections 319.1-319.11 and any additional effluent reporting requirements contained in this permit are suspended from the effective date of the permit until plant startup or discharge, whichever occurs first, from the facility described by this permit. The permittee shall provide written notice to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 10) and the Applications Review and Processing Team (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division at least forty-five (45) days prior to plant startup or anticipated discharge, whichever occurs first and prior to completion of each additional phase.
  8. The permittee is hereby placed on notice that the Executive Director of the TCEQ will be initiating rulemaking and/or changes to procedural documents that may result in bacteria effluent limits and monitoring requirements for this facility.
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**Attachment D – Executive Director’s Response to  
Public Comment (RTC)**



**TCEQ INTERAGENCY TRANSMITTAL MEMO**

DATE: September 11, 2009

TO: LaDonna Castañuela  
CHIEF CLERK  
BUILDING F, MC - 105

FROM: Robert Brush  
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW DIVISION  
BUILDING A, MC-173

**Attached:** Executive Director's Revised Response to Comment

Application Information:

- Air Permit No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ If known, Docket or CCO Tracking #: \_\_\_\_\_
- Waste Permit No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ If known, Docket or CCO Tracking #: \_\_\_\_\_
- Water Permit No.: WQ0014867001 Name: Fannett Sewer Service and Water Supply Corporation If known,  
Docket or CCO Tracking #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Action Required** (*pick one*):

Date stamp and return copy to above-referenced ELD staff attorney and do one of the following:

FOR WASTE & WATER:

- Send Response to Comments Letter which solicits hearing requests and requests for reconsideration to those on the mailing list in your files  
*For Waste and Water this would occur in all circumstances when comments have been received*

FOR AIR:

- Send Response to Comments Letter which solicits hearing requests and requests for reconsideration to those on the attached list AND the mailing list in your files  
*For Air applications this would occur only when there are pending hearing requests*
- Place in File - no further action required by OCC  
*For Air applications this would occur when the matter is uncontested but comments were received, ED will send a copy with MTO letter  
For Waste and Water this would not occur*
- Hold until a Commission Agenda date is requested and then enclose with the Agenda Setting Letter  
*For Air applications this would occur when the executive director's position is that the matter meets TCAA §382.056(g) & (o)*
- Other Instructions: Please include Michael Redda, MC-148 on the mailing list for this RTC.



**PROPOSED TPDES PERMIT NO. WQ0014867001**

<b>APPLICATION BY</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>BEFORE THE</b>
<b>FANNETT SEWER SERVICE AND</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>TEXAS COMMISSION ON</b>
<b>WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY</b>

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REVISED RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT**

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The Executive Director (ED) of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (the Commission or TCEQ) files this Response to Public Comment (Response) on Fannett Sewer Service and Water Supply Corporation's (Applicant) application for a new Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) permit no.WQ0014867001, and the ED's preliminary decision. As required by Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC) Section (§) 55.156, before a permit is issued, the ED prepares a response to all timely, relevant and material, or significant comments. The Office of the Chief Clerk received timely filed comment letters and comments at the public meeting from the following persons:

L.J. Bergeron, Chris Betar, Lloyd Betar, Barbara Blanchard, Chad Blanchard, Roland Blanchard, Earl W. Callahan, Janette Callahan, John Callahan, Debbie Colston, Hope Colston, Ronnie Colston, Lloyd Dawson, James O. Derouen, Christine Edmonds, John L. Floyd, Joyce Sewell Hankamer, Sharon Harley, Rose Marie Hester, Jackie Jordon, Jerry J. Jordon, G.C. Kessler, Anita Kiker, Glenn Kiker, Homer G. Kiker, Lindsey Kiker, Leonard King, Dorothy Kubicek, Joe Kubicek, Elaine Lavergne, Susan LeBlanc, Roy Leger, Bert Manning, Chris Matak, Beth McGown, James McGown, Candy Melancon, Cathy Pennell, Charlotte Rainey, Charles Reneau, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Thornton, Ann Tully, Joey Villenez, Eric Viator, Missy Viator, James V. Walsh, Jim Wingate, Darwin Wood, and Wayne Wright.

A comment letter expressing interest in the permit application was also submitted by The Honorable Ted Poe, U.S. House of Representatives, 2<sup>nd</sup> District, Texas. This Response addresses all such timely public comments received, whether or not withdrawn.

