



TPDES PERMIT NO. WQ0015264001
[For TCEQ office use only - EPA I.D.
No. TX0135461]

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

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

Nash FM 529, LLC

whose mailing address is

10235 West Little York Road, Suite 300
Houston, Texas 77040

is authorized to treat and discharge wastes from the Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 171 Wastewater Treatment Facility, SIC Code 4952

located approximately 2,000 feet southeast from the intersection of Beckendorff Road and Porter Road in Harris County, Texas 77493

to a man-made ditch; thence to South Mayde Creek; thence to Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal in Segment No. 1014 of the San Jacinto River Basin

only according to 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, **May 1, 2018**.

ISSUED DATE:

For the Commission

INTERIM I EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. During the period beginning upon the date of issuance and lasting through the completion of the expansion to the 0.50 million gallons per day (MGD) facility, the permittee is authorized to discharge subject to the following effluent limitations:

The daily average flow of effluent shall not exceed 0.25 MGD; nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 694 gallons per minute (gpm).

Effluent Characteristic

	Discharge Limitations			Min. Self-Monitoring Requirements Report Daily Avg. & Max. Single Grab Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
	Daily Avg mg/l (lbs/day)	7-day Avg mg/l	Daily Max mg/l		
Flow, MGD	Report	N/A	Report	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	10 (21)	15	25	One/week	Grab
Total Suspended Solids	15 (31)	25	40	One/week	Grab
Ammonia Nitrogen	2 (4.2)	5	10	One/week	Grab
E. coli, CFU or MPN/100 ml	63	N/A	N/A	One/month	Grab

- 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 at each chlorination chamber. An equivalent method of disinfection may be substituted only with prior approval of the Executive Director.
- 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.
- There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts and no discharge of visible oil.
- Effluent monitoring samples shall be taken at the following location(s): Following the final treatment unit.
- The effluent shall contain a minimum dissolved oxygen of 6.0 mg/l and shall be monitored once per week by grab sample.

INTERIM II EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Outfall Number 001

1. During the period beginning upon the completion of the expansion to the 0.5 million gallons per day (MGD) facility and lasting through the completion of expansion to the 1.0 MGD facility, the permittee is authorized to discharge subject to the following effluent limitations:

The annual average flow of effluent shall not exceed 0.5 MGD; nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 1,389 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 (42)	15	25	35	One/week	Composite
Total Suspended Solids	15 (63)	25	40	60	One/week	Composite
Ammonia Nitrogen	2 (8.3)	5	10	15	One/week	Composite
<i>E. coli</i> , CFU or MPN/100 ml	63	N/A	200	N/A	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 daily by grab sample at each chlorination chamber. 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 a minimum dissolved oxygen of 6.0 mg/l and shall be monitored once per week by grab sample.

FINAL EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. During the period beginning upon the completion of the expansion to the 1.0 million gallons per day (MGD) facility and lasting through the date of expiration, the permittee is authorized to discharge subject to the following effluent limitations:
 The annual average flow of effluent shall not exceed 1.0 MGD; nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 2,778 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 (83)	15	25	35	Two/week	Composite
Total Suspended Solids	15 (125)	25	40	60	Two/week	Composite
Ammonia Nitrogen	2 (17)	5	10	15	Two/week	Composite
<i>E. coli</i> , CFU or MPN/100 ml	63	N/A	200	N/A	Two/month	Grab

2. The effluent shall contain a chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l after a detention time of at least 20 minutes (based on peak flow) and shall be monitored daily by grab sample at each chlorination chamber. The permittee shall dechlorinate the chlorinated effluent to less than 0.1 mg/l chlorine residual and shall monitor chlorine residual daily by grab sample after the dechlorination process. 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 week 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 6.0 mg/l and shall be monitored twice per week by grab sample.
7. The annual average flow and maximum 2-hour peak flow shall be reported monthly.

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 169) 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 the Interim I and Interim II phase; annually in the Final phase 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 12) 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 12) 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> (Milligrams per kilogram)*
Arsenic	75
Cadmium	85
Chromium	3000
Copper	4300
Lead	840
Mercury	57
Molybdenum	75
Nickel	420
PCBs	49
Selenium	100
Zinc	7500

* Dry weight basis

3. Pathogen Control

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Alternative 6 (PFRP Equivalent) - Sewage sludge that is used or disposed of shall be treated in a process that has been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 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 in the Interim I and Interim II phase; annually in the Final phase
PCBs	- once during the term of this permit in the Interim I and Interim II phase; annually in the Final phase

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

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

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

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

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

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

A. Pollutant Limits

Table 2

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

Table 3

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

*Dry weight basis

B. Pathogen Control

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

C. Management Practices

1. Bulk sewage sludge shall not be applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, or a reclamation site that is flooded, frozen, or snow-covered so that the bulk sewage sludge enters a wetland or other waters in the State.
2. Bulk sewage sludge not meeting Class A requirements shall be land applied in a manner 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 12) 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 the Interim I and Interim II phase; annually in the Final phase 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 12) 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 12) 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 12) 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 in the Interim I and Interim II phases and Category B facility in the Final phase must be operated by a chief operator or an operator holding a Category C license or higher in the Interim I and Interim II phases and must be operated by a chief operator or an operator holding a Category B license or higher in the Final phase. The facility must be operated a minimum of five days per week by the licensed chief operator or an operator holding the required level of license or higher. The licensed chief operator or operator holding the required level of license or higher must be available by telephone or pager seven days per week. Where shift operation of the wastewater treatment facility is necessary, each shift that does not have the on-site supervision of the licensed chief operator must be supervised by an operator in charge who is licensed not less than one level below the category for the facility.

2. The facility is not located in the Coastal Management Program boundary.
3. There is no mixing zone established for this discharge to an intermittent stream. Acute toxic criteria apply at the point of discharge.
4. 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. 1014 of the San Jacinto River Basin and any subsequent updating of the water quality model for Segment No. 1014, 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.
5. 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, and right of way into Beckendorf Road the permittee shall comply with the requirements of 30 TAC § 309.13(e). (See Attachment A).
6. The permittee shall provide facilities for the protection of its wastewater treatment facilities from a 100-year flood.
7. 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 may be given a less frequent measurement schedule. For this

permit, 1/month may be reduced to 1/quarter in the Interim I and Interim II phases, and 2/month may 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 submit written notice to the TCEQ Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148).** 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.

8. Within 120 days from the start-up of the facility, the permittee shall complete Attachment B with the analytical results for Outfall 001. The completed tables with the results of these analysis and laboratory reports shall be submitted to the Municipal Permits Team, Wastewater Permitting Section MC 148, TCEQ Water Quality Division. Based on a technical review of the submitted analytical results, an amendment may be initiated by TCEQ staff to include additional effluent limitations and/or monitoring requirements. Test methods utilized to complete the tables shall be according to the test procedures specified in the Definitions and Standard Permit Conditions section of this permit and sensitive enough to detect the parameters listed in Attachment B at the minimum analytical level (MAL).
9. Prior to construction of the Interim I, Interim II, and Final phase 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 Domestic Wastewater Systems. The permittee shall clearly show how the treatment system will meet the permitted effluent limitations required on Page 2, 2a, and 2b of this permit.
10. 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 from the facility described by this permit, whichever occurs first. The permittee shall provide written notice to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 12) and the Applications Review and Processing Team (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division as well as Harris County Pollution Control Services, 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.

48-HOUR ACUTE BIOMONITORING REQUIREMENTS: FRESHWATER

The provisions of this section apply to Outfall 001 for whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing only during the Final phase of this permit.

1. Scope, Frequency and Methodology

- a. The permittee shall test the effluent for toxicity in accordance with the provisions below. Such testing will determine if an appropriately dilute effluent sample adversely affects the survival of the test organisms.
- b. Within 60 days of initial discharge from the 1.0 MGD facility, the permittee shall conduct the following toxicity tests utilizing the test organisms, procedures and quality assurance requirements specified in this Part of the permit and in accordance with "Short-Term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms, Fourth Edition" (EPA-821-R-02-013), or its most recent update:
 - 1) Acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using the water flea (*Daphnia pulex* or *Ceriodaphnia dubia*). A minimum of five replicates with eight organisms per replicate shall be used in the control and in each dilution. This test shall be conducted once per quarter.
 - 2) Acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using the fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*). A minimum of five replicates with eight organisms per replicate shall be used in the control and in each dilution. This test shall be conducted once per quarter.

The permittee must perform and submit a valid test for each test species during the required reporting period for that species. A minimum of five replicates with eight organisms per replicate shall be used in the control and each dilution. A repeat test shall include the control and all effluent dilutions and use the appropriate number of organisms and replicates, as specified above. An invalid test is herein defined as any test failing to satisfy the test acceptability criteria, procedures, and quality assurance requirements specified in the test methods and permit.

