

**Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 60709**

**Aqua Texas, Inc.**

**RN102344116**

**Docket No. 2021-0595-MWD-E**

**Order Type:**

1660 Agreed Order

**Findings Order Justification:**

N/A

**Media:**

MWD

**Small Business:**

No

**Location(s) Where Violation(s) Occurred:**

Old Egypt Regional Business Center, 32515 Farm-to-Market Road 2978, Magnolia,  
Montgomery County

**Type of Operation:**

Wastewater treatment facility

**Other Significant Matters:**

Additional Pending Enforcement Actions: No

Past-Due Penalties: No

Other: N/A

Interested Third-Parties: None

**Texas Register Publication Date:** December 13, 2024

**Comments Received:** No

***Penalty Information***

**Total Penalty Assessed:** \$27,625

**Amount Deferred for Expedited Settlement:** \$5,525

**Total Paid to General Revenue:** \$22,100

**Total Due to General Revenue:** \$0

Payment Plan: N/A

**Compliance History Classifications:**

Person/CN - Satisfactory

Site/RN - Satisfactory

**Major Source:** No

**Statutory Limit Adjustment:** N/A

**Applicable Penalty Policy:** January 2021

***Investigation Information***

**Complaint Date(s):** N/A

**Complaint Information:** N/A

**Date(s) of Investigation:** March 18, 2021

**Date(s) of NOE(s):** April 26, 2021

**Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 60709**

**Aqua Texas, Inc.**

**RN102344116**

**Docket No. 2021-0595-MWD-E**

***Violation Information***

Failed to comply with permitted effluent limitations for ammonia nitrogen, *Escherichia coli*, total suspended solids, and carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (5-day) [30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 305.125(1), TEX. WATER CODE § 26.121(a)(1), and Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("TPDES") Permit No. WQ0014141001, Interim Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements No. 1].

***Corrective Actions/Technical Requirements***

**Corrective Action(s) Completed:**

N/A

**Technical Requirements:**

The Order will require the Respondent to, within 180 days, submit written certification of compliance with the permitted effluent limitations of TPDES Permit No. WQ0014141001, including specific corrective actions that were implemented at the Facility to achieve compliance and copies of the most current self-reported discharge monitoring reports, demonstrating at least three consecutive months of compliance with all permitted effluent limitations.

***Contact Information***

**TCEQ Attorney:** N/A

**TCEQ Enforcement Coordinator:** Monica Larina, Enforcement Division, Enforcement Team 1, MC R-14, (361) 881-6965; Michael Parrish, Enforcement Division, MC 219, (512) 239-2548

**Respondent:** Craig Blanchette, President, Aqua Texas, Inc., 1106 Clayton Lane, Suite 400W, Austin, Texas 78723

**Respondent's Attorney:** N/A



# Penalty Calculation Worksheet (PCW)

Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)

PCW Revision February 11, 2021

<b>DATES</b>	<b>Assigned</b>	3-May-2021	<b>Screening</b>	3-May-2021	<b>EPA Due</b>	
	<b>PCW</b>	4-May-2021				

## RESPONDENT/FACILITY INFORMATION

<b>Respondent</b>	Aqua Texas, Inc.
<b>Reg. Ent. Ref. No.</b>	RN102344116
<b>Facility/Site Region</b>	12-Houston
<b>Major/Minor Source</b>	Minor

## CASE INFORMATION

<b>Enf./Case ID No.</b>	60709	<b>No. of Violations</b>	2
<b>Docket No.</b>	2021-0595-MWD-E	<b>Order Type</b>	1660
<b>Media Program(s)</b>	Water Quality	<b>Government/Non-Profit</b>	No
<b>Multi-Media</b>		<b>Enf. Coordinator</b>	Monica Larina
		<b>EC's Team</b>	Enforcement Team 1
<b>Admin. Penalty \$ Limit Minimum</b>	\$0	<b>Maximum</b>	\$25,000

## Penalty Calculation Section

<b>TOTAL BASE PENALTY (Sum of violation base penalties)</b>	<b>Subtotal 1</b>	\$21,250
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## ADJUSTMENTS (+/-) TO SUBTOTAL 1

Subtotals 2-7 are obtained by multiplying the Total Base Penalty (Subtotal 1) by the indicated percentage.