**BACKGROUND**

Description of Facility

The Applicant has applied for a new permit to authorize the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 120,000 gallons per day. It is planned that the facility will be an activated sludge process plant operated in the extended aeration mode. Treatment units include a lift station, bar screens, aeration basins, final clarifiers, a roll-off sludge dewatering box, and a chlorine contact chamber. The draft permit authorizes the disposal of sludge at a TCEQ authorized land application site or co-disposal landfill. The facility has not been constructed.

The effluent limitations in the draft permit, based on a 30-day average, are 10 mg/l 5-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD<sub>5</sub>), 15 mg/l total suspended solids (TSS), 3 mg/l ammonia nitrogen (NH<sub>3</sub>-N), and 4.0 mg/l minimum dissolved oxygen. The effluent must contain a chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l and must not exceed a chlorine residual of 4.0 mg/l after a detention time of at least 20 minutes based on peak flow.

The treated effluent will be discharged via pipe to Burrell Gully, then to North Fork of Taylor Bayou, then to Taylor Bayou above tidal in Segment No. 0701 of the Neches-Trinity Coastal Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are limited aquatic life use for Burrell Gully. The designated uses for Segment No. 0701 are intermediate aquatic life uses and contact recreation.

The facility will be located 6,200 feet south of the intersection of Farm-to-Market Road 365 and Gaulding Road in Jefferson County, Texas.

### **Procedural Background**

TCEQ received the permit application on December 11, 2007, and declared it administratively complete on January 7, 2008. The Notice of Application and Intent to Obtain Water Quality Permit (NORI) was published on January 13, 2008 in the *Beaumont Enterprise*. Due to significant public interest, TCEQ originally scheduled a public meeting for September 30, 2008, but re-scheduled the meeting in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike. A combined Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision (NAPD) and Notice of Public Meeting were published on October 20, 2008 in the *Beaumont Enterprise*. The rescheduled public meeting was held on December 11, 2008 and the original public comment period ended at the close of the meeting. The original Response to Comment (RTC) was filed on February 5, 2009.

The contested case hearing requests and requests for reconsideration on this permit application were set on the May 20, 2009 commission agenda. Prior to the agenda date, it was determined that the permit file in the Office of the Chief Clerk did not contain accurate maps showing the proposed location of the facility. Therefore, the ED filed a Motion to Remand on May 15, 2009. The permit file was appropriately updated and the Applicant published a combined NORI and NAPD on July 24, 2009 in the *Beaumont Enterprise*. The new comment period ended on August 24, 2009. One additional comment letter was received during the new comment letter from Dorothy Kubicek and the issue raised and response is reflected in RTC #13.

This application is subject to the procedural requirements adopted pursuant to House Bill 801, 76<sup>th</sup> Legislature, 1999.

### **Access to Rules, Laws and Records**

If you need more information about this permit application or the wastewater permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance at 1-800-687-4040. Other information can be obtained on the web that following addresses:

Secretary of State website for all administrative rules: [www.sos.state.tx.us](http://www.sos.state.tx.us)  
TCEQ rules in Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code: [www.sos.state.tx.us/tac/](http://www.sos.state.tx.us/tac/)  
(select "TAC Viewer" on the right, then "Title 30 Environmental Quality")  
Texas statutes: [www.capitol.state.tx.us/statutes/statutes.html](http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/statutes/statutes.html)  
TCEQ website: [www.tceq.state.tx.us](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us) (for downloadable rules in WordPerfect or Adobe  
PDF formats, select "Rules, Policy, & Legislation," then "Rules and  
Rulemaking," then "Download TCEQ Rules")  
Federal rules in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations: [www.epa.gov/epahome/  
cfr40.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epahome/cfr40.htm)  
Federal environmental laws: [www.epa.gov/epahome/laws.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epahome/laws.htm)

Commission records for this facility are available for viewing and copying. Those records are located at TCEQ's main office in Austin, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor (Office of Chief Clerk, for the current application until final action is taken) and at TCEQ's Region 10 Office at 3870 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77703-1830. The application for this facility is available for viewing and copying at the Jefferson County Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace Office, 19217 Farm-to-Market Road 365, Beaumont, Texas, since publication of the NORI. The permit application, draft permit, statement of basis/technical summary, and ED's preliminary decision have been available for viewing and copying at the same location since publication of the combined NAPD and Notice of Public Meeting.

## COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

### **COMMENT 1:**

There were comments that expressed concern that the treated wastewater discharge will impact water quality and cause health problems.

### **RESPONSE 1:**

As part of the permit application process, the ED determines the uses of the receiving water and sets effluent limits that are protective of those uses. The draft permit includes effluent limitations (see page 2 of this document) and monitoring requirements to ensure that the proposed effluent limits will not violate the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards for the protection of surface water, groundwater, aquatic and terrestrial life, and human health. It also includes additional requirements for the wastewater treatment system to ensure the protection of water quality and human health; and for the disposal of domestic sludge generated from the wastewater treatment facility. In this case, the unclassified receiving water uses are limited aquatic life use for Burrell Gully. The designated uses for Segment No. 0701 are intermediate aquatic life uses and contact recreation.

In accordance with 30 TAC § 307.5 and TCEQ implementation procedures (January 2003) for the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, an antidegradation review of the receiving waters was performed. A Tier 1 antidegradation review preliminarily determined that existing water quality uses should not be impaired by this permit action. Also, this review preliminarily

determined that no water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life uses are present within the stream reach that was assessed for purposes of this permit action. Therefore, a Tier 2 degradation determination was not required.

No significant degradation of water quality is expected in water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life uses downstream, and existing uses should be maintained and protected as long as the Applicant operates and maintains the facility according to TCEQ rules and the requirements of the draft permit. The preliminary determination can be re-examined and may be modified if new information is received.

**COMMENT 2:**

There were comments that expressed concern that the treated wastewater discharge will impact water wells.

**RESPONSE 2:**

According to 30 TAC § 309.13(a), a wastewater treatment plant unit may not be located closer than 500 feet from a public water well or 250 feet from a private water well. These separation distances apply to any facility used for the storage, processing, or disposal of domestic wastewater. During the permitting process, the ED conducted a detailed review and found no public or private water wells within the radius specified in the rule.

**COMMENT 3:**

There were comments that expressed concern about potential odor problems from the proposed treatment facility.

**RESPONSE 3:**

30 TAC § 309.13(e) requires that the Applicant meet one of three options to abate and control nuisance odor. Those options are:

- 1) Lagoons with zones of anaerobic activity (e.g., facultative lagoons, un-aerated equalization basins, etc.) may not be located closer than 500 feet to the nearest property line. All other wastewater treatment plant units may not be located closer than 150 feet to the nearest property line. The Applicant must hold legal title or have other sufficient property interest to a contiguous tract of land necessary to meet the distance requirements specified in this paragraph during the time effluent is disposed by irrigation;
- 2) The Applicant must submit a nuisance odor prevention request for approval by the ED.
- 3) The Applicant must submit sufficient evidence of legal restrictions prohibiting residential structures within the part of the buffer zone not owned by the Applicant.

According to the permit application, the Applicant is meeting the buffer zone requirements by ownership. If nearby residents experience nuisance odor conditions or any other suspected incidents of noncompliance with the permit or TCEQ rules they may be reported to TCEQ by calling toll-free 1-888-777-3186 or by calling the TCEQ Region 10 Office in Beaumont at (409) 898-3838. Citizen complaints may also be filed on-line at <http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/cgi-bin/enforcement/complaints>. If the Applicant fails to comply with all requirements of the permit, the facility is subject to administrative enforcement action, fines, and penalties.

In addition, the permit does not limit the ability to seek legal remedies against an applicant regarding any potential trespass, nuisance, or other causes of action in response to activities that may result in injury to human health or property or that interfere with the normal use and enjoyment of property.

**COMMENT 4:**

There were comments about the potential damage to wetlands by the discharge from the proposed facility.

**RESPONSE 4:**

According to 30 TAC § 309.13(b), a wastewater treatment plant unit cannot be located in wetlands. However, this prohibition does not apply to manmade constructed wetlands. The United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corp of Engineers) regulates certain activities occurring in waters of the United States, including wetlands, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the River and Harbors Act of 1899. A Corp of Engineers permit is required for the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to obtain all necessary authorizations, including a Federal Clean Water Act Chapter 404 Dredge and Fill permit. The Applicant has indicated that they have submitted a 404 permit application (pending permit SWG-2008-01256) to the Corp of Engineers, but this process is completely separate and independent of TCEQ's wastewater permitting process.

**COMMENT 5:**

There were comments that the Applicant should consider a different outfall location, instead of discharging to Burrell Gully.