- c. The permittee shall use five effluent dilution concentrations and a control in each toxicity test. These additional effluent concentrations are 32%, 42%, 56%, 75%, and 100% effluent. The critical dilution, defined as 100% effluent, is the effluent concentration representative of the proportion of effluent in the receiving water during critical low flow or critical mixing conditions.
- d. This permit may be amended to require a WET limit, a Chemical-Specific (CS) limit, a Best Management Practice (BMP), or other appropriate actions to address toxicity. The permittee may be required to conduct a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation after multiple toxic events.

e. Testing Frequency Reduction

- 1) If none of the first four consecutive quarterly tests demonstrates significant lethal effects, the permittee may submit this information in writing and, upon approval, reduce the testing frequency to once per six months for the invertebrate test species and once per year for the vertebrate test species.
- 2) If one or more of the first four consecutive quarterly tests demonstrates significant lethal effects, the permittee shall continue quarterly testing for that species until the permit is reissued. If a testing frequency reduction had been previously granted and a subsequent test demonstrates significant lethal effects, the permittee will resume a quarterly testing frequency for that species until the permit is reissued.

2. Required Toxicity Testing Conditions

a. Test Acceptance - The permittee shall repeat any toxicity test, including the control and all effluent dilutions, which fails to meet any of the following criteria:

- 1) a control mean survival of 90% or greater; and
- 2) a Coefficient of Variation percent (CV%) of 40 or less for both the control and critical dilution. However, if significant lethality is demonstrated, a CV% greater than 40 shall not invalidate the test. The CV% requirement does not apply when significant lethality occurs.

b. Statistical Interpretation

- 1) For the water flea and fathead minnow tests, the statistical analyses used to determine if there is a significant difference between the control and an effluent dilution shall be in accordance with the manual referenced above, or its most recent update.
- 2) The permittee is responsible for reviewing test concentration-response relationships to ensure that calculated test-results are interpreted and reported correctly. The EPA manual, "Method Guidance and Recommendation for Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing (40 CFR Part 136)" (EPA 821-B-00-004), provides guidance on determining the validity of test results.
- 3) If significant lethality is demonstrated (that is, there is a statistically significant difference in survival at the critical dilution when compared to the control), the conditions of test acceptability are met, and the survival of the test organisms are equal to or greater than 90% in the critical dilution and all dilutions below that, then the permittee shall report a survival No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) of not less than the critical dilution for the reporting requirements.

- 4) The NOEC is defined as the greatest effluent dilution at which no significant lethality is demonstrated. The Lowest Observed Effect Concentration (LOEC) is defined as the lowest effluent dilution at which significant lethality is demonstrated. Significant lethality is herein defined as a statistically significant difference the survival of the test organism(s) in a specified effluent dilution compared to the survival of the test organism(s) in the control (0% effluent).
- 5) The use of NOECs and LOECs assumes either a monotonic (continuous) concentration-response relationship or a threshold model of the concentration-response relationship. For any test result that demonstrates a non-monotonic (non-continuous) response, the NOEC should be determined based on the guidance manual referenced in Item 2 above.
- 6) Pursuant to the responsibility assigned to the permittee in Part 2.b.2), test results that demonstrate a non-monotonic (non-continuous) concentration-response relationship may be submitted, prior to the due date, for technical review. The above-referenced guidance manual will be used when making a determination of test acceptability.
- 7) Staff will review test results for consistency with rules, procedures, and permit requirements.

c. Dilution Water

- 1) Dilution water used in the toxicity tests shall be the receiving water collected at a point upstream of the discharge as close as possible to the discharge point, but unaffected by the discharge. Where the toxicity tests are conducted on effluent discharges to receiving waters that are classified as intermittent streams, or where the toxicity tests are conducted on effluent discharges where no receiving water is available due to zero flow conditions, the permittee shall:
 - a) substitute a synthetic dilution water that has a pH, hardness, and alkalinity similar to that of the closest downstream perennial water unaffected by the discharge; or
 - b) utilize the closest downstream perennial water unaffected by the discharge.
- 2) Where the receiving water proves unsatisfactory as a result of preexisting instream toxicity (i.e. fails to fulfill the test acceptance criteria of item 2.a.), the permittee may substitute synthetic dilution water for the receiving water in all subsequent tests provided the unacceptable receiving water test met the following stipulations:
 - a) a synthetic lab water control was performed (in addition to the receiving water control) which fulfilled the test acceptance requirements of item 2.a;

- b) the test indicating receiving water toxicity was carried out to completion; and
 - c) the permittee submitted all test results indicating receiving water toxicity with the reports and information required in Part 3 of this Section.
- 3) The synthetic dilution water shall consist of standard, moderately hard, reconstituted water. Upon approval, the permittee may substitute other appropriate dilution water with chemical and physical characteristics similar to that of the receiving water.

d. Samples and Composites

- 1) The permittee shall collect a minimum of two composite samples from Outfall 001. The second composite sample will be used for the renewal of the dilution concentrations for each toxicity test.
- 2) The permittee shall collect the composite samples such that the samples are representative of any periodic episode of chlorination, biocide usage, or other potentially toxic substance discharged on an intermittent basis.
- 3) The permittee shall initiate the toxicity tests within 36 hours after collection of the last portion of the first composite sample. The holding time for the subsequent composite sample shall not exceed 72 hours. Samples shall be maintained at a temperature of 0-6 degrees Centigrade during collection, shipping, and storage.
- 4) If Outfall 001 ceases discharging during the collection of effluent samples, the requirements for the minimum number of effluent samples, the minimum numbers of effluent portions, and the sample holding time, are waived during that sampling period. However, the permittee must have collected an effluent composite sample volume sufficient to complete the required toxicity tests with renewal of the effluent. When possible, the effluent samples used for the toxicity tests shall be collected on separate days if the discharge occurs over multiple days. The sample collection duration and the static renewal protocol associated with the abbreviated sample collection must be documented in the full report.
- 5) The effluent samples shall not be dechlorinated after sample collection.

3. Reporting

All reports, tables, plans, summaries, and related correspondence required in any Part of this Section shall be submitted to the attention of the Standards Implementation Team (MC 150) of the Water Quality Division.

- a. The permittee shall prepare a full report of the results of all tests conducted in accordance with the manual referenced above, or its most recent update, for every valid and invalid toxicity test initiated whether carried to completion or not.

- b. The permittee shall routinely report the results of each biomonitoring test on the Table 1 forms provided with this permit.
- 1) Annual biomonitoring test results are due on or before January 20th for biomonitoring conducted during the previous 12 month period.
 - 2) Semiannual biomonitoring test results are due on or before July 20th and January 20th for biomonitoring conducted during the previous 6 month period.
 - 3) Quarterly biomonitoring test results are due on or before April 20th, July 20th, October 20th, and January 20th, for biomonitoring conducted during the previous calendar quarter.
 - 4) Monthly biomonitoring test results are due on or before the 20th day of the month following sampling.
- c. Enter the following codes for the appropriate parameters for valid tests only:
- 1) For the water flea, Parameter TEM3D, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."
 - 2) For the water flea, Parameter TOM3D, report the NOEC for survival.
 - 3) For the water flea, Parameter TXM3D, report the LOEC for survival.
 - 4) For the fathead minnow, Parameter TEM6C, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."
 - 5) For the fathead minnow, Parameter TOM6C, report the NOEC for survival.
 - 6) For the fathead minnow, Parameter TXM6C, report the LOEC for survival.
- d. Enter the following codes for retests only:
- 1) For retest number 1, Parameter 22415, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."
 - 2) For retest number 2, Parameter 22416, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."

4. Persistent Toxicity

The requirements of this Part apply only when a toxicity test demonstrates significant lethality. Significant lethality is defined as a statistically significant difference between the survival of the test organisms at the critical dilution when compared to the survival of the test organisms in the control.

- a. The permittee shall conduct a total of 2 additional tests (retests) for any species that demonstrates significant lethality. The two retests shall be conducted monthly during the next two consecutive months. The permittee shall not substitute either of the two retests in lieu of routine toxicity testing. All reports shall be submitted within 20 days of test completion. Test completion is defined as the last day of the test.
- b. If one or both of the two retests specified in item 4.a. demonstrates significant lethality, the permittee shall initiate the TRE requirements as specified in Part 5.
- c. The provisions of item 4.a. are suspended upon completion of the two retests and submittal of the TRE Action Plan and Schedule defined in Part 5 of this Section.

