

TCEQ DOCKET NUMBER 2013-1280-MWD

**APPLICATION BY
WALTON TEXAS, LP
FOR TPDES
PERMIT NO. WQ0014439001**

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**BEFORE THE
TEXAS COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S RESPONSE TO HEARING REQUESTS

I. Introduction

The Executive Director (ED) of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ or Commission) files this Response to Hearing Requests (Response) on the application by Walton Texas, LP (Walton) for a renewal of Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit Number WQ0014439001. Sandra Abernathy, Mary Barnes, Carlton Carl, Don Chesser, Janet Christian, Dee Dee Cortez, Juan Gonzalez, Wayne Hancen, Jessica Hannan, Kennis Howard, Eric Marsh, Liz McGinty, Alfredo Munoz, Bob Parker, Carol Peters, Walter Reinhard, Rod Siefel, Dianne Stevenson, Marcella Strahan, Roy Strahan submitted written requests for a contested case hearing (CCH).

Attached for Commission consideration are the following:

Attachment A - Technical Summary & Draft Permit
Attachment B - ED's Response to Comments (RTC)
Attachment C - Compliance History
Attachment D - ED's GIS Map

II. Description of the Facility

Walton applied to the TCEQ for a renewal of a permit that would authorize it to discharge treated domestic wastewater at a final daily average flow not to exceed

700,000 gallons per day.¹ If the draft permit is issued, the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) will serve The Ranch at Clear Fork Creek, a mixed commercial and residential development near Lockhart, Texas.

If the draft permit is issued, the treated effluent will be discharged to an unnamed tributary; then to Clear Fork Plum Creek; then to Plum Creek in Segment No. 1810 of the Guadalupe River Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are no significant aquatic life use for the unnamed tributary and intermediate aquatic life use for Clear Fork Plum Creek. The designated uses for Segment No. 1810 are high aquatic life use, aquifer protection, and primary contact recreation. If the draft permit is issued, the facility will be located approximately 7,000 feet southwest of the intersection of State Highway 21 and Farm-to-Market Road 2720 in northwest Caldwell County, Texas 78656.

III. Procedural Background

The TCEQ received Walton's application for a renewal of a TPDES permit on August 2, 2012 and declared it administratively complete on August 17, 2012. The Notice of Receipt and Intent to Obtain a Water Quality Permit (NORI) was published in the *Lockhart Post-Register* on September 6, 2012. The Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision (NAPD) for a Water Quality Permit was published in the *Lockhart Post-Register* on November 1, 2012. The Notice of Public Meeting was published in the *Lockhart Post-Register* on February 21, 2013. A public meeting was held at the Lockhart City Hall on March 26, 2013 and the comment period ended immediately after the

¹ Walton acquired the permit from Caldwell 405, LP on June 28, 2012, pursuant to 30 TAC § 305.64.

meeting. The RTC was filed on May 23, 2013. This application was administratively complete on or after September 1, 1999; therefore, this application is subject to the procedural requirements adopted pursuant to House Bill 801, 76th Legislature, 1999.

IV. Evaluation of 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. This application was declared administratively complete on August 17 2012, 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. The regulations governing requests for CCH are found at 30 TAC Chapter 55.

A. Response to Requests

"The Executive Director, the public interest counsel, and applicant may submit written responses to [hearing] requests"²

Responses to hearing requests must specifically address:

- (a) whether the requestor is an affected person;
- (b) whether issues raised in the hearing request are disputed;
- (c) whether the dispute involves questions of fact or law;
- (d) whether the issues were raised during the public comment period;

² 30 TAC §55.209(d).

- (e) 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;
- (f) whether the issues are relevant and material to the decision on the application; and
- (g) a maximum expected duration for the contested case hearing.³

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.

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.⁴

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 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 30 TAC §55.209(e).

⁴ 30 TAC §55.201(c).

- (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.⁵

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.

- (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;
 - (1) distance restrictions or other limitations imposed by law on the affected interest;
 - (2) whether a reasonable relationship exists between the interest claimed and the activity regulated;
 - (3) likely impact of the regulated activity on the health and safety of the person, and on the use of property of the person;

⁵ 30 TAC §55.201(d).

- (4) likely impact of the regulated activity on use of the impacted natural resource by the person; and
- (5) for governmental entities, their statutory authority over or interest in the issues relevant to the application.⁶

D. Referral 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.”⁷ “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.”⁸

E. Permit Applications Where There is No Right to a Contested Case Hearing

A permit renewal or amendment is not subject to a contested case hearing when:

- (A) the applicant is not applying to:
 - (i) increase significantly the quantity of waste authorized to be discharged; or
 - (ii) change materially the pattern or place of discharge;
- (B) the activity to be authorized by the renewal or amended permit will maintain or improve the quality of waste authorized to be discharged;
- (C) any required opportunity for public meeting has been given;
- (D) consultation and response to all timely received and significant public comment has been given; and

⁶ 30 TAC § 55.203.

⁷ 30 TAC § 50.115(b).

⁸ 30 TAC § 50.115(c).

(E) the applicant's compliance history for the previous five years raises no issues regarding the applicant's ability to comply with a material term of the permit.⁹

V. Analysis of the Hearing Request

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

a. *Sandra Abernathy*

The public comment period for this permit application ended on March 26, 2013. The period for timely filing a request for a CCH on this permit application ended on July 1, 2013. Ms. Abernathy submitted a request for a CCH on December 3, 2012; however, she did not provide a street address or indicate where her property is in relation to the location of the proposed Walton wastewater treatment facility. The only issue Ms. Abernathy raised was whether the discharge would flood her hay field and destroy her hay crop and income.

The ED recommends finding that Sandra Abernathy did not substantially comply with 30 TAC §§ 55.201(c) and (d).

b. *Mary Barnes, Carlton Carl, Don Chesser, Janet Christian, Dee Dee Cortez, Juan Gonzalez, Wayne Hancen, Jessica Hannan, Kennis Howard, Eric Marsh, Liz McGinty, Alfredo Munoz, Bob Parker, Carol Peters, Walter Reinhard, Rod Siefel, Dianne Stevenson, Marcella Strahan, Roy Strahan*

The public comment period for this permit application ended on March 26, 2013. The period for timely filing a request for a CCH on this permit application ended on July 1, 2013. The above individuals signed a petition requesting a CCH which was submitted to the Office of Chief Clerk on November 30, 2012. Each individual provided a street

⁹ TEX. WATER CODE § 26.028(d); 30 TAC § 55.201(i)(5).

address and phone number. The petition requested a public hearing, but did not include any contested issues.

The ED recommends finding that Mary Barnes, Carlton Carl, Don Chesser, Janet Christian, Dee Dee Cortez, Juan Gonzalez, Wayne Hancen, Jessica Hannan, Kennis Howard, Eric Marsh, Liz McGinty, Alfredo Munoz, Bob Parker, Carol Peters, Walter Reinhard, Rod Siefel, Dianne Stevenson, Marcella Strahan, Roy Strahan did not substantially comply with 30 TAC §§ 55.201(c) and (d).

B. Whether there is a right to a contested case hearing on this permit application.

This is an application for renewal of a wastewater discharge permit and TCEQ rules provide that there is no right to a CCH for applications that seek to renew or amend a permit issued under Texas Water Code, Chapter 26 in certain circumstances. See Section E on page 6.

Walton did not request authorization to either increase the quantity of its discharge, or to change the pattern or place of its discharge. Additionally, Walton did not request a change to any of the terms in its existing permit. The draft permit is the same as the existing permit.

A public meeting was held at the Lockhart City Hall on March 26, 2013; the ED received public comments and responded to all comments in an RTC that was filed with TCEQ's Office of the Chief Clerk on May 23, 2013. See Attachment B.

Finally, the compliance history for Walton does not raise any issues concerning the ability of Walton to comply with the terms of the draft permit. Walton has a classification of "Unclassified" for both the company and the facility. See Attachment C.

Therefore, the ED recommends finding that the permit renewal application meets all of the conditions in 30 TAC § 55.201(i)(5) and that there is no right to a contested case hearing in this case.

The ED recommends that the Commission find that Sandra Abernathy, Mary Barnes, Carlton Carl, Don Chesser, Janet Christian, Dee Dee Cortez, Juan Gonzalez, Wayne Hancen, Jessica Hannan, Kennis Howard, Eric Marsh, Liz McGinty, Alfredo Munoz, Bob Parker, Carol Peters, Walter Reinhard, Rod Siefel, Dianne Stevenson, Marcella Strahan, Roy Strahan are not entitled to a contested case hearing under TWC § 26.028(d) and 30 TAC § 55.201(i)(5).