<b>Compliance History</b>	30.0%	<b>Adjustment</b>	<b>Subtotals 2, 3, &amp; 7</b>	\$6,375
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Notes Enhancement for six month of self-reported effluent violations.

<b>Culpability</b>	No	0.0%	<b>Enhancement</b>	<b>Subtotal 4</b>	\$0
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Notes The Respondent does not meet the culpability criteria.

<b>Good Faith Effort to Comply Total Adjustments</b>	<b>Subtotal 5</b>	\$0
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<b>Economic Benefit</b>	0.0%	<b>Enhancement*</b>	<b>Subtotal 6</b>	\$0
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Total EB Amounts \$9,047  
Estimated Cost of Compliance \$25,000  
\*Capped at the Total EB \$ Amount

<b>SUM OF SUBTOTALS 1-7</b>	<b>Final Subtotal</b>	\$27,625
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<b>OTHER FACTORS AS JUSTICE MAY REQUIRE</b>	0.0%	<b>Adjustment</b>	\$0
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Reduces or enhances the Final Subtotal by the indicated percentage.

Notes

<b>Final Penalty Amount</b>	\$27,625
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<b>STATUTORY LIMIT ADJUSTMENT</b>	<b>Final Assessed Penalty</b>	\$27,625
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<b>DEFERRAL</b>	20.0%	<b>Reduction</b>	<b>Adjustment</b>	-\$5,525
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Reduces the Final Assessed Penalty by the indicated percentage.

Notes

Deferral offered for expedited settlement.

<b>PAYABLE PENALTY</b>	\$22,100
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<b>Screening Date</b>	3-May-2021	<b>Docket No.</b>	2021-0595-MWD-E	<b>PCW</b>
<b>Respondent</b>	Aqua Texas, Inc.			
<b>Case ID No.</b>	60709			
<b>Reg. Ent. Reference No.</b>	RN102344116			
<b>Media</b>	Water Quality			
<b>Enf. Coordinator</b>	Monica Larina			

Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)

PCW Revision February 11, 2021

## Compliance History Worksheet

### >> Compliance History Site Enhancement (Subtotal 2)

Component	Number of...	Number	Adjust.
NOVs	Written notices of violation ("NOVs") with same or similar violations as those in the current enforcement action ( <i>number of NOVs meeting criteria</i> )	6	30%
	Other written NOVs	0	0%
Orders	Any agreed final enforcement orders containing a denial of liability ( <i>number of orders meeting criteria</i> )	0	0%
	Any adjudicated final enforcement orders, agreed final enforcement orders without a denial of liability, or default orders of this state or the federal government, or any final prohibitory emergency orders issued by the commission	0	0%
Judgments and Consent Decrees	Any non-adjudicated final court judgments or consent decrees containing a denial of liability of this state or the federal government ( <i>number of judgments or consent decrees meeting criteria</i> )	0	0%
	Any adjudicated final court judgments and default judgments, or non-adjudicated final court judgments or consent decrees without a denial of liability, of this state or the federal government	0	0%
Convictions	Any criminal convictions of this state or the federal government ( <i>number of counts</i> )	0	0%
Emissions	Chronic excessive emissions events ( <i>number of events</i> )	0	0%
Audits	Letters notifying the executive director of an intended audit conducted under the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act, 74th Legislature, 1995 ( <i>number of audits for which notices were submitted</i> )	0	0%
	Disclosures of violations under the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act, 74th Legislature, 1995 ( <i>number of audits for which violations were disclosed</i> )	0	0%
Other	Environmental management systems in place for one year or more	No	0%
	Voluntary on-site compliance assessments conducted by the executive director under a special assistance program	No	0%
	Participation in a voluntary pollution reduction program	No	0%
	Early compliance with, or offer of a product that meets future state or federal government environmental requirements	No	0%

**Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 2)** 30%

### >> Repeat Violator (Subtotal 3)

No

**Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 3)** 0%

### >> Compliance History Person Classification (Subtotal 7)

Satisfactory Performer

**Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 7)** 0%

### >> Compliance History Summary

**Compliance History Notes**

Enhancement for six month of self-reported effluent violations.