5. Toxicity Reduction Evaluation

- a. Within 45 days of the retest that demonstrates significant lethality, the permittee shall submit a General Outline for initiating a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE). The outline shall include, but not be limited to, a description of project personnel, a schedule for obtaining consultants (if needed), a discussion of influent and effluent data available for review, a sampling and analytical schedule, and a proposed TRE initiation date.
- b. Within 90 days of the retest that demonstrates significant lethality, the permittee shall submit a TRE Action Plan and Schedule for conducting a TRE. The plan shall specify the approach and methodology to be used in performing the TRE. A TRE is a step-wise investigation combining toxicity testing with physical and chemical analysis to determine actions necessary to eliminate or reduce effluent toxicity to a level not effecting significant lethality at the critical dilution. The TRE Action Plan shall describe an approach for the reduction or elimination of lethality for both test species defined in item 1.b. As a minimum, the TRE Action Plan shall include the following:
 - 1) Specific Activities - The TRE Action Plan shall specify the approach the permittee intends to utilize in conducting the TRE, including toxicity characterizations, identifications, confirmations, source evaluations, treatability studies, and alternative approaches. When conducting characterization analyses, the permittee shall perform multiple characterizations and follow the procedures specified in the document entitled, "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase I Toxicity Characterization Procedures" (EPA/600/6-91/003), or alternate procedures. The permittee shall perform multiple identifications and follow the methods specified in the documents entitled, "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase II Toxicity Identification Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity" (EPA/600/R-92/080) and "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase III Toxicity Confirmation Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity" (EPA/600/R-92/081). All characterization, identification, and confirmation tests shall be conducted in an orderly and logical progression;

- 2) Sampling Plan - The TRE Action Plan should describe sampling locations, methods, holding times, chain of custody, and preservation techniques. The effluent sample volume collected for all tests shall be adequate to perform the toxicity characterization/ identification/ confirmation procedures, and chemical-specific analyses when the toxicity tests show significant lethality. Where the permittee has identified or suspects specific pollutant(s) and source(s) of effluent toxicity, the permittee shall conduct, concurrent with toxicity testing, chemical-specific analyses for the identified and suspected pollutant(s) and source(s) of effluent toxicity;
 - 3) Quality Assurance Plan - The TRE Action Plan should address record keeping and data evaluation, calibration and standardization, baseline tests, system blanks, controls, duplicates, spikes, toxicity persistence in the samples, randomization, reference toxicant control charts, as well as mechanisms to detect artifactual toxicity; and
 - 4) Project Organization - The TRE Action Plan should describe the project staff, project manager, consulting engineering services (where applicable), consulting analytical and toxicological services, etc.
- c. Within 30 days of submittal of the TRE Action Plan and Schedule, the permittee shall implement the TRE.
- d. The permittee shall submit quarterly TRE Activities Reports concerning the progress of the TRE. The quarterly reports are due on or before April 20th, July 20th, October 20th, and January 20th. The report shall detail information regarding the TRE activities including:
- 1) results and interpretation of any chemical specific analyses for the identified and suspected pollutant(s) performed during the quarter;
 - 2) results and interpretation of any characterization, identification, and confirmation tests performed during the quarter;
 - 3) any data and substantiating documentation which identifies the pollutant(s) and source(s) of effluent toxicity;
 - 4) results of any studies/evaluations concerning the treatability of the facility's effluent toxicity;
 - 5) any data which identifies effluent toxicity control mechanisms that will reduce effluent toxicity to the level necessary to meet no significant lethality at the critical dilution; and
 - 6) any changes to the initial TRE Plan and Schedule that are believed necessary as a result of the TRE findings.

Copies of the TRE Activities Report shall also be submitted to the U.S. EPA Region 6 office.

- e. During the TRE, the permittee shall perform, at a minimum, quarterly testing using the more sensitive species; testing for the less sensitive species shall continue at the frequency specified in Part 1.b.
- f. If the effluent ceases to effect significant lethality (herein as defined below) the permittee may end the TRE. A "cessation of lethality" is defined as no significant lethality for a period of 12 consecutive months with at least monthly testing. At the end of the 12 months, the permittee shall submit a statement of intent to cease the TRE and may then resume the testing frequency specified in Part 1.b. The permittee may only apply the "cessation of lethality" provision once.

This provision accommodates situations where operational errors and upsets, spills, or sampling errors triggered the TRE, in contrast to a situation where a single toxicant or group of toxicants cause lethality. This provision does not apply as a result of corrective actions taken by the permittee. "Corrective actions" are herein defined as proactive efforts that eliminate or reduce effluent toxicity. These include, but are not limited to, source reduction or elimination, improved housekeeping, changes in chemical usage, and modifications of influent streams and effluent treatment.

The permittee may only apply this cessation of lethality provision once. If the effluent again demonstrates significant lethality to the same species, the permit will be amended to add a WET limit with a compliance period, if appropriate. However, prior to the effective date of the WET limit, the permittee may apply for a permit amendment removing and replacing the WET limit with an alternate toxicity control measure by identifying and confirming the toxicant and an appropriate control measure.

- g. The permittee shall complete the TRE and submit a Final Report on the TRE Activities no later than 28 months from the last test day of the retest that confirmed significant lethal effects at the critical dilution. The permittee may petition the Executive Director (in writing) for an extension of the 28-month limit. However, to warrant an extension the permittee must have demonstrated due diligence in their pursuit of the TIE/TRE and must prove that circumstances beyond their control stalled the TIE/TRE. The report shall provide information pertaining to the specific control mechanism(s) selected that will, when implemented, result in reduction of effluent toxicity to no significant lethality at the critical dilution. The report will also provide a specific corrective action schedule for implementing the selected control mechanism(s). A copy of the TRE Final Report shall also be submitted to the U.S. EPA Region 6 office.
- h. Based upon the results of the TRE and proposed corrective actions, this permit may be amended to modify the biomonitoring requirements, where necessary, to require a compliance schedule for implementation of corrective actions, to specify a WET limit, to specify a BMP, and to specify CS limits.

TABLE 1 (SHEET 1 OF 2)

WATER FLEA SURVIVAL

Dates and Times Composites Collected No. 1 FROM: _____ Date _____ Time _____ TO: _____ Date _____ Time _____
 No. 2 FROM: _____ TO: _____

Test initiated: _____ am/pm _____ date
 Dilution water used: _____ Receiving water _____ Synthetic Dilution water

PERCENT SURVIVAL

Time	Rep	Percent effluent					
		0%	32%	42%	56%	75%	100%
24h	A						
	B						
	C						
	D						
	E						
48h	A						
	B						
	C						
	D						
	E						
Mean at test end							
CV%*							

*Coefficient of Variation = Standard Deviation x 100/mean

Dunnett's Procedure or Steel's Many-One Rank Test as appropriate:

Is the mean survival at 48 hours significantly less than the control survival?

CRITICAL DILUTION (100%): _____ YES _____ NO

Enter percent effluent corresponding to the NOEC below:

1) NOEC survival = _____ % effluent

2) LOEC survival = _____ % effluent

TABLE 1 (SHEET 2 OF 2)

FATHEAD MINNOW SURVIVAL

Dates and Times Composites Collected No. 1 FROM: _____ Date Time _____ TO: _____ Date Time _____
 No. 2 FROM: _____ TO: _____

Test initiated: _____ am/pm _____ date

Dilution water used: _____ Receiving water _____ Synthetic Dilution water

PERCENT SURVIVAL

Time	Rep	Percent effluent					
		0%	32%	42%	56%	75%	100%
24h	A						
	B						
	C						
	D						
	E						
48h	A						
	B						
	C						
	D						
	E						
Mean at test end							
CV%*							

* Coefficient of Variation = standard deviation x 100/mean

Dunnett's Procedure or Steel's Many-One Rank Test as appropriate:

Is the mean survival at 48 hours significantly less than the control survival?

CRITICAL DILUTION (100%): _____ YES _____ NO

Enter percent effluent corresponding to the NOEC below:

1) NOEC survival = _____ % effluent

2) LOEC survival = _____ % effluent

24-HOUR ACUTE BIOMONITORING REQUIREMENTS: FRESHWATER

The provisions of this section apply to Outfall 001 for WET testing only during the Final phase of this permit.

1. Scope, Frequency and Methodology

- a. The permittee shall test the effluent for lethality in accordance with the provisions in this Section. Such testing will determine compliance with the Surface Water Quality Standard, 30 TAC § 307.6(e)(2)(B), of greater than 50% survival of the appropriate test organisms in 100% effluent for a 24-hour period.
- b. The toxicity tests specified shall be conducted once per six months. The permittee shall conduct the following toxicity tests utilizing the test organisms, procedures, and quality assurance requirements specified in this section of the permit and in accordance with "Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms, Fifth Edition" (EPA-821-R-02-012), or its most recent update:
 - 1) Acute 24-hour static toxicity test using the water flea (*Daphnia pulex* or *Ceriodaphnia dubia*). A minimum of five replicates with eight organisms per replicate shall be used in the control and in each dilution.
 - 2) Acute 24-hour static toxicity test using the fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*). A minimum of five replicates with eight organisms per replicate shall be used in the control and in each dilution.

The permittee must perform and report a valid test for each test species during the prescribed reporting period. An invalid test must be repeated during the same reporting period. An invalid test is herein defined as any test failing to satisfy the test acceptability criteria, procedures, and quality assurance requirements specified in the test methods and permit. All test results, valid or invalid, must be submitted as described below.

- c. In addition to an appropriate control, a 100% effluent concentration shall be used in the toxicity tests. The control and dilution water shall consist of standard, synthetic, moderately hard, reconstituted water.
- d. This permit may be amended to require a WET limit, a BMP, CS limits, or other appropriate actions to address toxicity. The permittee may be required to conduct a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation after multiple toxic events.
- e. As the dilution series specified in the 48-Hour Acute Biomonitoring Requirements includes a 100% effluent concentration, the results from those tests may fulfill the requirements of this Section; any tests performed in the proper time interval may be substituted. Compliance will be evaluated as specified in item a. The 50% survival in 100% effluent for a 24-hour period standard applies to all tests utilizing a 100% effluent dilution, regardless of whether the results are submitted to comply with the minimum testing frequency defined in item b.