VI. Executive Director's Recommendation

The ED recommends the following actions by the Commission:

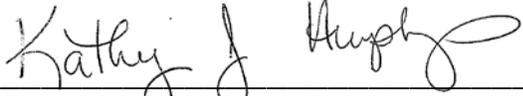
1. Find that there is no right to a contested case hearing under TWC § 26.028(d) and 30 TAC § 55.201(i)(5); and
2. Deny all Contested Case Hearing Requests.

Respectfully submitted,

TEXAS COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Zak Covar, Executive Director

Robert Martinez, Director
Environmental Law Division

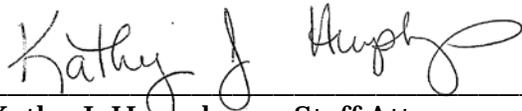
By 

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REPRESENTING THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
TEXAS COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on September 27, 2013 the original and seven true and correct copies of the Executive Director's Response to Hearing Request relating to the application for Walton Texas, LP, for a renewal to TPDES Permit No. WQ00114439001 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kathy J. Humphreys". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**Kathy J. Humphreys, Staff Attorney
Environmental Law Division
State Bar No. 24006911**

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DOCKET NO. 2013-1280-MWD; PERMIT NO. WQ0014439001

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Attachment A

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

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION

Applicant: Walton Texas, LP
Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit
No. WQ0014439001, EPA ID No. TX0125865

Regulated Activity: Domestic Wastewater Permit

Type of Application: Renewal

Request: Renewal with no changes

Authority: Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) § 402; Texas Water Code (TWC)
§ 26.027; 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapters 30,
305, 307, 309, 312, and 319; Commission policies; and United
States Environmental Protection Agency (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 draft permit includes an expiration date of February 1, 2015 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 renewal of the existing permit that authorizes the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 0.33 million gallons per day in the Interim phase and a daily average flow not to exceed 0.70 million gallons per day in the Final phase.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The Ranch at Clear Fork Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility will be an activated sludge process plant operated in the complete mix mode. Treatment units in both phases will include bar screen, a rapid mix basin, aeration basin, final clarifiers, sludge digester, sludge thickener 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 authorized permitted landfill. 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 approximately 7,000 feet southwest of the intersection of State Highway 21 and Farm-to-Market Road 2720 in northwest in Caldwell County, Texas 78656.

The treated effluent will be discharged to an unnamed tributary; thence to Clear Fork Plum Creek; thence to Plum Creek in Segment No. 1810 of the Guadalupe River Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are no significant aquatic life use for unnamed tributary and intermediate aquatic life uses for Clear Fork Plum Creek.

Walton Texas, LP

TPDES Permit No. WQ0014439001

Statement of Basis/Technical Summary and Executive Director's Preliminary Decision

The designated uses for Segment No. 1810 are high aquatic life use, aquifer protection, and primary contact recreation. The effluent limitations in the draft permit will maintain and protect the existing instream uses. All determinations are preliminary and subject to additional review and/or revisions.

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 limitations in the draft permit have been reviewed for consistency with the State of Texas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP). The proposed effluent limitations are contained in the approved WQMP. A Waste Load Evaluation has been completed for the segment.

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 No. 1810 is not currently listed on the State's inventory of impaired and threatened waters (the 2010 CWA §303(d) list).

SUMMARY OF EFFLUENT DATA

There is no effluent data since the facility has not been constructed.

DRAFT PERMIT CONDITIONS

The draft permit authorizes a discharge of treated domestic wastewater at an interim volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 0.33 million gallons per day and a final volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 0.70 million gallons per day.

The effluent limitations in the Interim phase of the draft permit, based on a 30-day average, are 10 mg/l CBOD₅, 15 mg/l TSS, 3 mg/l NH₃-N, 126 CFU or MPN of *E. coli* per 100 ml, 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 effluent limitations in the Final phase of the draft permit, based on a 30-day average, are 10 mg/l CBOD₅, 15 mg/l TSS, 2 mg/l NH₃-N, 126 CFU or MPN of *E. coli* per 100 ml 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

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minutes based on peak flow.

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 authorized permitted landfill. 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 a renewal of the existing permit with no changes. However, the draft permit includes effluent limits and monitoring requirements for *E. coli*.

See the next section for additional changes based on the existing permit.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM EXISTING PERMIT

Effluent limitations and monitoring requirements in the draft permit remain the same as the existing permit requirements.

E. coli bacteria limits have been added to the draft permit in accordance with the recent amendments to 30 TAC Chapters 309 and 319.

The Standard Permit Conditions, Sludge Provisions, and Other Requirements sections of the draft permit have been updated. Other Requirement Nos. 7 has been updated to require permitting in accordance with the requirements of 30 TAC §217.1, Design Criteria for Sewerage Systems. The permit has been updated to require continuous flow measurement by totalizing meter in the Interim phase.

BASIS FOR DRAFT PERMIT

The following items were considered in developing the permit draft:

1. Application received August 2, 2012 and additional information received August 15, 2012.
2. TPDES Permit No. WQ0014439001 issued April 28, 2008.
3. The effluent limitations and/or conditions in the draft permit comply with the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, 30 TAC §§ 307.1 - 307.10, effective August 17, 2000 and the EPA approved portions of the 2010 Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, effective July 22, 2010.
4. 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.
5. Interoffice memoranda from the Water Quality Assessment Section of the TCEQ Water Quality Division.

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6. Consistency with the Coastal Management Plan: The facility is not located in the Coastal Management Program boundary.
7. Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, January 2003.
8. Texas 2010 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, August 25, 2010; approved by the EPA November 18, 2011.
9. 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

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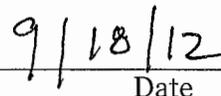
case hearing is held, it will be a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

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 Donald J. Camp, P.E. at (512) 239-4681.



Donald J. Camp, P.E.
Municipal Permits Team
Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148)



Date



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

TPDES PERMIT NO. WQ0014439001
*[For TCEQ office use only - EPA I.D.
No. TX0125865]*

This is a renewal that replaces TPDES
Permit No. WQ0014439001 issued
April 28, 2008.

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

Walton Texas, LP

whose mailing address is

515 North Congress Avenue, Suite 2050
Austin, Texas 78701

is authorized to treat and discharge wastes from the Ranch at Clear Fork Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility, SIC Code 4952

located approximately 7,000 feet southwest of the intersection of State Highway 21 and Farm-to-Market Road 2720 in northwest Caldwell County, Texas 78656

to an unnamed tributary; thence to Clear Fork Plum Creek; thence to Plum Creek in Segment No. 1810 of the Guadalupe River 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, **February 1, 2016**.

ISSUED DATE:

For the Commission

INTERIM EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTSOutfall Number 001

1. During the period beginning upon the date of issuance and lasting through the completion of expansion to the 0.70 million gallons per day (MGD) facilities, the permittee is authorized to discharge subject to the following effluent limitations:

The daily average flow of effluent shall not exceed 0.33 MGD; nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 764 gallons per minute (gpm).

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations			Min. Self-Monitoring Requirements	
	Daily Avg mg/l (lbs/day)	7-day Avg mg/l	Daily Max mg/l	Single Grab mg/l	Report Daily Avg. & Max. Single Grab Measurement Frequency Sample Type
Flow, MGD	Report	N/A	Report	N/A	Continuous Totalizing Meter
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	10 (28)	15	25	35	One/week Grab
Total Suspended Solids	15 (41)	25	40	60	One/week Grab
Ammonia Nitrogen	3 (8)	6	10	15	One/week Grab
<i>E. coli</i> , CFU or MPN/100 ml	126	N/A	N/A	399	One/month 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.

FINAL EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTSOutfall Number 001

1. During the period beginning upon the completion of expansion to the 0.70 million gallons per day (MGD) facilities 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 0.70 MGD; nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 1,597 gallons per minute (gpm).

<u>Effluent Characteristic</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>			<u>Min. Self-Monitoring Requirements</u>		
	Daily Avg mg/l (lbs/day)	7-day Avg mg/l	Daily Max mg/l	Single Grab mg/l	Report Daily Avg. & Daily Max. Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow, MGD	Report	N/A	Report	N/A	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	10 (58)	15	25	35	One/week	Composite
Total Suspended Solids	15 (88)	25	40	60	One/week	Composite
Ammonia Nitrogen	2 (12)	5	10	15	One/week	Composite
<i>E. coli</i> , CFU or MPN/100 ml	126	N/A	399	N/A	Two/month	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 daily 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 twice 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 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. Bacteria concentration (*E. coli* or Enterococci) - Colony Forming Units (CFU) or Most Probable Number (MPN) of bacteria per 100 milliliters effluent. The daily average 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 bacteria equaling zero, a substituted value of one shall be made for input into either computation method. If specified, the 7-day average for 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 which 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 (CWA); TWC §§ 26, 27, and 28; and THSC § 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 § 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 and the Enforcement Division (MC 224).