**RESPONSE 5:**

TCEQ rules do not allow the ED to determine or mandate a different facility location, different discharge location, alternative means of conveyance and disposal, or different type of wastewater treatment plant than what is proposed by an applicant if the proposed facility complies with the applicable rules and statutes. The ED evaluates the outfalls in the locations proposed by an applicant and determines what effluent limitations are appropriate and whether water quality standards will be maintained. If the Applicant were to request changing the discharge location,

the ED would review the new proposal using the same standards as used to evaluate the proposed outfall location.

**COMMENT 6:**

There were comments about the discharge contributing to flooding conditions in the area.

**RESPONSE 6:**

TCEQ does not address flooding issues in the wastewater permitting process, unless there is a potential impact to water quality. The permitting process is limited to controlling the discharge of pollutants into water in the state and protecting the water quality of the state's rivers, lakes and coastal waters. The draft permit includes effluent limits and other requirements that the Applicant must meet even during rainfall events and periods of flooding.

The permit application indicates the facility is located above the 100-year flood plain. In addition, the maximum proposed flow of 120,000 gpd, assuming a uniform discharge over 24-hours, is equal to a flow of 0.19 cubic feet per second. Less than one cubic foot per second is not a volume of water that is expected to cause any significant increase in the water flow in the gully.

For flooding concerns, please contact the local floodplain administrator for this area. If you need help locating the local floodplain administrator, please call the TCEQ Resource Protection Team at (512) 239-4691.

**COMMENT 7:**

There were comments that the permit application process was executed in a secretive and underhanded manner; and the public was not properly notified.

**RESPONSE 7:**

TCEQ rules require an applicant to place a copy of the administratively complete application in a public place for review and copying by the public after publication of their NORI. On a Public Notice Verification Form dated January 16, 2008, the Applicant verified that a copy of the complete water quality application, and any revisions, were available for review and copying at the Jefferson County Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace Office, 19217 Farm-to-Market Road 365, Beaumont, Texas for the duration of the public comment period.

On a Public Notice Verification Form dated October 30, 2008, the Applicant verified that a copy of the complete water quality application, draft permit, and any revisions were available for review and copying at the Jefferson County Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace Office, 19217 Farm-to-Market Road 365, Beaumont, Texas, from the first day after newspaper publication of the NAPD.

The water quality application, draft permit, and any revisions must remain in the designated public place until either the TCEQ acts on the application or the application is referred to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) for a contested case hearing.

**COMMENT 8:**

There were comments that the facility would be designed by the consulting firm Schaumberg and Polk, Inc. and that treatment facilities designed by this firm were known to suffer from noncompliance. Therefore, there were concerns that the proposed wastewater treatment plant would experience similar problems.

**RESPONSE 8:**

It is not clear from the information provided, how the facilities designed by Schaumberg and Polk, Inc. have failed to meet the water quality standards. However, the draft permit requires that prior to construction of the treatment facilities, the Applicant must submit to the TCEQ Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) its plans and specifications for the facility in accordance with the requirements in 30 TAC § 217.6. The plans and specifications are not required to be submitted to TCEQ prior to the permit being issued. *See* 30 TAC § 217.6(a). The Applicant must clearly show how the treatment system will meet the final permitted effluent limitations required on Page 2 of the permit.

Additionally, the Applicant is required to take certain steps to minimize the possibility of an accidental discharge of untreated wastewater. For example, the Applicant must maintain adequate safeguards to prevent the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated wastes during electrical power failures by means of alternate power sources, standby generators, or retention of inadequately treated wastewater.

The Applicant is required to report any unauthorized discharge to TCEQ within 24 hours. If the Applicant fails to report the unauthorized discharge or bypass to TCEQ within the prescribed time period, they are subject to enforcement action. TCEQ conducts periodic inspections of wastewater facilities and also conducts investigations based on complaints received from the public. To report complaints about the facility, please contact the Beaumont Regional Office at (409) 898-3838, or call the 24-hour toll-free Environmental Complaints Hotline at 1-888-777-3186.

Citizen complaints may also be filed on-line at [www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/complaints/index.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/complaints/index.html). The TCEQ investigates all complaints received. If the facility is found to be out of compliance with the terms and conditions of its permit, it will be subject to investigation and possible enforcement action.

**COMMENT 9:**

There were comments asking whether the Applicant could commence constructing the wastewater treatment facility before the proposed permit is issued.