2. Required Toxicity Testing Conditions

- a. Test Acceptance – The permittee shall repeat any toxicity test, including the control, if the control fails to meet a mean survival equal to or greater than 90%.
- b. Dilution Water - In accordance with item 1.c., the control and dilution water shall consist of standard, synthetic, moderately hard, reconstituted water.
- c. Samples and Composites
 - 1) The permittee shall collect one composite sample from Outfall 001.
 - 2) The permittee shall collect the composite samples such that the samples are representative of any periodic episode of chlorination, biocide usage, or other potentially toxic substance discharged on an intermittent basis.
 - 3) The permittee shall initiate the toxicity tests within 36 hours after collection of the last portion of the composite sample. Samples shall be maintained at a temperature of 0-6 degrees Centigrade during collection, shipping, and storage.
 - 4) If Outfall 001 ceases discharging during the collection of the effluent composite sample, the requirements for the minimum number of effluent portions are waived. However, the permittee must have collected a composite sample volume sufficient for completion of the required test. The abbreviated sample collection, duration, and methodology must be documented in the full report required in Part 3 of this Section.
 - 5) The effluent samples shall not be dechlorinated after sample collection.

3. Reporting

All reports, tables, plans, summaries, and related correspondence required in any Part of this Section shall be submitted to the attention of the Standards Implementation Team (MC 150) of the Water Quality Division.

- a. The permittee shall prepare a full report of the results of all tests conducted pursuant to this permit in accordance with the manual referenced above, or its most recent update, for every valid and invalid toxicity test initiated.
- b. The permittee shall routinely report the results of each biomonitoring test on the Table 2 forms provided with this permit.
 - 1) Semiannual biomonitoring test results are due on or before January 20th and July 20th for biomonitoring conducted during the previous 6 month period.
 - 2) Quarterly biomonitoring test results are due on or before January 20th, April 20th, July 20th, and October 20th, for biomonitoring conducted during the previous calendar quarter.

- c. Enter the following codes for the appropriate parameters for valid tests only:
- 1) For the water flea, Parameter TIE3D, enter a "0" if the mean survival at 24-hours is greater than 50% in the 100% effluent dilution; if the mean survival is less than or equal to 50%, enter "1."
 - 2) For the fathead minnow, Parameter TIE6C, enter a "0" if the mean survival at 24-hours is greater than 50% in the 100% effluent dilution; if the mean survival is less than or equal to 50%, enter "1."
- d. Enter the following codes for retests only:
- 1) For retest number 1, Parameter 22415, enter a "0" if the mean survival at 24-hours is greater than 50% in the 100% effluent dilution; if the mean survival is less than or equal to 50%, enter "1."
 - 2) For retest number 2, Parameter 22416, enter a "0" if the mean survival at 24-hours is greater than 50% in the 100% effluent dilution; if the mean survival is less than or equal to 50%, enter "1."

4. Persistent Mortality

The requirements of this Part apply when a toxicity test demonstrates significant lethality, here defined as a mean mortality of 50% or greater to organisms exposed to the 100% effluent concentration after 24-hours.

- a. The permittee shall conduct 2 additional tests (retests) for each species that demonstrates significant lethality. The two retests shall be conducted once per week for 2 weeks. Five effluent dilution concentrations in addition to an appropriate control shall be used in the retests. These additional effluent concentrations are 6%, 13%, 25%, 50% and 100% effluent. The first retest shall be conducted within 15 days of the laboratory determination of significant lethality. All test results shall be submitted within 20 days of test completion of the second retest. Test completion is defined as the 24th hour.
- b. If one or both of the two retests specified in item 4.a. demonstrates significant lethality, the permittee shall initiate the TRE requirements as specified in Part 5 of this Section.

5. Toxicity Reduction Evaluation

- a. Within 45 days of the retest that demonstrates significant lethality, the permittee shall submit a General Outline for initiating a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE). The outline shall include, but not be limited to, a description of project personnel, a schedule for obtaining consultants (if needed), a discussion of influent and effluent data available for review, a sampling and analytical schedule, and a proposed TRE initiation date.

- b. Within 90 days of the retest that demonstrates significant lethality, the permittee shall submit a TRE Action Plan and Schedule for conducting a TRE. The plan shall specify the approach and methodology to be used in performing the TRE. A TRE is a step-wise investigation combining toxicity testing with physical and chemical analysis to determine actions necessary to eliminate or reduce effluent toxicity to a level not effecting significant lethality at the critical dilution. The TRE Action Plan shall lead to the successful elimination of significant lethality for both test species defined in item 1.b. As a minimum, the TRE Action Plan shall include the following:
- 1) **Specific Activities** - The TRE Action Plan shall specify the approach the permittee intends to utilize in conducting the TRE, including toxicity characterizations, identifications, confirmations, source evaluations, treatability studies, and alternative approaches. When conducting characterization analyses, the permittee shall perform multiple characterizations and follow the procedures specified in the document entitled, "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase I Toxicity Characterization Procedures" (EPA/600/6-91/003), or alternate procedures. The permittee shall perform multiple identifications and follow the methods specified in the documents entitled, "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase II Toxicity Identification Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity" (EPA/600/R-92/080) and "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase III Toxicity Confirmation Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity" (EPA/600/R-92/081). All characterization, identification, and confirmation tests shall be conducted in an orderly and logical progression;
 - 2) **Sampling Plan** - The TRE Action Plan should describe sampling locations, methods, holding times, chain of custody, and preservation techniques. The effluent sample volume collected for all tests shall be adequate to perform the toxicity characterization/ identification/ confirmation procedures, and chemical-specific analyses when the toxicity tests show significant lethality. Where the permittee has identified or suspects specific pollutant(s) and source(s) of effluent toxicity, the permittee shall conduct, concurrent with toxicity testing, chemical-specific analyses for the identified and suspected pollutant(s) and source(s) of effluent toxicity;
 - 3) **Quality Assurance Plan** - The TRE Action Plan should address record keeping and data evaluation, calibration and standardization, baseline tests, system blanks, controls, duplicates, spikes, toxicity persistence in the samples, randomization, reference toxicant control charts, as well as mechanisms to detect artifactual toxicity; and
 - 4) **Project Organization** - The TRE Action Plan should describe the project staff, manager, consulting engineering services (where applicable), consulting analytical and toxicological services, etc.
- c. Within 30 days of submittal of the TRE Action Plan and Schedule, the permittee shall implement the TRE.

- d. The permittee shall submit quarterly TRE Activities Reports concerning the progress of the TRE. The quarterly TRE Activities Reports are due on or before April 20th, July 20th, October 20th, and January 20th. The report shall detail information regarding the TRE activities including:
- 1) results and interpretation of any chemical-specific analyses for the identified and suspected pollutant(s) performed during the quarter;
 - 2) results and interpretation of any characterization, identification, and confirmation tests performed during the quarter;
 - 3) any data and substantiating documentation that identifies the pollutant(s) and source(s) of effluent toxicity;
 - 4) results of any studies/evaluations concerning the treatability of the facility's effluent toxicity;
 - 5) any data that identifies effluent toxicity control mechanisms that will reduce effluent toxicity to the level necessary to eliminate significant lethality; and
 - 6) any changes to the initial TRE Plan and Schedule that are believed necessary as a result of the TRE findings.

Copies of the TRE Activities Report shall also be submitted to the U.S. EPA Region 6 office.

- e. During the TRE, the permittee shall perform, at a minimum, quarterly testing using the more sensitive species; testing for the less sensitive species shall continue at the frequency specified in Part 1.b.
- f. If the effluent ceases to effect significant lethality (herein as defined below) the permittee may end the TRE. A "cessation of lethality" is defined as no significant lethality for a period of 12 consecutive weeks with at least weekly testing. At the end of the 12 weeks, the permittee shall submit a statement of intent to cease the TRE and may then resume the testing frequency specified in Part 1.b. The permittee may only apply the "cessation of lethality" provision once.

This provision accommodates situations where operational errors and upsets, spills, or sampling errors triggered the TRE, in contrast to a situation where a single toxicant or group of toxicants cause lethality. This provision does not apply as a result of corrective actions taken by the permittee. "Corrective actions" are herein defined as proactive efforts that eliminate or reduce effluent toxicity. These include, but are not limited to, source reduction or elimination, improved housekeeping, changes in chemical usage, and modifications of influent streams and effluent treatment.

The permittee may only apply this cessation of lethality provision once. If the effluent again demonstrates significant lethality to the same species, the permit will be amended to add a WET limit with a compliance period, if appropriate. However, prior to the effective date of the WET limit, the permittee may apply for a permit amendment removing and replacing the WET limit with an alternate toxicity control measure by identifying and confirming the toxicant and an appropriate control measure.

- g. The permittee shall complete the TRE and submit a Final Report on the TRE Activities no later than 18 months from the last test day of the retest that demonstrates significant lethality. The permittee may petition the Executive Director (in writing) for an extension of the 18-month limit. However, to warrant an extension the permittee must have demonstrated due diligence in their pursuit of the TIE/TRE and must prove that circumstances beyond their control stalled the TIE/TRE. The report shall specify the control mechanism(s) that will, when implemented, reduce effluent toxicity as specified in item 5.g. The report will also specify a corrective action schedule for implementing the selected control mechanism(s). A copy of the TRE Final Report shall also be submitted to the U.S. EPA Region 6 office.
- h. Within 3 years of the last day of the test confirming toxicity, the permittee shall comply with 30 TAC § 307.6(e)(2)(B), which requires greater than 50% survival of the test organism in 100% effluent at the end of 24-hours. The permittee may petition the Executive Director (in writing) for an extension of the 3-year limit. However, to warrant an extension the permittee must have demonstrated due diligence in their pursuit of the TIE/TRE and must prove that circumstances beyond their control stalled the TIE/TRE.