7. Noncompliance Notification

- a. In accordance with 30 TAC § 305.125(9) any noncompliance which 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 which 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 which 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 which 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 § 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); or
 - 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;
 - 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 which are not described in the permit application or which 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 which 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 that 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 which 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:
 - a. 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.
 - b. 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.
 - c. 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.

- d. 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.
- e. 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.
- f. 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 § 335 and must include the following, as it pertains to wastewater treatment and discharge:
 - i. Volume of waste and date(s) generated from treatment process;
 - ii. Volume of waste disposed of on-site or shipped off-site;
 - iii. Date(s) of disposal;
 - iv. Identity of hauler or transporter;
 - v. Location of disposal site; and
 - vi. 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 § 335 do not apply, sludge and solid wastes, including tank cleaning and contaminated solids for disposal, shall be disposed of in accordance with THSC § 361.

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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 § 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 lease holder 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 40 CFR Part 261.24, Table 1. 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 11) within seven (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 11) and the Water Quality Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division by September 30 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> <u>(Milligrams per kilogram)*</u>
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 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 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:

- i. 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.
 - ii. 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.
 - iii. 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.
 - iv. Food crops, feed crops, and fiber crops shall not be harvested for 30 days after application of sewage sludge.
 - v. Animals shall not be allowed to graze on the land for 30 days after application of sewage sludge.
 - vi. Turf grown on land where sewage sludge is applied shall not be harvested for 1 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.
 - vii. Public access to land with a high potential for public exposure shall be restricted for 1 year after application of sewage sludge.
 - viii. Public access to land with a low potential for public exposure shall be restricted for 30 days after application of sewage sludge.
 - ix. 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. 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 percent solids of two percent or less aerobically in the laboratory in a bench-scale unit for 30 additional days at 20° Celsius. 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° Celsius.
- 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° Celsius and the average temperature of the sewage sludge shall be higher than 45° Celsius.
- 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 wt. 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>	Cumulative Pollutant Loading Rate (pounds per acre)*
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>	Monthly Average Concentration (milligrams per kilogram)*
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 which 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 sludge, 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:
 - a. 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.
 - b. The location, by street address, and specific latitude and longitude, of each site on which sludge is applied.
 - c. The number of acres in each site on which bulk sludge is applied.
 - d. The date and time sludge is applied to each site.

- e. The cumulative amount of each pollutant in pounds/acre listed in Table 2 applied to each site.
- f. 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 11) and Water Quality Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division, by September 30 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 § 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 § 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, which 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 11) 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 11) and the Water Quality Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division by September 30 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 11) and Water Quality Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division by September 30 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 § 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.

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 which 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 facility is not located in the Coastal Management Program boundary.
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. 1810 of the Guadalupe River Basin and any subsequent updating of the water quality model for Segment No. 1810, 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. The certified operator shall inspect the facility daily and maintain at the plant site a record of these inspections. These records shall be available at the plant site for inspection by authorized representatives of the commission for at least three years.
7. 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 217.6(c). 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 217, Design Criteria for Wastewater Treatment Systems. The permittee shall clearly show how the treatment system will meet the final permitted effluent limitations required on Pages 2 and 2a of the permit.
8. 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 11) 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 on Notification of Completion Form 20007.

9. In accordance with 30 TAC §319.9, a permittee that has at least twelve months of uninterrupted compliance with its bacteria limit may notify the commission in writing of its compliance and request a less frequent measurement schedule. To request a less frequent schedule, the permittee shall submit a written request to the TCEQ Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) for each phase that includes a different monitoring frequency. The request must contain all of the reported bacteria values (Daily Avg. and Daily Max/Single Grab) for the twelve consecutive months immediately prior to the request. If the Executive Director finds that a less frequent measurement schedule is protective of human health and the environment, the permittee will be given a less frequent measurement schedule. For this permit, 1/month will be reduced to 1/quarter in the Interim phase and 2/month will be reduced to 1/month in the Final phase. **A violation of any bacteria limit by a facility that has been granted a less frequent measurement schedule will require the permittee to return to the standard frequency schedule**, and the permittee may not apply for another reduction in measurement frequency for at least 24 months from the date of the last violation. The Executive Director may establish a more frequent measurement schedule if necessary to protect human health or the environment.

Attachment B

TCEQ INTRA-AGENCY TRANSMITTAL MEMO

DATE: 5/23/13

TO: FINAL DOCUMENTS TEAM LEADER
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK

BUILDING F, MC-105

FROM: KATHY J. HUMPHREYS
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
DIVISION
BUILDING A, MC-173

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY
2013 MAY 23 AM 11:33
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

Attached: Executive Director's Amended Response to Comments

Application Information

Program Area (Air, Water or Waste): Water

Permit No. WQ0014439001; Name: Walton, Texas, LP; Docket/CID Item # 83831 (if known):

OCC Action Required *(check applicable boxes)*

Date stamp and return copy to above-noted ELD Staff Attorney and:

FOR ALL PROGRAM AREAS: *(required only when changes needed to official agency mailing list)*

Update the mailing list in your file with the attached contact names and addresses

Include corrected or additional names and addresses for mailing list

FOR WASTE & WATER:

X Send Response to Comments Letter which solicits hearing requests and requests for reconsideration to the mailing list in your files

For Waste and Water this would occur in all circumstances when comments have been received for 801 applications

Or

Send Response to Comments Letter and Motion to Overturn Letter which solicits motions to overturn to the mailing list in your files

For Waste and Water this may occur when all comments have been withdrawn for 801 applications or when comments are received for applications that will not be set for agenda.

FOR AIR (NSR only):

Send RTC with response to comments letter which solicits contested case hearing requests and requests for reconsideration to the mailing list in your files

For Air NSR applications this would occur only when there are pending contested case hearing requests (except no-increase renewals)

Set for commission agenda and send RTC with agenda setting letter

This would occur when there are pending contested case hearing requests on a no-increase renewal and technical review is complete.

Hold until a commission agenda date is requested and then send RTC with the Agenda Setting Letter

For Air applications this would occur when there are pending hearing requests on a no-increase renewal; but technical review is NOT complete.

If this box is checked, ED staff must call the OCC Agenda Team Leader to arrange a specific agenda date.

Place RTC in File - no further action required by OCC

For Air NSR applications this would occur when the matter is uncontested but comments were received, APD will send a copy with MTO letter

Other Instructions:

TPDES PERMIT NO. WQ0014439001

APPLICATION BY		BEFORE THE
	§	TEXAS COMMISSION ON
WALTON TEXAS, L.P.	§	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
	§	

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S AMENDED RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

The Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (the Commission or TCEQ) files this Amended Response to Public Comment (Response) on the Executive Director's preliminary decision to approve Walton Texas L.P.'s (Walton) application for a renewal of Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0014439001. As required by 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Section 55.156, before a permit is issued, the Executive Director prepares a response to all timely, relevant and material, or significant comments. This RTC was amended after it was filed with TCEQ's Office of Chief Clerk on May 17, 2013, but before it was mailed; the amended RTC includes the correct permit number on the Certificate of Service. No other changes were made to the ERC. The Office of Chief Clerk received timely comment letters or formal comments at the public meeting from Sandra Abernathy, Hollis Burkland, Teresa Burrhus, Don Chesser, Nick Dornak, Kennis Howard, Alejandro Gutierrez, Debbie Magin, Carol Peters, Sallie Ann Satagaj, Doris Steubing, and William Steubing. This response addresses all such timely public comments received, whether or

not withdrawn. Additionally, Senator Judith Zaffirini requested a Public Meeting. Sallie Ann Satagaj, Walter Reinhard, Dennis Howard, Juan Gonzalez, Alfredo Muniz, Mary Faye Barnes, Dianne Stevenson, Pat Wilkins, Janet Christian, Eric Marsh, Carol Peters, Carlton Carl, Liz McGenty, Dee Dee Cortz, Rod Slifes, Bob Parker, Row.W. Strahan, Marcella Strahan, Jessica Hamon, Wayne Hamon, Don Chesser requested a public hearing.