**RESPONSE 9:**

The proposed draft permit does not authorize the construction of wastewater treatment facility before the proposed permit is issued. Texas Water Code § 26.027(c) specifically prohibits commencing construction of a treatment facility until the TCEQ has issued a permit to authorize the discharge of waste from the facility, unless TCEQ has authorized a facility to begin construction. To date, the Applicant has not made or been granted any authorization by TCEQ to begin construction before being issued a permit. Any actual construction of treatment facilities at the proposed location would be a violation of the Texas Water Code and the Applicant would be subject to TCEQ enforcement action.

**COMMENT 10:**

There were comments that the proposed site is landlocked and there were questions regarding how the Applicant plans to access the facility during all types of weather conditions. There was also a comment that there was a discrepancy in the TCEQ Core Data Form, page 2 of 2, paragraph 35. It was noted that the application states that there is a limestone road to the proposed facility, but there is, in fact, not a road and, in fact, the facility is landlocked and cannot be reached without building a bridge across Burrell Gulley.

**RESPONSE 10:**

30 TAC § 217.328(d) requires a wastewater treatment facility must have at least one all-weather access road with the driving surface situated above the 100-year flood plain. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to find ways to comply with this rule. However, the Applicant is not required to show compliance with this rule prior to being issued a permit, but must demonstrate compliance prior to the actual start-up and use of the proposed facility. Additionally, it is the responsibility of the Applicant, to acquire all necessary property rights, including access rights, in order to make use of a wastewater discharge permit.

**COMMENT 11:**

There was a comment that there was a discrepancy in the Domestic Technical Report page 12 of 39, paragraph 4.b. relating to flooding of a drinking water well less than ¼ mile from the proposed site.

**RESPONSE 11:**

Item 4.b. of the Domestic Technical Report 2.0 refers to the description of the receiving waters downstream of the proposed discharge. This permit application was reviewed by the ED staff and no discrepancy in the Domestic Technical Report was found.

**COMMENT 12:**

There was a comment that the physical description of the location of the facility in the permit application was incorrect and that the Applicant intended to locate the facility in a different spot.

**RESPONSE 12:**

Item 5.b. on page 6 of 39 of the Domestic Administrative Report states that the facility is proposed to be located 5,890 feet south of the intersection of Highway 365 and Gualding Road in Jefferson County, Texas. The ED did not find any information in the permit application showing that the Applicant intends to locate the facility in a different location.

**COMMENT 13:**

There was a comment that the Applicant has not obtained the rights to build a road to access the proposed facility in the location indicated in the permit application. The commentator noted that the proposed road would cross their property and that no authority to build such a road has been obtained from the property owner.

**RESPONSE 13:**

On January 29, 2009, TCEQ received a revised description of the physical location of the facility. The revised description of the physical location of the facility indicates the following access information:

**Temporary access:** E on Highway 365 from Interstate 10, turn right after 2.77 miles at limestone road immediately south of Gualding Road; continue 1.25 miles south on limestone road to facility site.

**Permanent access:** E on Highway 365 from Interstate 10, turn right after 1.16 miles into Hwy 124; continue on Hwy 124 for 0.12 miles before turning left on Burrell- Wingate Road; continue on Burrell- Wingate Road 2.15 miles before turning left on a proposed access road; continue on a proposed access road for 0.60 miles to the facility site.

However, if this permit is issued, it does not grant the Applicant the right to use private or public property to access their wastewater treatment plant site. The permit does not authorize any invasion of personal rights or any violation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to acquire all property rights necessary to use and access the wastewater treatment plant site. If the Applicant is unable to legally obtain those rights, then the Applicant will be unable to make use of this permit as issued.

**COMMENT 14:**

There were comments asking what would happen if electricity went out for several days at the facility. They ask if the system were inoperable would sewer start backing up into homes.

**RESPONSE 14:**

The draft permit requires that the Applicant maintain adequate safeguards to prevent the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated wastes during electrical power failures by means of alternate power sources, standby generators, or retention of inadequately treated wastewater.

**COMMENT 15:**

There were comments asking who is going to be operating the facility to keep it properly maintained and functioning.

**RESPONSE 15:**

TCEQ regulations require that domestic wastewater treatment plants be operated and maintained by operators holding a valid certificate of competency at the required level as defined in 30 TAC, Chapter 30. This facility must be operated by a chief operator holding a Category C license or higher. The facility must be operated a minimum of five days per week by the operator and they must be available by telephone or pager seven days per week.