**Total Compliance History Adjustment Percentage (Subtotals 2, 3, & 7)** 30%

### >> Final Compliance History Adjustment

**Final Adjustment Percentage \*capped at 100%** 30%

<b>Screening Date</b> 3-May-2021 <b>Respondent</b> Aqua Texas, Inc. <b>Case ID No.</b> 60709 <b>Reg. Ent. Reference No.</b> RN102344116 <b>Media</b> Water Quality <b>Enf. Coordinator</b> Monica Larina <b>Violation Number</b> 1	<b>Docket No.</b> 2021-0595-MWD-E  <b>Rule Cite(s)</b> 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 305.125(1), Tex. Water Code § 26.121(a)(1), and Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("TPDES") Permit No. WQ0014141001, Interim Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements No. 1  <b>Violation Description</b> Failed to comply with permitted effluent limitations, as shown in the attached effluent violation table.	<b>PCW</b> <i>Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)</i> <i>PCW Revision February 11, 2021</i>
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**Base Penalty** \$25,000

**>> Environmental, Property and Human Health Matrix**

OR

	Release	Harm		
		Major	Moderate	Minor
Actual				x
Potential				

**Percent** 15.0%

**>> Programmatic Matrix**

Matrix Notes

	Falsification	Major	Moderate	Minor

**Percent** 0.0%

A simplified model was used to evaluate carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand and ammonia nitrogen to determine whether the discharged amounts of pollutants exceeded protective levels. *Escherichia coli* and total suspended solids were also considered. Human health or the environment has been exposed to insignificant amounts of pollutants that do not exceed levels that are protective of human health or environmental receptors as a result of the violation.

**Adjustment** \$21,250

\$3,750

**Violation Events**

Number of Violation Events 4

215 Number of violation days

daily  
 weekly  
 monthly  
 quarterly  
 semiannual  
 annual  
 single event

x

**Violation Base Penalty** \$15,000

Four quarterly events are recommended for the quarters containing the months of March, April, June, July, August, October, and December 2020.

**Good Faith Efforts to Comply**

**0.0%**  
 Before NOE/NOV    NOE/NOV to EDPRP/Settlement Offer

**Reduction** \$0

Extraordinary  
 Ordinary  
 N/A

x

**Violation Subtotal** \$15,000

The Respondent does not meet the good faith criteria for this violation.

**Economic Benefit (EB) for this violation**

**Estimated EB Amount** \$9,047

**Statutory Limit Test**

**Violation Final Penalty Total** \$19,500

**This violation Final Assessed Penalty (adjusted for limits)** \$19,500

# Economic Benefit Worksheet

**Respondent** Aqua Texas, Inc.  
**Case ID No.** 60709  
**Reg. Ent. Reference No.** RN102344116  
**Media** Water Quality  
**Violation No.** 1

Percent Interest	Years of Depreciation
5.0	15

Item Description	Item Cost	Date Required	Final Date	Yrs	Interest Saved	Costs Saved	EB Amount
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## Delayed Costs

Equipment				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Buildings				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Engineering/Construction	\$25,000	31-Mar-2020	31-May-2025	5.17	\$431	\$8,616	\$9,047
Land				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Record Keeping System				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Training/Sampling				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Remediation/Disposal				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Permit Costs				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0

Notes for DELAYED costs

Estimated Engineering/Construction costs for the expansion or upgrade of the Facility and to achieve compliance with permitted effluent limitations. The date required is the end date of the first month of noncompliance, and the final date is the estimated date of compliance.

## Avoided Costs

### ANNUALIZE avoided costs before entering item (except for one-time avoided costs)

Disposal				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Inspection/Reporting/Sampling				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies/Equipment				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Financial Assurance				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
ONE-TIME avoided costs				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0