Access to Rules, Laws, and Records

Please consult the following websites to access the rules and regulations applicable to this permit:

- Secretary of State website: www.sos.state.tx.us;
- TCEQ rules in Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code:
www.sos.state.tx.us/tac/;
- Texas statutes: <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/>;
- TCEQ website: 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 environmental laws and rules: www.epa.gov/epahome/laws.htm.
- Commission records for this facility are available for viewing and copying and are located at TCEQ's main office in Austin, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F, 1st Floor (Office of Chief Clerk).

Commission records for this facility are available for viewing and copying at TCEQ's main office in Austin, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F, 1st Floor (Office of the Chief Clerk, for the current application until final action is taken), or Building E, Room 103 (Central Records, for existing or previous permits). The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at the Uhland Community Center, 15 North Old Spanish Trail, Uhland, Texas.

If you need more information about this permit application or the wastewater permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our website at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

BACKGROUND

Description of Facility

Walton applied to the TCEQ for a renewal of a permit that would authorize it to discharge treated domestic wastewater at a final daily average flow not to exceed 700,000 gallons per day.¹ If the draft permit is issued, the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) will serve The Ranch at Clear Fork Creek, a mixed commercial and residential development near Lockhart, Texas.

If the draft permit is issued, the treated effluent will be discharged to an unnamed tributary; then to Clear Fork Plum Creek; then to Plum Creek in Segment No. 1810 of the Guadalupe River Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are no

¹ Walton acquired the permit from Caldwell 405, LP on June 28, 2012, pursuant to 30 TAC § 305.64.

significant aquatic life use for the unnamed tributary and intermediate aquatic life use for Clear Fork Plum Creek. The designated uses for Segment No. 1810 are high aquatic life use, aquifer protection, and primary contact recreation. If the draft permit is issued, the facility will be located approximately 7,000 feet southwest of the intersection of State Highway 21 and Farm-to-Market Road 2720 in northwest Caldwell County, Texas 78656.

Procedural Background

The TCEQ received Walton's application for a renewal of a TPDES permit on August 2, 2012 and declared it administratively complete on August 17, 2012. The Notice of Receipt and Intent to Obtain a Water Quality Permit (NORI) was published in the *Lockhart Post-Register* on September 6, 2012. The Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision (NAPD) for a Water Quality Permit was published in the *Lockhart Post-Register* on November 1, 2012. The Notice of Public Meeting was published in the *Lockhart Post-Register* on February 21, 2013. A public meeting was held at the Lockhart City Hall on March 26, 2013, and the comment period ended immediately after the meeting. This application was administratively complete on or after September 1, 1999; therefore, this application is subject to the procedural requirements adopted pursuant to House Bill 801, 76th Legislature, 1999.

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

COMMENT 1:

Sandra Abernathy expressed concern about water wells being the only source of water and how this project will affect the quality of the water in the water wells. Doris Steubing asked what the discharge from the WWTP would do to her water well and whether she would be able to use the water from that well.

Similarly Hollis Burkland expressed concern about the effect the project would have on the water table. Hollis Burkland and Doris Steubing also expressed concern that the discharge from the facility would contaminate the spring water.

RESPONSE 1:

As part of the permit application process, the Executive Director determines effluent limits that are protective of land, livestock, and human health. The draft permit includes effluent limitations and monitoring requirements to ensure that the proposed effluent limits will not violate the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (TSWQS) 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. To protect groundwater in private water wells from contamination, TCEQ rules require separation distances or buffer zones between a wastewater treatment plant unit and private water

wells. For example, the draft permit requires that a wastewater treatment plant unit not be located closer than 250 feet from a private water well.² Additionally, a wastewater treatment plant unit must be located a minimum horizontal distance of 150 feet from a private water well.³

COMMENT 2:

Sandra Abernathy asked how this project will affect the wildlife. Specifically, Doris Steubing expressed concern about whether the water could be used to water the cattle.

RESPONSE 2:

The draft permit was drafted in accordance with the TSWQS and the *Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards* (IPs). The TSWQS provide that surface waters cannot be toxic to aquatic or terrestrial organisms.⁴ While the TSWQS and the IPs do not specifically designate criteria for the protection of cattle or wildlife, they do designate criteria for the protection of aquatic life that should preclude negative impacts to the health and performance of cattle or wildlife.

The draft permit was developed to protect aquatic life and human health in accordance with the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards. As part of the application process, TCEQ must determine the uses of the receiving water and set effluent limitations that are protective of those uses, including aquatic and terrestrial life uses.

² 30 TAC § 309.13(c).
³ 30 TAC § 309.13(c)(1).
⁴ 30 TAC § 307.4.

The Commission does not have specific water-quality based effluent limitations for cattle. However, the Executive Director has determined that the proposed draft permit for the facility meets the requirements of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, which are established to protect human health and terrestrial and aquatic life. Aquatic organisms are more sensitive to water quality components than terrestrial organisms.

In this case, the treated wastewater from the plant will be discharged into an unnamed tributary, then to Clear Fork Plum Creek, then to Plum Creek in Segment No. 1810 of the Guadalupe River Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are no significant aquatic life use for unnamed tributary and intermediate aquatic life use for Clear Fork Plum Creek. The designated use for Segment No. 1810 are high aquatic life use, aquifer protection, and primary contact recreation.

The draft permit includes effluent limitations and monitoring requirements for 5-day Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD₅), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Ammonia Nitrogen, Dissolved Oxygen (DO), *E. coli*, chlorine residual, and pH to ensure that discharges from the proposed wastewater treatment plant meet water quality standards for the protection of surface water, groundwater, and human health in accordance with TCEQ rules and policies. The proposed draft permit includes requirements for the disposal of domestic sludge generated from the wastewater treatment facility based on TCEQ rules. The Executive Director expects that human health and the environment will be protected if the Applicant operates and maintains the facility as permitted and in accordance with TCEQ rules. Any noncompliance with

the terms of the proposed draft permit could result in enforcement action against the Applicant.

COMMENT 3:

Sandra Abernathy, Sallie Ann Satagaj, and William Steubing expressed concern about flooding. Ms. Abernathy asked whether the land would be flooded and how the water would flow down the creek. She was specifically concerned about the discharge flooding her bottomland hay field and destroying the hay crop and income.

Teresa Burrhus and William Steubing and Hollis Burkland, on behalf of his mother, Geri Burkland, expressed concern about the effect of the discharge from the plant. Specifically, Mr. Burkland expressed concern that the discharge would cut off sections of land from the surrounding properties without the construction of a bridge or other means to cross the creek.

William Steubing asked who would reimburse him for the cost of building a crossing.

RESPONSE 3:

TPDES permits establish terms and conditions that are intended to provide water quality pollution control, therefore, the TCEQ's review of an application for a TPDES permit focuses on controlling the discharge of pollutants into water in the state. The TCEQ does not have jurisdiction to address flooding in the wastewater permitting process, unless there is an associated water quality concern. Walton's draft permit includes effluent limits and other requirements that it must meet even during rainfall

events and periods of flooding. The draft permit would require Walton to provide protection for the facility from a 100-year flood.⁵ Additionally, the draft permit does not authorize any invasion of personal rights nor any violation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations.⁶

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has programs that are designed to mitigate damage caused by flooding. You can contact your local floodplain administrator at 940-898-5399 if you have additional flooding concerns. The flood plain administrator for your area can request a low-interest loan for flood control protection from the Texas Water Development Board.

COMMENT 4:

Sandra Abernathy asked how spills will be addressed. Similarly, Teresa Burrhus asked what kind of precautions Walton will be required to take. Sallie Ann Satagaj asked how a spill will be handled and by whom.

RESPONSE 4:

The Texas Water Code (TWC) prohibits any discharge of sewage or waste into or adjacent to any water in the state.⁷ Walton is required to report any unauthorized discharges to TCEQ within 24 hours. If Walton fails to report an unauthorized discharge to TCEQ within the prescribed time, it is subject to potential enforcement by TCEQ.

⁵ Walton draft permit, page 31, other requirement 4.

⁶ Walton draft permit, page 1.

⁷ TWC § 126.121.

Additionally, if the permit is issued, Walton will be required to take certain steps to minimize the possibility of an accidental discharge of untreated wastewater. For example, Walton 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. In addition, the plans and specifications for domestic sewage collection and treatment works associated with any domestic permit must be approved by TCEQ.