The requirement to comply with 30 TAC § 307.6(e)(2)(B) may be exempted upon proof that toxicity is caused by an excess, imbalance, or deficiency of dissolved salts. This exemption excludes instances where individually toxic components (e.g. metals) form a salt compound. Following the exemption, the permit may be amended to include an ion-adjustment protocol, alternate species testing, or single species testing.

- i. Based upon the results of the TRE and proposed corrective actions, this permit may be amended to modify the biomonitoring requirements where necessary, to require a compliance schedule for implementation of corrective actions, to specify a WET limit, to specify a BMP, and to specify a CS limit.

TABLE 2 (SHEET 1 OF 2)

WATER FLEA SURVIVAL

GENERAL INFORMATION

	Time	Date
Composite Sample Collected		
Test Initiated		

PERCENT SURVIVAL

Time	Rep	Percent effluent					
		0%	6%	13%	25%	50%	100%
24h	A						
	B						
	C						
	D						
	E						
	MEAN*						

Enter percent effluent corresponding to the LC50 below:

24 hour LC50 = _____ % effluent

TABLE 2 (SHEET 2 OF 2)
 FATHEAD MINNOW SURVIVAL

GENERAL INFORMATION

	Time	Date
Composite Sample Collected		
Test Initiated		

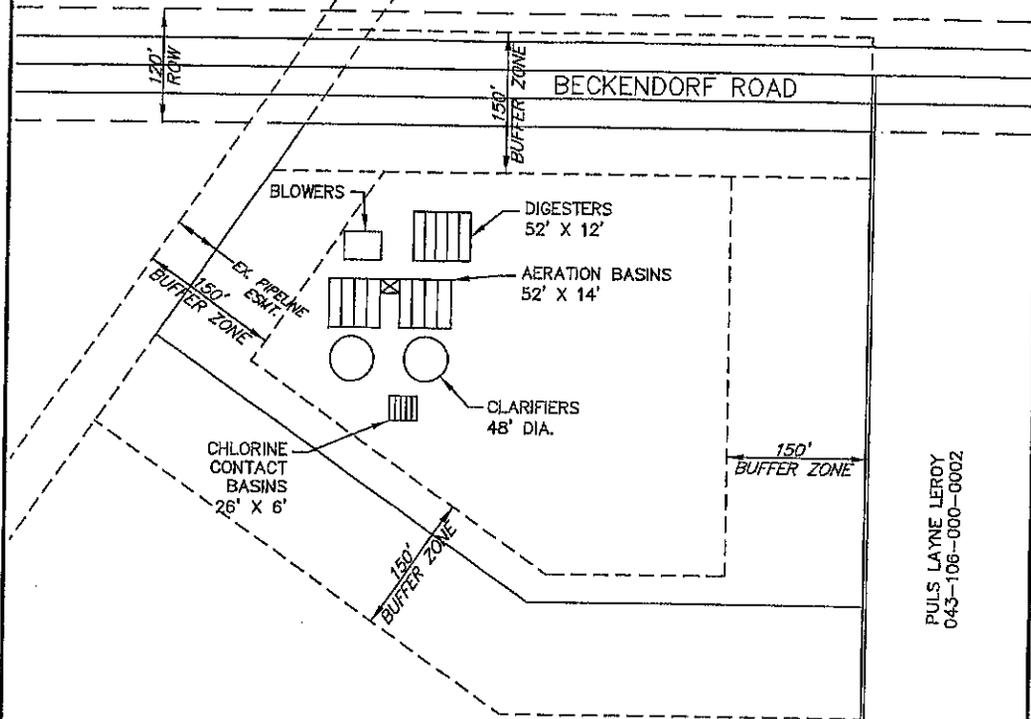
PERCENT SURVIVAL

Time	Rep	Percent effluent					
		0%	6%	13%	25%	50%	100%
24h	A						
	B						
	C						
	D						
	E						
	MEAN						

Enter percent effluent corresponding to the LC50 below:

24 hour LC50 = _____% effluent

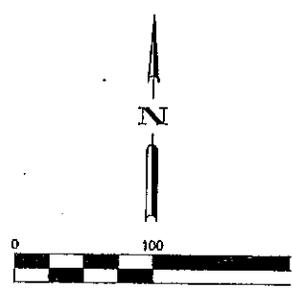
WQ0015264001
Attachment 'A'



NASH FM 529, LLC
043-106-000-0005

PULS LAYNE LEROY
043-106-000-0002

Z:\Users\j\Documents\TPDES_Permit_Application\043-106-000-0005\043-106-000-0005.dwg Apr 15, 2014 10:48:15 AM



HARRIS COUNTY MUD 171 WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT		
BROWN & GAY ENGINEERS, INC.	Brown & Gay Engineers, Inc. 10777 Westheimer, Suite 400, Houston, TX 77042 Tel: 281-558-9700 Fax: 281-558-9701 <i>— Civil engineers and surveyors —</i> www.browngay.com	
	Copyright 2001	
NEW TPDES PERMIT APPLICATION		
SITE PLAN WITH BUFFER ZONE INTERIM III PHASE -- 1.0 MGD (CORRESPONDS TO DOM. ADMIN. Rpt 1.1, ITEM 2.a, PAGE 16)		
DATE:	PROJECT #:	EXHIBIT:
FEB. 2014	2253-00	3C

DOMESTIC WORKSHEET 4.0

POLLUTANT ANALYSES REQUIREMENTS*

The following is required for facilities with a permitted or proposed flow of 1.0 mgd or greater, or facilities with an approved pretreatment program. See instructions for further details.

*Worksheet not required for minor amendments without renewal

1. TABLE 4.0(1) – Toxic Materials
(Instructions, Page 84)

Table 1 sample information - indicate type of sample.

Grab Composite

Date and time sample(s) collected: _____

Table 4.0(1) – Toxics Analysis

Pollutant	AVG Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	MAX Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	No. of Samples	MAL (µg/l)
Acrylonitrile				50
Aldrin				0.01
Aluminum				2.5
Anthracene				10
Antimony				5
Arsenic				0.5
Barium				3
Benzene				10
Benzidine				50
Benzo(a)anthracene				5
Benzo(a)pyrene				5
Bis(2-chloroethyl)ether				10
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate				10
Bromodichloromethane				10
Bromoform				10

Pollutant	AVG Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	MAX Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	No. of Samples	MAL (µg/l)
Cadmium				1
Carbon Tetrachloride				2
Carbaryl				5
Chlordane*				0.2
Chlorobenzene				10
Chlorodibromomethane				10
Chloroform				10
Chlorpyrifos				0.05
Chromium (Total)				3
Chromium (Tri) (*1)				N/A
Chromium (Hex)				3
Copper				2
Chrysene				5
p-Chloro-m-Cresol				10
4,6-Dinitro-o-Cresol				50
p-Cresol				10
Cyanide (*2)				10
4,4'- DDD				0.1
4,4'- DDE				0.1
4,4'- DDT				0.02
2,4-D				0.7
Demeton (O and S)				0.20
Diazinon				0.5/0.1
1,2-Dibromoethane				10
m-Dichlorobenzene				10
o-Dichlorobenzene				10
p-Dichlorobenzene				10
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine				5
1,2-Dichloroethane				10
1,1-Dichloroethylene				10

Pollutant	AVG Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	MAX Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	No. of Samples	MAL (µg/l)
Dichloromethane				20
1,2-Dichloropropane				10
1,3-Dichloropropene				10
Dicofol				1
Dieldrin				0.02
2,4-Dimethylphenol				10
Di-n-Butyl Phthalate				10
Diuron				0.09
Endosulfan I (alpha)				0.01
Endosulfan II (beta)				0.02
Endosulfan Sulfate				0.1
Endrin				0.02
Ethylbenzene				10
Fluoride				500
Guthion				0.1
Heptachlor				0.01
Heptachlor Epoxide				0.01
Hexachlorobenzene				5
Hexachlorobutadiene				10
Hexachlorocyclohexane (alpha)				0.05
Hexachlorocyclohexane (beta)				0.05
gamma-Hexachlorocyclohexane (Lindane)				0.05
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene				10
Hexachloroethane				20
Hexachlorophene				10
Lead				0.5
Malathion				0.1
Mercury				0.005
Methoxychlor				2

Pollutant	AVG Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	MAX Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	No. of Samples	MAL (µg/l)
Methyl Ethyl Ketone				50
Mirex				0.02
Nickel				2
Nitrate-Nitrogen				100
Nitrobenzene				10
N-Nitrosodiethylamine				20
N-Nitroso-di-n-Butylamine				20
Nonylphenol				333
Parathion (ethyl)				0.1
Pentachlorobenzene				20
Pentachlorophenol				5
Phenanthrene				10
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB's) (*3)				0.2
Pyridine				20
Selenium				5
Silver				0.5
1,2,4,5-Tetrachlorobenzene				20
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane				10
Tetrachloroethylene				10
Thallium				0.5
Toluene				10
Toxaphene				0.3
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)				0.3
Tributyltin (see instructions for explanation)				0.01
1,1,1-Trichloroethane				10
1,1,2-Trichloroethane				10
Trichloroethylene				10
2,4,5-Trichlorophenol				50
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)				10

Pollutant	AVG Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	MAX Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	No. of Samples	MAL (µg/l)
Vinyl Chloride				10
Zinc				5

(*1) Determined by subtracting hexavalent Cr from total Cr.