Notes for AVOIDED costs

Approx. Cost of Compliance

\$25,000

**TOTAL**

\$9,047

<b>Screening Date</b> 3-May-2021 <b>Respondent</b> Aqua Texas, Inc. <b>Case ID No.</b> 60709 <b>Reg. Ent. Reference No.</b> RN102344116 <b>Media</b> Water Quality <b>Enf. Coordinator</b> Monica Larina <b>Violation Number</b> 2	<b>Docket No.</b> 2021-0595-MWD-E	<b>PCW</b> <i>Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)</i> <i>PCW Revision February 11, 2021</i>																	
<b>Rule Cite(s)</b> 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 305.125(1), Tex. Water Code § 26.121(a)(1), and TPDES Permit No. WQ0014141001, Interim Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements No. 1																			
<b>Violation Description</b> Failed to comply with permitted effluent limitations, as shown in the attached effluent violation table.																			
<b>Base Penalty</b>		\$25,000																	
<b>&gt;&gt; Environmental, Property and Human Health Matrix</b>																			
<b>OR</b>	<b>Release</b>	<b>Harm</b>																	
		Major    Moderate    Minor																	
	Actual Potential	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 33%; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">x</td><td style="width: 33%;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="height: 20px;"></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		x							<b>Percent</b> 25.0%								
	x																		
<b>&gt;&gt; Programmatic Matrix</b>																			
	Falsification	Major	Moderate	Minor															
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 25%; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%;"></td><td style="width: 25%;"></td></tr> </table>								<b>Percent</b> 0.0%										
Matrix Notes	Human health or the environment has been exposed to significant amounts of pollutants which do not exceed levels that are protective of human health or environmental receptors as a result of the violation.																		
<b>Adjustment</b>					\$18,750														
					\$6,250														
<b>Violation Events</b>																			
Number of Violation Events		1	30		Number of violation days														
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 30px;">daily</td><td style="width: 100px; height: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td>weekly</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>monthly</td><td style="text-align: center;">x</td></tr> <tr><td>quarterly</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>semiannual</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>annual</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>single event</td><td></td></tr> </table>	daily		weekly		monthly	x	quarterly		semiannual		annual		single event					
daily																			
weekly																			
monthly	x																		
quarterly																			
semiannual																			
annual																			
single event																			
<b>Violation Base Penalty</b>					\$6,250														
One monthly event is recommended for September 2020.																			
<b>Good Faith Efforts to Comply</b>			0.0%	Reduction \$0															
			Before NOE/NOV    NOE/NOV to EDPRP/Settlement Offer																
Extraordinary			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 50%;"></td></tr> </table>																
Ordinary			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 50%;"></td></tr> </table>																
N/A			x																
Notes			The Respondent does not meet the good faith criteria for this violation.																
<b>Violation Subtotal</b>					\$6,250														
<b>Economic Benefit (EB) for this violation</b>			<b>Statutory Limit Test</b>																
<b>Estimated EB Amount</b>			\$0	<b>Violation Final Penalty Total</b> \$8,125															
<b>This violation Final Assessed Penalty (adjusted for limits)</b>					\$8,125														

# Economic Benefit Worksheet

**Respondent** Aqua Texas, Inc.  
**Case ID No.** 60709  
**Reg. Ent. Reference No.** RN102344116  
**Media** Water Quality  
**Violation No.** 2

Percent Interest	Years of Depreciation
5.0	15

Item Description	Item Cost	Date Required	Final Date	Yrs	Interest Saved	Costs Saved	EB Amount
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## Delayed Costs

Equipment				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Buildings				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Engineering/Construction				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Land				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Record Keeping System				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Training/Sampling				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Remediation/Disposal				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Permit Costs				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Notes for DELAYED costs	See Economic Benefit Worksheet for Violation No. 1.						

## Avoided Costs

### ANNUALIZE avoided costs before entering item (except for one-time avoided costs)

Disposal				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Inspection/Reporting/Sampling				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies/Equipment				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Financial Assurance				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
ONE-TIME avoided costs				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Notes for AVOIDED costs							

Approx. Cost of Compliance	\$0	<b>TOTAL</b>	\$0
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Aqua Texas, Inc.  
 TPDES Permit No. WQ0014141001  
 Docket No. 2021-0595-MWD-E  
 Case No. 60709

Effluent Violation Table					
Monitoring Period	<i>Escherichia coli</i>		Ammonia Nitrogen	Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	Total Suspended Solids
	Daily Avg. Conc. Limit = 63 MPN/100 ml	Single Grab Conc. Limit = 200 MPN/100 ml	Daily Avg. Conc. Limit = 3 mg/L	Daily Avg. Conc. Limit = 10 mg/L	Daily Avg. Conc. Limit = 15 mg/L
March 2020	c	517.2	c	c	c
April 2020	c	387	c	c	c
June 2020	c	c	3.65	c	c
July 2020	c	c	7.26	10.1	21.3
August 2020	c	c	4.42	c	c
September 2020	153.1311	>2419.7	6.19	c	c
October 2020	c	c	4.91	c	c
December 2020	c	c	c	c	26.8