Finally, TCEQ conducts periodic inspections of wastewater facilities and conducts investigations based on complaints received from the public. To report complaints about the facility if TCEQ issues this permit, please contact the Austin Regional Office at (512) 239-3096, or by calling the 24-hour toll-free Environmental Complaints Hotline at 1-888-777-3186. You may also file citizen complaints on-line at <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/complaints/index.html>. The TCEQ investigates all complaints received. If TCEQ finds that the facility is not complying with the terms and conditions of its permit, it will be subject to investigation and possible enforcement action. For more information regarding enforcement, please see TCEQ's web site at <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/> and click on "Track Complaints, Enforcement."

COMMENT 5:

Hollis Burkland and William Steubing expressed concern regarding the renewal of permits and recommended that the TCEQ should consider the issue of stale permits. Hollis also stated that old permits should be updated to consider new technology.

William Steubing asked how the permit can be renewed when the original permit was never acted upon.

RESPONSE 5:

At Walton's request, the Executive Director transferred the permit from Caldwell 405, LP to Walton on June 28, 2012. In its application Walton provided a detailed discussion regarding the continued need for the unbuilt phases.⁸ According to its application, Walton purchased land in Umland County for development from Caldwell 405, LP in late 2009 and for the past two years it has been negotiating a development agreement with the City of Umland, modified two municipal utility districts on the property, and is continuing to work on entitlements for the property development. As a result, Walton has been unable to construct the facility. Walton currently estimates that it will begin construction of the first phase in July 2014.⁹

In this case, Walton provided sufficient justifications for delaying the commencement of the construction of the facility and a time frame in which the facility will be constructed and start operation.

COMMENT 6:

Hollis Burkland, William Steubing, and Doris Steubing expressed concern about the effect on the water quality.

⁸ Walton Permit Application Domestic Technical Report, page 7, Item 11 - Unbuilt Phases.

⁹ Walton Permit Application Domestic Technical Report, page 1, Item 1 – Permitted and/or Proposed Flows.

RESPONSE 6:

An antidegradation review was performed on the application for a new permit in 2003. A tier 1 and 2 review were done to ensure that existing uses would be maintained and protected and that significant degradation of high quality waters would not occur. Additional antidegradation reviews have not been performed because subsequent permit actions have not requested changes in the permit. The Executive Director has not received any new information indicating that the original water quality review of the permit is no longer accurate. Because the facility has not yet begun discharging wastewater so that the effluent quality can be evaluated for water quality standards compliance, the permit is still considered to be protective of water quality.

COMMENT 7:

Teresa Burrhus, Hollis Burkland, Sallie Ann Satagaj, and Doris Steubing would like the discharge point to be moved from Clear Fork over to Plum Creek.

RESPONSE 7:

The TWC authorizes discharges into water in the state, provided the discharger obtains a permit from the TCEQ. The TCEQ does not have the authority to mandate a different discharge location if the proposed discharge will not adversely affect human health and the environment.

COMMENT 8:

Don Chesser disagreed with the statement in the application that the water uses are not significant in Clear Fork Creek.

RESPONSE 8:

First, the initial receiving water, unnamed tributary of Clear Fork Plum Creek, is the water body that was determined to not have significant aquatic life uses. This determination is based upon the fact that the unnamed tributary is an intermittent stream without any permanent or persistent pools. Intermittent streams are presumed to not have significant aquatic life uses.

Second, Clear Fork Plum Creek, which is the next receiving water that the discharge would flow into, was determined to be an intermittent stream with perennial pools with an intermediate aquatic life use. This determination was based on a receiving water assessment that was performed in 2003. The assessment involved a one-time collection of physical, chemical, and biological data which was evaluated to determine the level of aquatic life use that was being supported. Intermittent streams with perennial pools, in the absence of site-specific data, are presumed to have a limited aquatic life use.

Aquatic life use subcategories, such as limited and intermediate, are characterized by specific dissolved oxygen criteria and general aquatic community and habitat attributes that should be supported. A freshwater water body with an intermediate aquatic life use has an associated 4.0 mg/L mean dissolved oxygen criterion and exhibits moderate levels of habitat and species diversity.

COMMENT 9:

Nick Dornak and Debbie Magin would like Walton to consider tertiary treatment with the 5-5-2-1 [carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand, total suspended solids, ammonia nitrogen, phosphorus] effluent set.

RESPONSE 9:

The effluent limits in the draft permit, based on a 30 day average are:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Interim Phase</u>	<u>Final Phase</u>
	mg/l	mg/l
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	10	10
Total Suspended Solids	15	15
Ammonia Nitrogen	3	2

Additionally, in both phases the effluent limits are 126 CFU or MPN of *E. coli* per 100 ml, and 4.0 mg/l minimum dissolved oxygen (DO). Finally, 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 Executive Director determined that these proposed effluent sets are appropriate based on a variety of factors. The TCEQ Water Quality Standards Implementation Team determined that: (1) the discharge to an unnamed tributary has no significant aquatic life use and a dissolved oxygen criteria of 2.0 mg/l would be

protective; (2) the discharge to Clear Fork Plum Creek has intermediate aquatic life use and a dissolved oxygen criteria of 4.0 mg/l would be protective; and (3) the discharge to Plum Creek in Segment 1810 of the Guadalupe River Basin has high aquatic life use, primary contact recreation, aquifer protection and a dissolved oxygen criteria of 5.0 mg/l would be protective.

The TCEQ Water Quality Assessment Team performed a dissolved oxygen analysis of the discharge using an uncalibrated QUAL-TX model. Based on the model results, the permitted effluent sets are predicted to be adequate to ensure the dissolved oxygen in the receiving streams will be maintained above the criteria. The recommendation of the TCEQ Water Quality Assessment Team and the appropriate set of effluent limits in 30 TAC §309.4 determined the appropriate effluent parameters to be included in the draft permit. Finally, the *E. coli* limit is based on the requirements in 30 TAC §309.3(h) using chlorination as the method of disinfection. Considering recommendations of the TCEQ Water Quality Standards Implementation Team and the TCEQ Water Quality Assessment Team, the appropriate set of effluent limits in 30 TAC §309.4 and 30 TAC §309.3(h), and all relevant factors, the Executive Director has determined that the proposed effluent set is appropriate and more restrictive effluent parameters are not justified.

The proposed discharge consists only of domestic municipal wastewater and all permits under the TPDES program are written to contain effluent limitations that protect existing uses and preclude degradation of existing water quality. The draft

permit was developed to protect aquatic life, human health and the environment in accordance with the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards. The effluent limits and monitoring requirements of the draft permit are set to maintain and protect the existing in-stream uses as well as ensure that the discharge will meet water quality standards for the protection of surface water, ground water, and human health in accordance with TCEQ rules and policies. The limits recommended are protective of the dissolved oxygen criterion. Dissolved oxygen is the biggest, best indicator of the general health of the aquatic life and the health of the ecosystem around the stream.

COMMENT 10:

Kennis Howard would like Walton to consider reusing the water or selling the reclaimed water.

RESPONSE 10:

The Texas Water Code authorizes the TCEQ to issue permits for discharges into water in the state.¹⁰ While the Executive Director encourages the beneficial reuse of effluent from treated domestic wastewater, however he does not have the authority to mandate beneficial reuse of treated wastewater. The Executive Director evaluates applications for wastewater treatment plants based on the information provided in the application. The Executive Director can recommend issuance or denial of an application based on whether the application complies with TCEQ regulations and water quality standards. It is the responsibility of the applicant to decide what to do with the effluent

¹⁰ TWC § 26.027.

from the wastewater treatment plant consistent with the Texas Water Code and the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards. TCEQ's rules provide a mechanism for a permittee to obtain authorization to reuse its effluent if it meets certain conditions, including having a valid permit.¹¹

COMMENT 11:

Alejandro Gutierrez expressed concern over the rapid expansion of subdivisions in the area and how that expansion will affect the water treatment plant. Similarly, Carol Peters expressed concern about the high density of the entire development.

RESPONSE 11:

TCEQ's rules require that when the flow from the wastewater treatment facility reaches 75 percent of the permitted daily average flow for three consecutive months, Walton must initiate engineering and financial planning for expansion or upgrade of the domestic wastewater treatment or collection facilities. When the flow from the wastewater treatment facility reaches 90 percent of the permitted daily average flow for three consecutive months, Walton must obtain authorization from TCEQ to begin constructing the necessary additional treatment or collection facilities.¹²

COMMENT 12:

Carol Peters expressed concern about the water rates and the quality of the homes in the development (i.e. whether the homes will be high-end or low-end; or if the development will include apartments).

¹¹ 30 TAC Chapter 210.
¹² 30 TAC § 305.126.