(*2) Cyanide, amenable to chlorination or weak-acid dissociable.

(*3) The sum of seven PCB congeners 1242, 1254, 1221, 1232, 1248, 1260, and 1016.

2. TABLE 4.0(2) – Priority Pollutants

(Instructions, Page 84)

Table 2 sample information: indicate type of sample.

Grab Composite

Date and time sample(s) collected: _____

Table 4.0(2)A – Metals, Cyanide, Phenols

Pollutant	AVG Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	MAX Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	No. of Samples	MAL (µg/l)
Antimony				5
Arsenic				0.5
Beryllium				0.5
Cadmium				1
Chromium (Total)				3
Chromium (Hex)				3
Chromium (Tri) (*1)				N/A
Copper				2
Lead				0.5
Mercury				0.005
Nickel				2
Selenium				5
Silver				0.5
Thallium				0.5
Zinc				5

Cyanide (*2)				10
Phenols, Total				10

(*1) Determined by subtracting hexavalent Cr from total Cr.

(*2) Cyanide, amenable to chlorination or weak-acid dissociable

Table 4.0(2)B – Volatile Compounds

Pollutant	AVG Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	MAX Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	No. of Samples	MAL (µg/l)
Acrolein				50
Acrylonitrile				50
Benzene				10
Bromoform				10
Carbon Tetrachloride				2
Chlorobenzene				10
Chlorodibromomethane				10
Chloroethane				50
2-Chloroethylvinyl Ether				10
Chloroform				10
Dichlorobromomethane [Bromodichloromethane]				10
1,1-Dichloroethane				10
1,2-Dichloroethane				10
1,1-Dichloroethylene				10
1,2-Dichloropropane				10
1,3-Dichloropropylene [1,3-Dichloropropene]				10
Ethylbenzene				10
Methyl Bromide				50
Methyl Chloride				50
Methylene Chloride				20
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane				10
Tetrachloroethylene				10
Toluene				10
1,1,1-Trichloroethane				10
1,1,2-Trichloroethane				10
Trichloroethylene				10
Vinyl Chloride				10

Table 4.0(2)C – Acid Compounds

Pollutant	AVG Effluent Conc. ()	MAX Effluent Conc. ()	No. of Samples	MAL ()
2-Chlorophenol				10
2,4-Dichlorophenol				10
2,4-Dimethylphenol				10
4,6-Dinitro-o-Cresol				50
2,4-Dinitrophenol				50
2-Nitrophenol				20
4-Nitrophenol				50
P-Chloro-m-Cresol				10
Pentalchlorophenol				5
Phenol				10
2,4,6-Trichlorophenol				10

Table 4.0(2)D – Base/Neutral Compounds

Pollutant	AVG Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	MAX Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	No. of Samples	MAL (µg/l)
Acenaphthene				10
Acenaphthylene				10
Anthracene				10
Benzidine				50
Benzo(a)Anthracene				5
Benzo(a)Pyrene				5
3,4-Benzofluoranthene				10
Benzo(ghi)Perylene				20
Benzo(k)Fluoranthene				5
Bis(2-Chloroethoxy)Methane				10
Bis(2-Chloroethyl)Ether				10
Bis(2-Chloroisopropyl)Ether				10
Bis(2-Ethylhexyl)Phthalate				10
4-Bromophenyl Phenyl Ether				10
Butyl benzyl Phthalate				10
2-Chloronaphthalene				10
4-Chlorophenyl phenyl ether				10

Chrysene				5
Dibenzo(a,h)Anthracene				5
1,2-(o)Dichlorobenzene				10
1,3-(m)Dichlorobenzene				10
1,4-(p)Dichlorobenzene				10
3,3-Dichlorobenzidine				5
Diethyl Phthalate				10
Dimethyl Phthalate				10
Di-n-Butyl Phthalate				10
2,4-Dinitrotoluene				10
2,6-Dinitrotoluene				10
Di-n-Octyl Phthalate				10
1,2-Diphenylhydrazine (as Azo-benzene)				20
Fluoranthene				10
Fluorene				10
Hexachlorobenzene				5
Hexachlorobutadiene				10
Hexachlorocyclo-pentadiene				10
Hexachloroethane				20
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene				5
Isophorone				10
Naphthalene				10
Nitrobenzene				10
N-Nitrosodimethylamine				50
N-Nitrosodi-n-Propylamine				20
N-Nitrosodiphenylamine				20
Phenanthrene				10
Pyrene				10
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene				10

Table 4.0(2)E - Pesticides

Pollutant	AVG Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	MAX Effluent Conc. (µg/l)	No. of Samples	MAL (µg/l)
Aldrin				0.01
alpha-BHC (Hexachlorocyclohexane)				0.05
beta-BHC				0.05

(Hexachlorocyclohexane)				
gamma-BHC (Hexachlorocyclohexane)				0.05
delta-BHC (Hexachlorocyclohexane)				0.05
Chlordane				0.2
4,4-DDT				0.02
4,4-DDE				0.1
4,4,-DDD				0.1
Dieldrin				0.02
Endosulfan I (alpha)				0.01
Endosulfan II (beta)				0.02
Endosulfan Sulfate				0.1
Endrin				0.02
Endrin Aldehyde				0.1
Heptachlor				0.01
Heptachlor Epoxide				0.01
PCB-1242				0.2
PCB-1254				0.2
PCB-1221				0.2
PCB-1232				0.2
PCB-1248				0.2
PCB-1260				0.2
PCB-1016				0.2
Toxaphene				0.3

TABLE 4.0(2)F (DIOXINS/FURAN COMPOUNDS)

(Instructions page 91)

Complete Table 4.0(2)F as directed. (Instructions, Pages 91-93)

- a. Are any of the following compounds used by a contributing industrial user or significant industrial user that is part of the collection system for the facility that you have reason to believe are present in the influent to the WWTP?

Yes No

If **yes**, indicate with a check mark which compound(s) are potentially sent to the facility and provide a brief description of the conditions of its/their presence at the facility.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2,4,5-trichlorophenoxy acetic acid | (2,4,5-T) | CASRN 93-76-5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2-(2,4,5-trichlorophenoxy) propanoic acid | (Silvex, 2,4,5-TP) | CASRN 93-72-1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2-(2,4,5-trichlorophenoxy) ethyl 2,2-dichloropropionate | (Erbon) | CASRN 136-25-4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 0,0-dimethyl O-(2,4,5-trichlorophenyl) phosphorothioate | (Ronnel) | CASRN 299-84-3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2,4,5-trichlorophenol | (TCP) | CASRN 95-95-4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | hexachlorophene | (HCP) | CASRN 70-30-4 |

Description:

- b. Do you know or have any reason to believe that 2,3,7,8 Tetrachlorodibenzo-P-Dioxin (TCDD) or any congeners of TCDD may be present in your effluent?

Yes No

If **yes**, provide a brief description of the conditions for its presence.

- c. If you responded **yes** to either item a or b, complete Table 12 as instructed.

Table 12 for Outfall No. _____

Samples are (check one): Composites Grabs

Compound	Toxic Equivalency Factors	Wastewater Concentration (ppq)	Wastewater Equivalents (ppq)	Sludge Concentration (ppt)	Sludge Equivalents (ppt)	MAL (ppq)
2,3,7,8 TCDD	1					10
1,2,3,7,8 PeCDD	0.5					50
2,3,7,8 HxCDDs	0.1					50
1,2,3,4,6,7,8 HpCDD	0.01					50
2,3,7,8 TCDF	0.1					10
1,2,3,7,8 PeCDF	0.05					50
2,3,4,7,8 PeCDF	0.5					50
2,3,7,8 HxCDFs	0.1					50
2,3,4,7,8 HpCDFs	0.01					50
OCDD	0.0003					100
OCDF	0.0003					100
PCB 77	0.0001					0.5
PCB 81	0.0003					0.5
PCB 126	0.1					0.5
PCB 169	0.03					0.5
Total						

FACT SHEET AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY DECISION

For draft Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0015264001, TX0135461, to discharge to water in the state.

Issuing Office: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Applicant: Nash FM 529, LLC
10235 West Little York Road, Suite 300
Houston, Texas 77040

Prepared By: Larry Diamond
Municipal Permits Team
Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148)
Water Quality Division
(512) 239-0037

Date: September 17, 2014, May 28, 2015

Permit Action: New Permit

1. 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 **May 1, 2018**, according to 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 305.71, Basin Permitting.

2. APPLICANT ACTIVITY

The applicant has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a new permit to authorize the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 0.25 million gallons per day (MGD) in the Interim I phase, a daily average flow not to exceed 0.50 MGD in the Interim II phase, and an annual average flow not to exceed 1.0 MGD in the Final phase. The proposed wastewater treatment facility will serve the Harris County Municipal Utility District (MUD) No. 171 service area.

3. FACILITY AND DISCHARGE LOCATION

The plant site will be located approximately 2,000 feet southeast from the intersection of Beckendorff Road and Porter Road in Harris County, Texas 77493.