**COMMENT 16:**

There were also comments related to:

The proposed facilities effect on property values; quality of life issues; who will pay costs associated with the sewer services and how much will service cost; whether there will be grant money available to homeowners; whether persons can be forced to use the service provided by the Applicant; eminent domain (condemnation) issues for the proposed facility; the quantity of electricity that will be used by the facility; the ownership of equipment at the proposed facility; potential traffic issues; what happens if the company gets into a financial trouble; the Applicant's authority to enter land; and whether the property had been acquired where the plant is proposed to be located.

**RESPONSE 16:**

Although the legislature has given the TCEQ the responsibility to protect water quality, TCEQ does not address these types of issues when considering whether to issue a wastewater discharge permit. The water quality permitting process is limited to controlling the discharge of pollutants into water in the state and protecting the water quality of the state's rivers, lakes, and coastal waters. The ED cannot consider economic impacts, property values, quality of life, eminent domain, utility service agreements, and traffic issues when reviewing wastewater applications and preparing draft permits.

However, the issuance of a permit does not grant to the Applicant the right to use private or public property for conveyance of wastewater along the discharge route. This includes property

belonging to any individual, partnership, corporation or other entity. The permit does not authorize any invasion of personal rights or any violation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations. It is the Applicant's responsibility to acquire the necessary property rights to use site of the planned facility and the discharge route.

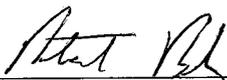
Also, the draft permit does not limit the ability of nearby landowners to use common law remedies for trespass, nuisance, or other causes of action in response to activities that may or actually do result in injury or adverse effects on human health or welfare, animal life, vegetation, or property, or that may or actually do interfere with the normal use and enjoyment of animal life, vegetation, or property.

Respectfully submitted,

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Mark R. Vickery, P.G.  
Executive Director

Robert Martinez, Director  
Environmental Law Division

By   
Robert D. Brush, Staff Attorney  
Environmental Law Division  
State Bar No. 00788772  
Representing the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR of  
the Texas Commission on Environmental  
Quality

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on September 11, 2009 the "Executive Director's Revised Response to Public Comment" for Permit No.WQ0014867001 was filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's Office of Chief Clerk.



Robert D. Brush, Staff Attorney  
Environmental Law Division  
State Bar No. 00788772

**Carmashay Terrell - TCEQ Confirmation: Your Filing on Permit Number/Docket Number WQ0014867001 was received.**

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**From:** <cterrell@tceq.state.tx.us>  
**To:** <cterrell@tceq.state.tx.us>  
**Date:** 9/11/2009 2:39 PM  
**Subject:** TCEQ Confirmation: Your Filing on Permit Number/Docket Number WQ0014867001 was received.  
**Attachments:** Fannett Sewer Service EDs Revised RTC.pdf

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**FILING CONFIRMATION NUMBER** 707503772009254

**REGULATED ENTITY NAME** FANNETT SEWER SERVICE AND WSC WWTP

**RN NUMBER:** RN105385389

**PERMIT NUMBER:** WQ0014867001

**DOCKET NUMBER:** 2009-0363-MWD

**COUNTY:** JEFFERSON

**PRINCIPAL NAME:** FANNETT SEWER SERVICE AND WSC

**CN NUMBER:** CN603277021

**FROM**

**NAME:** CARMASHAY TERRELL

**E-MAIL:** [cterrell@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:cterrell@tceq.state.tx.us)

**PHONE:**

**DOCUMENT NAME:** Fannett Sewer Service EDs Revised RTC.pdf

*Based on 30 TAC Section 1.10(h), the TCEQ General Counsel has waived the filing requirements of Section 1.10(c) to allow the filing of documents using this online system. The General Counsel also has waived the requirements of Section 1.10(e) so that the time of filing your documents is the time this online system receives your filings. Filings are considered timely if received by close of business (usually 5:00 p.m. CST) on the deadline date unless otherwise ordered. If your document is 20 pages or less (including cover letter, mailing list, and attachments) and it is for Commission consideration at an open meeting, the General Counsel has also waived the requirement of Section 1.10(d) to file paper copies with the Office of the Chief Clerk.*

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses of the members of the committee.

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3. The third part of the document is a list of names and addresses of the members of the committee.

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## **Attachment E – Compliance History Report**