Carol Peters would like the Commissioners to give Walton more time to consider revising its development plan.

Sallie Ann Satagaj expressed concern about the school systems and the number of children that might be attending. She expressed particular concern about needing additional schools to sustain the additional population from Walton's subdivision.

RESPONSE 12:

TPDES permits establish terms and conditions that are intended to provide water quality pollution control, therefore, the TCEQ's review of an application for a TPDES permit focuses on controlling the discharge of pollutants into water in the state. The TCEQ does not have jurisdiction to address water rates, the type of neighborhood the wastewater treatment plant would serve or the structure of the utility in the TPDES permitting process.

COMMENT 13:

Carol Peters would like Walton to consider septic tank usage instead of the WWTP.

RESPONSE 13:

It is the policy of the State "... to encourage and promote development and use of regional and area-wide wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal systems to serve the wastewater disposal needs of the citizens of the state; and to require the use of all reasonable methods to implement this policy."¹³ Septic tank is defined as "a watertight

13 30 TAC § 307.1.

covered receptacle constructed to receive, store, and treat sewage by: separating solids from the liquid; digesting organic matter under anaerobic conditions; storing the digested solids through a period of detention; and allowing the clarified liquid to be disposed of by a method approved under this chapter.”¹⁴ A septic tank is often associated with an on-site sewage disposal facility (OSSF). An on-site sewage disposal system can be permitted by the commission under Chapter 285 of the Commission rules if the system does not treat or dispose more than 5,000 gallons of sewage per day and it is used only for disposal of sewage produced on a site where any part of the system is located.¹⁵ The Ranch at Clear Fork Creek WWTP has an anticipated daily average flow of 700,000 gallons per day and is intended to serve multiple residential dwellings and commercial units. The use of septic tanks is not allowed for this magnitude of flow and the nature and type of development that will be served by the WWTP. Additionally, TCEQ’s rules require that an OSSF that serves an individual home be on at least a one-half acre lot.¹⁶

COMMENT 14:

Sallie Ann Satagaj expressed concern that Walton does not have a track record of building and operating wastewater treatment plants.

¹⁴ 30 TAC § 285.2(65).

¹⁵ 30 TAC § 285.2(44).

¹⁶ 30 TAC § 285.4

RESPONSE 14:

The TCEQ's rules do not require that an applicant have a track record of building and operating wastewater treatment plants in order to obtain a permit. If the draft permit is issued, Walton will have to comply with all of TCEQ's rules regarding the design and operation of the wastewater system.

All new domestic wastewater treatment plants must be designed according to the design criteria for domestic wastewater systems found in 30 TAC Chapter 217. The 30 TAC Chapter 217 rules require, among other things, that Walton build its wastewater collection system and treatment facility according to the plans and specifications approved by the executive director, and that its facility plans and specifications meet all design requirements in its associated wastewater permit.¹⁷ Additionally, Walton will be required to submit a final engineering report for its proposed collection system and treatment facility.¹⁸ The final engineering report must include the signed and dated seal of the engineer responsible for the report and the report demonstrate compliance with the design criteria.¹⁹

Additionally, if the draft permit is issued, the wastewater treatment facility must be operated at a minimum of five days per week by an operator holding a Category C

¹⁷ 30 TAC §217.5.

¹⁸ 30 TAC § 217.10.

¹⁹ 30 TAC § 217.10.

license or higher.²⁰ A Category C wastewater operator has at least two years of experience and 60 hours of education.²¹

Finally, the Executive Director considered Walton's compliance history before preparing the draft permit. Because the facility has not been constructed the facility has a compliance classification of "unclassified." Because Walton does not have any other facilities in Texas, it also has a classification of "unclassified." Once the facility has begun operating, it will be required to supply monthly effluent reports to demonstrate that it is meeting the limits in its permit. These reports will be included in Walton's future compliance history.

COMMENT 15:

Sallie Ann Satagaj expressed concern about Caldwell County having to take over responsibilities for an environmental situation resulting from the WWTP. Sallie Ann also asked what would happen to the services Walton promises (water, wastewater, utilities, road upkeep, and the like) if Walton pulls out and leaves.

RESPONSE 15:

TPDES permits establish terms and conditions that are intended to provide water quality pollution control, therefore, the TCEQ's review of an application for a TPDES permit focuses on controlling the discharge of pollutants into water in the state.

The TCEQ's rules provide that permits are issued in personam and may be transferred only upon approval of the commission.²² Additionally, the TWC and TCEQ's

²⁰ Walton Draft Permit, page 31, Other Requirement 1.

²¹ 30 TAC § 30.340.

rules provide that if a sewer utility abandons operation of its facilities the Attorney General can bring suit for the appointment of a receiver to carry on the business of the utility.²³

COMMENT 16:

Sallie Ann Satagaj expressed concern about where the proposed development would get its water. Specifically, she asked whether any of the water will be the result of the Letter of Intent that Walton negotiated with the GBRA in March of last year and what the status is of the plan. Additionally, Ms. Satagaj asked if the water was ground water, and if so where is it from and is there a plan to build a lake and if so where.

RESPONSE 16:

TPDES permits establish terms and conditions that are intended to provide water quality pollution control, therefore, the TCEQ's review of an application for a TPDES permit focuses on controlling the discharge of pollutants into water in the state. Applicants are not required to provide information regarding the source of the water for the development in an application for a TPDES permit.

COMMENT 17:

Sallie Ann Satagaj expressed concern that the permit application was located in a public facility that is not open on the weekend and that it was difficult to access the application as a result of that location. Ms. Satagaj also expressed concern she was not

²² 30 TAC 305.64

²³ TWC § 13.412 and 30 TAC Chapter 291, Subchapter J.

made aware that a copy of the application was placed in the Lockhart Public Library as she requested be done four times until three days prior to the public meeting.

RESPONSE 17:

TCEQ's rules require that the applicant place a copy of the application, the Executive Director's preliminary decision in a public place in the county in which the facility is either located or proposed to be located.²⁴ Additionally, the draft permit must be available for review.²⁵ TCEQ's rules do not require that the public place be accessible at night or on weekends.

According to the NORI and NAPD a copy of the application, the Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available at the Uhland Community Center in Uhland Texas. The WWTP and the Uhland Community Center are located in Caldwell County, and the Community Center is a public place. Therefore, Walton made the application, Executive Director's preliminary decision and application available according to the requirements in TCEQ's rules.

COMMENT 18:

Sallie Ann Satagaj asked where in Texas, where in the U.S., and where in the world has Walton built WWTPs before that they could look to as a model of its work. She also asked where Walton had operated any of them. She further asked what regulatory agencies Walton has been required to abide by in these instances.

²⁴ 30 TAC § 39.405(g).
²⁵ 30 TAC § 281.21(b).

Sally Ann Satagaj also asked whether the development will be like the award nominated Sky-Ranch development in Canada and how that development qualified for an award nomination.

RESPONSE 18:

TPDES permits establish terms and conditions that are intended to provide water quality pollution control, therefore, the TCEQ's review of an application for a TPDES permit focuses on controlling the discharge of pollutants into water in the state. The TCEQ's rules do not require that an applicant provide information regarding other WWTPs it has built or operated; however, the compliance history of the owner of a WWTP in Texas is incorporated into the compliance history for all WWTPs in Texas with the same owner. In addition, see response to Comment No. 14.

COMMENT 19:

Sallie Ann Satagaj asked if Walton always builds WWTPs with its developments. For example, she mentioned Cotton Center in Martindale, Gaslight in San Marcos, and Camino Real in Hays County.

RESPONSE 19:

Not every new development needs a WWTP; many new developments are able to obtain wastewater service from an existing WWTP.

COMMENT 20:

Sallie Ann Satagaj asked how much water can Clear Fork Creek handle and how many WWTPs already exist and how many are pending, including this project and the one at CR 229. She asked how much drainage the creek can take.

RESPONSE 20:

Walton is authorized to discharge 700,000 gallons per day which equals to 486 gallons per minute (gpm). A typical 25 foot garden hose with 60 psi pressure can deliver 88 gpm. In another words, at maximum flow the discharge from the Walton WWTP would be equal to the flow from six garden hoses. Assuming the receiving water body is two feet wide, at maximum flow the discharge would add approximately six inches of flow to the creek.

Currently there is one existing discharge and one proposed discharge into Clear Fork Plum Creek:

- existing Polonia Water Supply Corporation, Brownsboro Pump Station, Permit No. WQ0014033002, which is authorized to discharge 0.003 MGD filter backwash; and
- proposed Walton, Texas, LP Caldwell Valley WWTP, WQ0015064001, which if issued would authorize the discharge of 1.550 MGD treated domestic wastewater.