The treated effluent will be discharged to a man-made ditch; thence to South Mayde Creek; thence to Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal in Segment No. 1014 of the San Jacinto River Basin. The unclassified receiving water use is minimal aquatic life use for both the man-made ditch and South Mayde Creek. The designated uses for Segment No. 1014 are limited aquatic life use and primary contact recreation.

4. TREATMENT PROCESS DESCRIPTION AND SEWAGE SLUDGE DISPOSAL

The Harris County MUD No. 171 Wastewater Treatment Facility will be an activated sludge process plant operated in the extended aeration single-stage nitrification mode. Treatment units in the Interim I phase will include a bar screen, two aeration basins, a final clarifier, two aerobic digesters, and two chlorine contact chambers. In the Interim II phase treatment units will include a bar screen, four aeration basins, two final clarifiers, three aerobic digesters, and three chlorine contact chambers. Treatment units in the Final phase will include a bar screen, eight aeration basins, two clarifiers, five aerobic digester, five chlorine contact basins, and a dechlorination chamber. The facility has not been constructed.

The draft permit authorizes the disposal of sludge at a TCEQ authorized land application site or co-disposal landfill.

5. SUMMARY OF SELF-REPORTED EFFLUENT ANALYSES

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

6. DRAFT PERMIT CONDITIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The effluent limitations and monitoring requirements for those parameters that are limited in the draft permit are as follows:

A. INTERIM I PHASE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The daily average flow of effluent shall not exceed 0.25 MGD, nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 694 gallons per minute (gpm).

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>30-Day Average</u>		<u>7-Day</u>	<u>Daily</u>
	<u>mg/l</u>	<u>lbs/day</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
	<u>mg/l</u>		<u>mg/l</u>	<u>mg/l</u>
CBOD ₅	10	21	15	25
TSS	15	31	25	40
NH ₃ -N	2	4.2	5	10
DO (minimum)	6.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>E. coli</i> , CFU or MPN/100 ml	63	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

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.

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Monitoring Requirement</u>
Flow, MGD	Continuous
CBOD ₅	One/week
TSS	One/week
NH ₃ -N	One/week
DO	One/week
<i>E. coli</i>	One/month

B. INTERIM II PHASE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The daily average flow of effluent shall not exceed 0.50 MGD, nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 1,389 gpm.

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>30-Day Average</u>		<u>7-Day</u>	<u>Daily</u>
	<u>mg/l</u>	<u>lbs/day</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
	<u>mg/l</u>		<u>mg/l</u>	<u>mg/l</u>
CBOD ₅	10	42	15	25
TSS	15	63	25	40
NH ₃ -N	2	8.3	5	10
DO (minimum)	6.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>E. coli</i> , CFU or MPN/100 ml	63	N/A	N/A	200

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

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.

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Monitoring Requirement</u>
Flow, MGD	Continuous
CBOD ₅	One/week
TSS	One/week
NH ₃ -N	One/week
DO	One/week
<i>E. coli</i>	One/month

C. FINAL PHASE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The annual average flow of effluent shall not exceed 1.0 MGD, nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 2,778 gpm.

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>30-Day Average</u>		<u>7-Day</u>	<u>Daily</u>
	<u>mg/l</u>	<u>lbs/day</u>	<u>Average</u> <u>mg/l</u>	<u>Maximum</u> <u>mg/l</u>
CBOD ₅	10	83	15	25
TSS	15	125	25	40
NH ₃ -N	2	17	5	10
DO (minimum)	6.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>E. coli</i> , CFU or MPN/100 ml	63	N/A	N/A	200

The pH shall not be less than 6.0 standard units nor greater than 9.0 standard units and shall be monitored once per week by grab sample. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts and no discharge of visible oil.

The effluent shall contain a chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l after a detention time of at least 20 minutes (based on peak flow) and shall be monitored daily by grab sample. The permittee shall dechlorinate the chlorinated effluent to less than 0.1 mg/l chlorine residual and shall monitor chlorine residual daily by grab sample after the dechlorination process. An equivalent method of disinfection may be substituted only with prior approval of the Executive Director.

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Monitoring Requirement</u>
Flow, MGD	Continuous
CBOD ₅	Two/week
TSS	Two/week
NH ₃ -N	Two/week
DO	Two/week
<i>E. coli</i>	Two/month

D. SEWAGE SLUDGE REQUIREMENTS

The draft permit includes Sludge Provisions according to the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 312, Sludge Use, Disposal and Transportation. The draft permit authorizes the disposal of sludge at a TCEQ authorized land application site or co-disposal landfill.

E. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY (BIOMONITORING) REQUIREMENTS

- (1) The draft permit includes 48-hour acute freshwater biomonitoring requirements as follows. The permit requires five dilutions in addition to the control (0% effluent) to be used in the toxicity tests. These additional effluent concentrations shall be 32%, 42%, 56%, 75%, and 100%. The low-flow effluent concentration (critical dilution) is defined as 100% effluent.
 - (a) Acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity tests using the water flea (*Daphnia pulex*) or (*Ceriodaphnia dubia*). The frequency of the testing is once per quarter for at least the first year of testing, after which the permittee may apply for a testing frequency reduction.

- (b) Acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using the fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*). The frequency of the testing is once per quarter for at least the first year of testing, after which the permittee may apply for a testing frequency reduction.
- (2) The draft permit includes the following minimum 24-hour acute freshwater biomonitoring requirements at a frequency of once per six months:
 - (a) Acute 24-hour static toxicity test using the water flea (*Daphnia pulex* or *Ceriodaphnia dubia*).
 - (b) Acute 24-hour static toxicity test using the fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*).

F. BUFFER ZONE REQUIREMENTS

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, and right of way into Beckendorff Road the permittee shall comply with the requirements of 30 TAC § 309.13(e). (See Attachment A).

G. SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM APPLICATION

The applicant requested effluent limits of 10 mg/l CBOD₅, 15 mg/l TSS, and 3 mg/l NH₃-N. However the permitted effluent limits in all three proposed phases are 10 mg/l CBOD₅, 15 mg/l TSS, and 2 mg/l NH₃-N.

8. DRAFT PERMIT RATIONALE

A. TECHNOLOGY-BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS/CONDITIONS

Regulations promulgated in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) require that technology-based limitations be placed in wastewater discharge permits based on effluent limitations guidelines, where applicable, and/or on best professional judgment (BPJ) in the absence of guidelines.

Effluent limitations for maximum and minimum pH are in accordance with 40 CFR § 133.102(c) and 30 TAC § 309.1(b).

B. WATER QUALITY SUMMARY AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

(1) WATER QUALITY SUMMARY

The treated effluent will be discharged to a man-made ditch; thence to South Mayde Creek; thence to Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal in Segment No. 1014 of the San Jacinto River Basin. The unclassified receiving water use is minimal aquatic life use for both the man-made ditch and South Mayde Creek. The designated uses for Segment No. 1014 are limited aquatic life use and primary contact recreation. The effluent limitations in the draft

permit will maintain and protect the existing instream uses. In accordance with 30 TAC §307.5 and the TCEQ implementation procedures (June 2010) for the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, an antidegradation review of the receiving waters was performed. A Tier 1 antidegradation review has preliminarily determined that existing water quality uses will not be impaired by this permit action. Numerical and narrative criteria to protect existing uses will be maintained. This review has preliminarily determined that no water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life uses are present within the stream reach assessed; therefore, no Tier 2 degradation determination is required. No significant degradation of water quality is expected in downstream water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life use, and existing uses will be maintained and protected. The preliminary determination can be reexamined and may be modified if new information is received.

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 TPDES (September 14, 1998; October 21, 1998 update). To make this determination for TPDES permits, TCEQ and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (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. 1014 is not currently listed on the State's inventory of impaired and threatened waters, the 2012 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list.

Segment No. 1014 is included in the agency's document *Fourteen Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) for Nickel in the Houston Ship Channel System* (TMDL Project No.1). The discharge was screened using the methods outlined in the documents *Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards* (IPs), TCEQ, June 2010 and *Implementation Plan for Dissolved Nickel in the Houston Ship Channel* (TMDL Implementation Plan), TCEQ, July 2001. The discharge authorized in the draft permit has been added to the inventory of permittee loads and the TMDL model was run to ensure nickel criteria are maintained. The TMDL indicates that the water quality criteria for dissolved nickel are generally being met in the Houston Ship Channel and a specific limit for nickel is not recommended for this facility by the Water Quality Assessment Team.

TMDL Project No. 22 *Eighteen Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria in Buffalo and Whiteoak Bayous and Tributaries Segments 1013, 1013A, 1013C, 1014, 1014A, 1014B, 1014E, 1014H, 1014K, 1014L, 1014M, 1014N,*

1014O, 1017, 1017A, 1017B, 1017D, and 1017E has been approved for this segment and was adapted by the TCEQ on April 8, 2009. The EPA approved the TMDL on June 11, 2009. The TMDL addresses elevated levels of bacteria in multiple segments and assessment units of these bayous and their tributaries. The waste load allocation (WLA) for wastewater treatment facilities was established as the permitted flow for each facility multiplied by one-half the geometric mean criterion for bacteria. Future growth from existing or new permitted sources is not limited by these TMDLs as long as the sources do not exceed the limits of one-half the bacteria geometric mean criterion for *E. coli*. To ensure that effluent limitations for this discharge are consistent with the WLAs provided in the TMDL, a concentration based effluent limitation for *E. coli* of 63 colony forming units (CFU) or most probable number (MPN) per 100 ml has been included in the draft permit.

The effluent limitations and conditions in the draft permit comply with the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (TSWQS), 30 TAC §§ 307.1 - 307.10, effective August 17, 2000.

(2) CONVENTIONAL PARAMETERS

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 Surface Water Quality Standards and the State of Texas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP).

The effluent limits recommended above have been reviewed for consistency with the WQMP. The proposed limits are not contained in the approved WQMP. However, these limits will be included in the next WQMP update. A Waste Load Evaluation for dissolved oxygen has been prepared for Segment No. 1014.

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: Effluent Limitations.

(3) COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

The facility is not located in the Coastal Management Program boundary.

C. WATER QUALITY-BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS/CONDITIONS

(1) GENERAL COMMENTS

The Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (30 TAC Chapter 307) state that "surface waters will not be toxic to man, or to terrestrial or aquatic life." The methodology outlined in the IPs is designed to ensure compliance with 30 TAC Chapter 307. Specifically, the methodology is designed to ensure that no source will be allowed to discharge any

wastewater that: (1) results in instream aquatic toxicity; (2) causes a violation of an applicable narrative or numerical state water quality standard; (3) results in the endangerment of a drinking water supply; or (4) results in aquatic bioaccumulation that threatens human health.

(2) AQUATIC LIFE CRITERIA

(a) SCREENING

Water quality-based effluent limitations are calculated from freshwater aquatic life criteria found in Table 1 of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (30 TAC Chapter 307).

There is no mixing zone or zone of initial dilution (ZID) for this discharge directly to an intermittent stream; acute freshwater criteria apply at the end of pipe. Chronic freshwater criteria do not apply to discharges to intermittent streams where there is no perennial waterbody within three miles downstream from the point of discharge. The following critical effluent percentage is being used:

Acute Effluent %: 100%

WLAs are calculated using the above estimated effluent percentages, criteria outlined in the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, and partitioning coefficients for metals (when appropriate and designated in the implementation procedures). The WLA is the end-of-pipe effluent concentration that can be discharged, when after mixing in the receiving stream, instream numerical criteria will not be exceeded. From the WLA, a long-term average (LTA) is calculated using a log normal probability distribution, a given coefficient of variation (0.6), and a 90th percentile confidence level. The LTA is the long term average effluent concentration for which the WLA will never be exceeded using a selected percentile confidence level. The LTA is used to calculate a daily average and daily maximum effluent limitation for the protection of aquatic life using the same statistical considerations with the 99th percentile confidence level and a standard number of monthly effluent samples collected (12). Assumptions used in deriving the effluent limitations include segment values for hardness, chlorides, pH and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) according to the segment-specific values contained in the IPs. The segment values are 40 mg/l calcium carbonate for hardness, 64 mg/l chlorides, 7.1 standard units for pH, and 17 mg/l for TSS. For additional details on the calculation of water quality-based effluent limitations, refer to the IPs.

TCEQ practice for determining significant potential is to compare the reported analytical data against percentages of the calculated daily average water quality-based effluent limitation. Permit limitations are required when analytical data reported in the application exceeds 85% of the calculated daily average water quality-based effluent limitation. Monitoring and reporting is required when analytical data reported in the application exceeds 70% of the calculated daily average water quality-

based effluent limitation.

(b) PERMIT ACTION

No analytical data is available for screening against water quality-based effluent limitations since the facility is not in operation.

(3) AQUATIC ORGANISM BIOACCUMULATION CRITERIA

(a) SCREENING

The discharge point is located at a distance greater than three miles upstream of perennial waters. Human health screening is not applicable because of the distance between the discharge point and perennial waters that support fisheries.

(b) PERMIT ACTION

None.

(4) DRINKING WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION

(a) SCREENING

Water Quality Segment No. 1014, which receives the discharge from this facility, is not designated as a public water supply. Screening reported analytical data of the effluent against water quality-based effluent limitations calculated for the protection of a drinking water supply is not applicable.

(b) PERMIT ACTION

None.

(5) WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY (BIOMONITORING) CRITERIA

(a) SCREENING

TCEQ has determined that there may be pollutants present in the effluent that may have the potential to cause toxic conditions in the receiving stream. Whole effluent biomonitoring is the most direct measure of potential toxicity that incorporates the effects of synergism of effluent components and receiving stream water quality characteristics. Biomonitoring of the effluent is, therefore, required as a condition of this permit to assess potential toxicity.

The facility has not been constructed, and will initially be operating in an interim phase that is below 1.0 MGD. Therefore, there is no WET testing history to review. WET testing will be initiated once the 1.0 MGD facility begins discharging.

A reasonable potential (RP) determination was performed in accordance with 40 CFR §122.44(d)(1)(ii) to determine whether the discharge will reasonably be expected to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a state water quality standard or criterion within that standard. Each test species is evaluated separately. The RP determination is based on representative data from the previous five years of 48-hour acute WET testing. The table below identifies the number of test failures required to necessitate that a WET limit be placed in the permit or the consideration of additional BPJ factors, such as the duration and magnitude of the failures.

WET Reasonable Potential Determination Thresholds
More than 3 failures in the past five years = WET limit
3 failures with 2 or 3 occurring in the past 3 years = WET limit
1 to 3 failures in the past five years but 1 or less in last 3 years = BPJ
0 failures = No limit

With zero failures by both test species, a determination of no RP was made. With no RP, WET limits are not required and both test species are eligible for the testing frequency reduction.

(b) PERMIT ACTION

The test species are appropriate to measure the toxicity of the effluent consistent with the requirements of the State water quality standards. The biomonitoring frequency has been established to reflect the likelihood of ambient toxicity and to provide data representative of the toxic potential of the facility's discharge. This permit may be reopened to require effluent limits, additional testing, and/or other appropriate actions to address toxicity if biomonitoring data show actual or potential ambient toxicity to be the result of the permittee's discharge to the receiving stream or water body.

No analytical data is available since the facility is not in operation.

(6) WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY CRITERIA (24 - HOUR ACUTE)

(a) SCREENING

The facility has not been constructed, and will initially be operating in an interim phase that is below 1.0 MGD. Therefore, there is no WET testing history to review. WET testing will be initiated once the 1.0 MGD facility begins discharging.

(b) PERMIT ACTION

The draft permit includes 24-hour 100% acute biomonitoring tests for the life of the permit.

9. WATER QUALITY VARIANCE REQUESTS

No variance requests have been received.

10. 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, the Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision will be mailed to the same people and published in the same newspaper as the prior notice. This notice sets a deadline for making public comments. The applicant must place a copy of the Executive Director's preliminary decision and draft permit in the public place with the application. This notice sets a deadline for public comment.

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

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

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

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

For additional information about this application contact Larry Diamond at (512) 239-0037.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

The following items were considered in developing the draft permit:

A. APPLICATION

Application received on May 30, 2014 and additional information received on August 1, 2014.

B. MEMORANDA

Interoffice memoranda from the Water Quality Assessment Section of the TCEQ Water Quality Division.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

Federal Clean Water Act, § 402; Texas Water Code § 26.027; 30 TAC Chapters 305, 309, 312, 319, 30; Commission policies; and EPA guidelines.

Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, 30 TAC §§ 307.1 - 307.10.

Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, June 2010, as approved by EPA, and the IP, January 2003, for portions of the 2010 IP not approved by EPA.

Texas 2012 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, February 21, 2013; approved by the EPA on May 9, 2013.

TNRCC Guidance Document for Establishing Monitoring Frequencies for Domestic and Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permits, Document No. 98-001.000-OWR-WQ, May 1998.

The TMDLs and implementation plans for the segment, including: *Fourteen Total Maximum Daily Loads for Nickel in the Houston Ship Channel System* (TMDL Project No. 1) and *Eighteen Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria in Buffalo and Whiteoak Bayous and Tributaries* (TMDL Project No. 22).

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Compliance History Report

PUBLISHED Compliance History Report for CN604588350, RN107309437, Rating Year 2014 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 1, 2009, through August 31, 2014.

Customer, Respondent, or Owner/Operator: CN604588350, NASH FM 529, LLC **Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED **Rating:** -----

Regulated Entity: RN107309437, NASH FM 529 WWTP **Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED **Rating:** -----

Complexity Points: 4 **Repeat Violator:** NO

CH Group: 14 - Other

Location: LOCATED APPROX 2000 FT SE FROM THE INTERSECTION OF BECKENDORFF RD AND PORTER RD HARRIS, TX, HARRIS COUNTY

TCEQ Region: REGION 12 - HOUSTON

ID Number(s):
WASTEWATER PERMIT WQ0015264001 **WASTEWATER EPA ID** TX0135461

Compliance History Period: September 01, 2009 to August 31, 2014 **Rating Year:** 2014 **Rating Date:** 09/01/2014

Date Compliance History Report Prepared: May 28, 2015

Agency Decision Requiring Compliance History: Permit - Issuance, renewal, amendment, modification, denial, suspension, or revocation of a permit.

Component Period Selected: May 30, 2009 to May 28, 2015

TCEQ Staff Member to Contact for Additional Information Regarding This Compliance History.
Name: Larry Diamond **Phone:** (512) 239-0037

Site and Owner/Operator History:

- 1) Has the site been in existence and/or operation for the full five year compliance period? NO
- 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