COMMENT 21:

Sallie Ann Satagaj asked how normal runoff from the commercial development will be handled, specifically oils, etc.

RESPONSE 21:

The draft permit does not authorize Walton to discharge stormwater, however, Walton may be required to obtain separate stormwater authorizations for its development. For example, if construction activities occur at the commercial development, and the area of the land disturbed is greater than one acre, Walton may need to obtain coverage under the TPDES Construction General Permit (CGP) TXR150000. Additionally, depending on the industrial activities occurring at the commercial development, Walton may need to obtain authorization for the stormwater under the Industrial Stormwater Multi-Sector General permit (MSGP) TXR050000. The MSGP regulates stormwater discharges from industrial sites based on Standard Industrial Codes (SIC) and based on Activity Codes.

COMMENT 22:

Sally Ann Satagaj asked how much effluent Walton can discharge before it has to apply for a permit authorizing additional flow. Ms. Satagaj also asked if the additional permit would be automatically approved or if there is another process and how long the approval would take.

RESPONSE 22:

TCEQ's rules require that that when the flow from the wastewater treatment facility reaches 75 percent of the permitted daily average flow for three consecutive months, Walton must initiate engineering and financial planning for expansion or

upgrade of the domestic wastewater treatment or collection facilities.²⁶ When the flow from the wastewater treatment facility reaches 90 percent of the permitted daily average flow for three consecutive months, Walton must obtain authorization from TCEQ to begin constructing the necessary additional treatment or collection facilities.²⁷

Walton must apply to the TCEQ for a major amendment if it needs to expand the capacity of the wastewater treatment plant. If Walton applies for a major amendment, it would be required to submit a new application, which undergoes both an administrative and technical review. Additionally, Walton would be required to publish both the NORI and NAPD in the appropriate newspapers and provide a new landowner map so that the TCEQ could mail notice to adjacent landowners. Applications for major amendments typically take nine months to a year to process, provided there is not a request for a public meeting or a contested case hearing.

COMMENT 23:

Sally Ann Satagaj asked whether charges or taxes would be assessed to the property owners within the MUD and whether those charges or taxes would be affordable. Sallie Ann Satagaj also expressed concern that Walton plans to create a municipal utility district (MUD).

William Steubing and Hollis Burkland expressed concern about whether the MUD would be successful.

²⁶ 30 TAC § 305.126.

²⁷ 30 TAC § 305.126.

RESPONSE 23:

TPDES permits establish terms and conditions that are intended to provide water quality pollution control, therefore, the TCEQ's review of an application for a TPDES permit focuses on controlling the discharge of pollutants into water in the state. Because the rates a utility charges for its services are not related to water quality pollution control, utility rate charges are not considered during the Executive Director's review of a TPDES application. Information regarding utility rate appeals can be found at <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/gi/gi-024.html/view>.

COMMENT 24:

Sally Ann Satagaj expressed concern about one of Walton's answers on the application that Walton answered "no" to the questions of domestic drinking water supply within five miles of the point of discharge. Ms. Satagaj asked whether this meant that there were no wells within this area and whether that was true. Ms. Satagaj also asked if TCEQ had verified that there are no wells within five miles.

RESPONSE 24:

In its application, Walton was required to identify and label any surface water intake for domestic drinking water supply located within five miles downstream from the point/proposed point of discharge. The application for a TPDES permit requires permittees to accurately locate and label the intake point for all drinking water supplies on the United State Geological Service (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic map submitted

with the application.²⁸ The term “surface water intake” does not include private water wells.

The USGS map Walton provided as part of its application does not indicate any surface water intake for domestic drinking water supply within five miles downstream from the point of discharge. Finally, TCEQ’s rules prohibit a wastewater treatment plant unit from being located closer than 250 feet from a private water well.²⁹

COMMENT 25:

Sally Ann Satagaj asked what the projected increase in school enrollment this subdivision incurs. She also asked what school district would be affected. She asked about Walton’s additional development plans in Caldwell Valley at CR 229 and Corner Stone at 130 and 21 and whether those plans would increase enrollment in the schools. She asked if that was something that the boards and superintendents should be aware of and be thinking about so that when the growth is here and the tax base is here to help pay for the expanded growth, the bonds will be ready and planned.

RESPONSE 26:

TPDES permits establish terms and conditions that are intended to provide water quality pollution control, therefore, the TCEQ’s review of an application for a TPDES permit focuses on controlling the discharge of pollutants into water in the state. Walton must coordinate all other infrastructure requirements with the appropriate entity.

²⁸ TPDES Domestic Permit Application, Technical Report - Worksheet 2.o.
²⁹ 30 TAC 309.13(c).

COMMENT 27:

Sally Ann Satagaj asked what Walton's timetables were for the WWTP and the overall development and when the county residents will begin to see discharge. She asked when the houses will be built and when the people will move in.

RESPONSE 27:

In its application Walton estimated construction of the Interim I phase is to commence by July, 2014 and waste disposal is estimated to commence by August 2015. Walton anticipates that the construction of the Final phase is estimated to commence by July 2018 and that waste disposal in the Final phase is estimated to commence on August 2019.³⁰

COMMENT 28:

William Steubing expressed concern about the maintenance and operation of the plant.

RESPONSE 28:

Operational Requirement 1 of Walton's draft permit provides that Walton "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

³⁰ Walton Permit Application. Domestic Technical Report, Page 1, Item 1 Permitted and/or Proposed Flows.

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.”³¹

Additionally, the wastewater treatment facility must be operated at a minimum of five days per week by an operator holding a Category C license or higher.³² A Category C wastewater operator has at least two years of experience and 60 hours of education.³³

Finally, TCEQ conducts periodic inspections of wastewater facilities and conducts investigations based on complaints received from the public. To report complaints about the facility if the TCEQ issues this permit, please contact the Austin Regional Office at (512) 239-3096, or by calling the 24-hour toll-free Environmental Complaints Hotline at 1-888-777-3186. You may also file citizen complaints on-line at <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/compliance/complaints/index.html>. The TCEQ investigates all complaints received. If TCEQ finds that the facility is not complying with the terms and conditions of its permit, it will be subject to investigation and possible enforcement action. For more information regarding enforcement, please see TCEQ’s web site at <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/> and click on “Track Complaints, Enforcement”.

COMMENT 29:

William Steubing asked what would happen to the effluent that is on top of the ground when a major rain event occurs.

³¹ Draft Permit WQ0014439001, Walton Texas, LP, page 13.

³² Walton Draft Permit, page 31, Other Requirement 1.

³³ 30 TAC § 30.340.

RESPONSE 29:

The draft permit authorizes the discharge of effluent into an unnamed tributary and then to Clear Fork Plum Creek. No discharge of effluent to the top of the ground is authorized by the draft permit and any discharge of effluent to the ground would be an unauthorized discharge and a violation of the permit. To the extent there is effluent in the tributary or Clear Fork Plum Creek during a major rain event, the effluent will be diluted by the rainwater.

COMMENT 30:

William Steubing would like the commissioners to consider the livelihood of the people up and down the creek.

RESPONSE 30:

TPDES permits establish terms and conditions that are intended to provide water quality pollution control, therefore, the TCEQ's review of an application for a TPDES permit focuses on controlling the discharge of pollutants into water in the state.

CHANGES MADE TO THE DRAFT PERMIT IN RESPONSE TO COMMENT

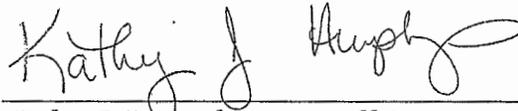
No changes to the draft permit have been made in response to public comment.

Respectfully submitted,

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Zak Covar
Executive Director

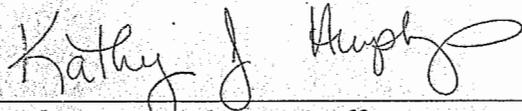
Robert Martinez, Director
Environmental Law Division



Kathy J. Humphreys, Staff Attorney
Environmental Law Division
State Bar No. 24006911
P.O. Box 13087, MC 173
Austin, Texas 78711-3087
(512) 239-3417
REPRESENTING THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
TEXAS COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on May 23, 2013, the "Executive Director's Amended Response to Public Comment" for Permit No. WQ0014439001 was filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's Office of Chief Clerk.



Kathy J. Humphreys, Staff Attorney
Environmental Law Division
State Bar No. 24006911

Attachment C



Compliance History Report

PUBLISHED Compliance History Report for CN604017491, RN103151379, Rating Year 2012 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 1, 2007, through August 31, 2012.

Customer, Respondent, or Owner/Operator:	CN604017491, WALTON TEXAS, LP	Classification: UNCLASSIFIED	Rating: -----
Regulated Entity:	RN103151379, RANCH AT CLEAR FORK CREEK WWTP	Classification: UNCLASSIFIED	Rating: -----
Complexity Points:	0	Repeat Violator:	NO
CH Group:	08 - Sewage Treatment Facilities		
Location:	S E CORNER OF SH 21 AND FM 2720 CALDWELL, TX, CALDWELL COUNTY		
TCEQ Region:	REGION 11 - AUSTIN		
ID Number(s):	WASTEWATER PERMIT WQ0014439001 WASTEWATER EPA ID TX0125865		
Compliance History Period:	September 01, 2007 to August 31, 2012	Rating Year: 2012	Rating Date: 09/01/2012
Date Compliance History Report Prepared:	May 08, 2013		
Agency Decision Requiring Compliance History:	Permit - Issuance, renewal, amendment, modification, denial, suspension, or revocation of a permit.		
Component Period Selected:	September 01, 2007 to August 31, 2012		
TCEQ Staff Member to Contact for Additional Information Regarding This Compliance History.			
Name:	dcamp	Phone:	(512) 239-4681

Entity and Owner/Operator History:

- 1) Has the site been in existence and/or operation for the full five year compliance period? YES
- 2) Has there been a (known) change in ownership/operator of the site during the compliance period? NO
- 3) If **YES** for #2, who is the current owner/operator? N/A
- 4) If **YES** for #2, who was/were the prior owner(s)/operator(s)? N/A
- 5) If **YES**, when did the change(s) in owner or operator occur? N/A

Components (Multimedia) for the Site Are Listed in Sections A - J

A. Final Orders, court judgments, and consent decrees:

N/A

B. Criminal convictions:

N/A

C. Chronic excessive emissions events:

N/A

D. The approval dates of investigations (CCEDS Inv. Track. No.):

N/A

E. Written notices of violations (NOV) (CCEDS Inv. Track. No.):

A notice of violation represents a written allegation of a violation of a specific regulatory requirement from the commission to a regulated entity. A notice of violation is not a final enforcement action, nor proof that a violation has actually occurred.

N/A

F. Environmental audits:

N/A

G. Type of environmental management systems (EMSs):

N/A

H. Voluntary on-site compliance assessment dates:

N/A

I. Participation in a voluntary pollution reduction program:

N/A

J. Early compliance:

N/A

Sites Outside of Texas:

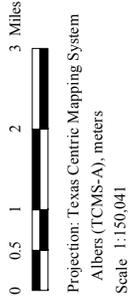
N/A

Attachment D

Walton Texas, L.P. - TPDES Permit No. WQ0014439001 Docket No. 2013-1280-MWD Map Requested by TCEQ Office of Legal Services for Commissioners' Agenda



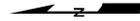
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
GIS Team (Mail Code 197)
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087
September 19, 2013



Legend

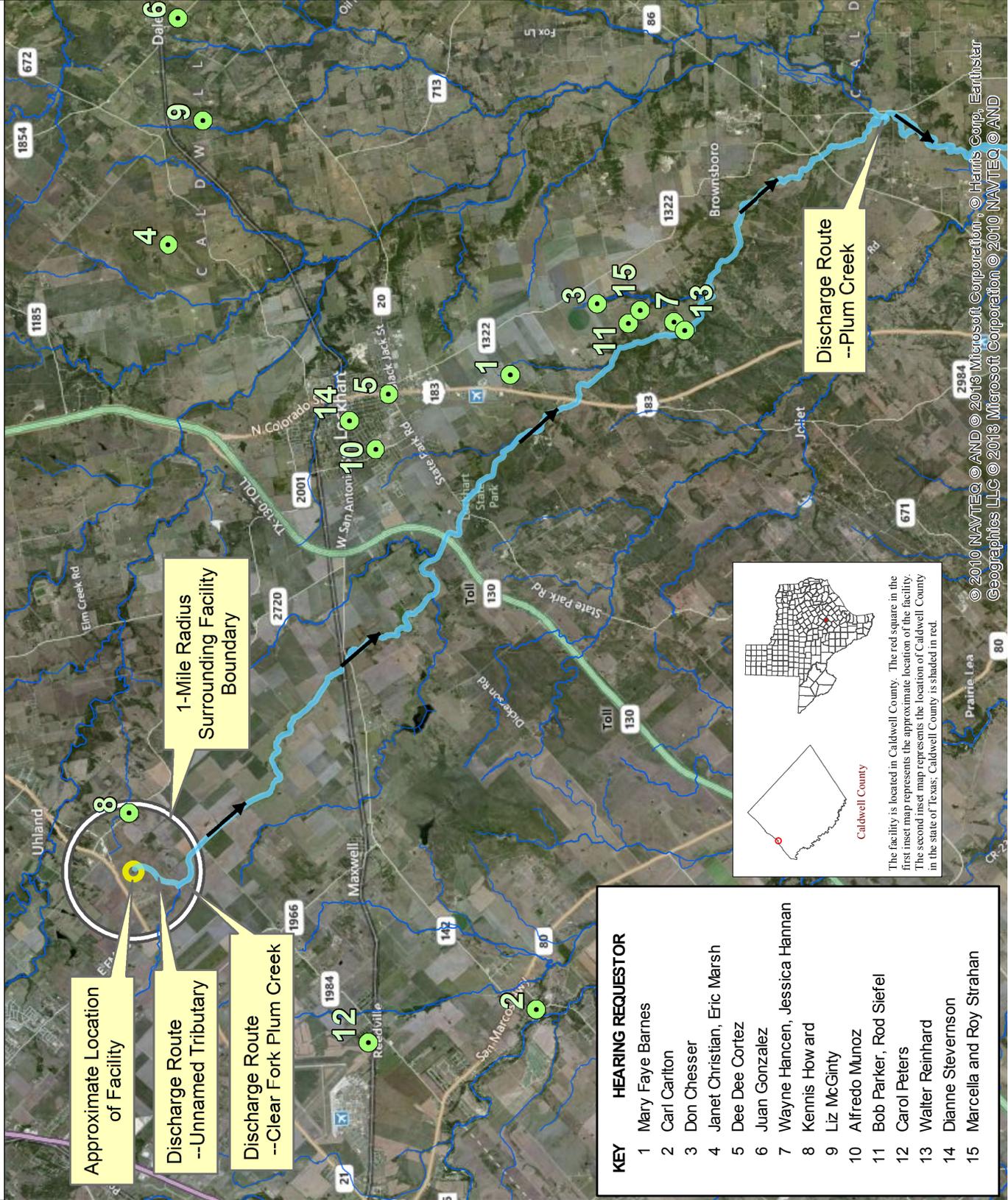
- Hearing Requestor Address
- Discharge Route
- River/Creek
- 1-Mile Radius
- Facility Boundary (Approx)

Source: The location of the facility was provided by the TCEQ Office of Legal Services (OLS). OLS obtained the site location information from the applicant and the requestor information from the requestor. The background imagery of this map is from the current Microsoft Bing map service, as of the date of this map.



This map was generated by the Information Resources Division of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries. For more information concerning this map, contact the Information Resource Division at (512) 239-9800.

P.E. Bieschke, CRF-407127



Approximate Location of Facility

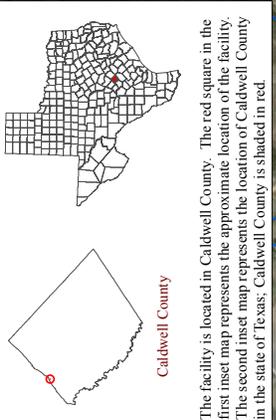
Discharge Route --Unnamed Tributary

Discharge Route --Clear Fork Plum Creek

1-Mile Radius Surrounding Facility Boundary

Discharge Route --Plum Creek

KEY	HEARING REQUESTOR
1	Mary Faye Barnes
2	Carl Carlton
3	Don Chesser
4	Janet Christian, Eric Marsh
5	Dee Dee Cortez
6	Juan Gonzalez
7	Wayne Hancen, Jessica Hannan
8	Kennis Howard
9	Liz McGinty
10	Alfredo Munoz
11	Bob Parker, Rod Siefel
12	Carol Peters
13	Walter Reinhard
14	Dianne Steverson
15	Marcella and Roy Strahan



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