Avg. = average

Conc. = concentration

c = compliant

mg/L = milligrams per liter

MPN/100 ml = most probable number per 100 milliliters



# Compliance History Report

Compliance History Report for CN604062463, RN102344116, Rating Year 2020 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 1, 2015, through August 31, 2020.

**Customer, Respondent, or Owner/Operator:** CN604062463, Aqua Texas, Inc.

**Classification:** SATISFACTORY

**Rating:** 5.57

**Regulated Entity:** RN102344116, OLD EGYPT REGIONAL BUSINESS CENTER

**Classification:** SATISFACTORY

**Rating:** 2.11

**Complexity Points:** 5

**Repeat Violator:** NO

**CH Group:** 14 - Other

**Location:** 32515 Farm-to-Market Road 2978, in Montgomery County, Texas

**TCEQ Region:** REGION 12 - HOUSTON

**ID Number(s):**

**WASTEWATER PERMIT** WQ0014141001

**WASTEWATER EPA ID** TX0120073

**Compliance History Period:** September 01, 2015 to August 31, 2020

**Rating Year:** 2020

**Rating Date:** 09/01/2020

**Date Compliance History Report Prepared:** May 03, 2021

**Agency Decision Requiring Compliance History:** Enforcement

**Component Period Selected:** May 03, 2016 to May 03, 2021

**TCEQ Staff Member to Contact for Additional Information Regarding This Compliance History.**

**Name:** Alyssa Loveday

**Phone:** (512) 239-5504

## Site and Owner/Operator History:

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1) Has the site been in existence and/or operation for the full five year compliance period?       | YES |
| 2) Has there been a (known) change in ownership/operator of the site during the compliance period? | NO  |

## 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.):**

Item 1	June 01, 2016	(1347595)	Item 13	May 18, 2017	(1427129)
Item 2	June 20, 2016	(1353987)	Item 14	September 07, 2017	(1445363)
Item 3	August 02, 2016	(1360984)	Item 15	September 21, 2017	(1451950)
Item 4	September 26, 2016	(1367418)	Item 16	October 23, 2017	(1457828)
Item 5	October 19, 2016	(1380284)	Item 17	November 17, 2017	(1463258)
Item 6	November 18, 2016	(1386248)	Item 18	December 25, 2017	(1469684)
Item 7	December 20, 2016	(1392385)	Item 19	January 26, 2018	(1476390)
Item 8	January 06, 2017	(1381651)	Item 20	March 09, 2018	(1488562)
Item 9	January 20, 2017	(1399001)	Item 21	March 18, 2018	(1492223)
Item 10	February 20, 2017	(1405907)	Item 23	April 20, 2018	(1495514)
Item 11	March 16, 2017	(1412992)	Item 24	May 18, 2018	(1502449)
Item 12	April 24, 2017	(1419482)			

Item 25	June 21, 2018	(1509567)	Item 35	April 20, 2019	(1573660)
Item 26	July 19, 2018	(1515883)	Item 36	June 20, 2019	(1586911)
Item 27	September 10, 2018	(1521924)	Item 38	September 20, 2019	(1608207)
Item 28	September 24, 2018	(1529122)	Item 39	October 20, 2019	(1615076)
Item 29	October 19, 2018	(1535429)	Item 40	December 20, 2019	(1628216)
Item 30	November 20, 2018	(1543283)	Item 41	January 20, 2020	(1635842)
Item 31	December 20, 2018	(1547014)	Item 42	February 20, 2020	(1642457)
Item 32	January 21, 2019	(1565214)	Item 43	March 19, 2020	(1648967)
Item 33	February 25, 2019	(1565212)	Item 44	June 19, 2020	(1668417)
Item 34	March 27, 2019	(1565213)			

#### **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.

1	Date: 06/30/2020 (1675364)		
	Self Report? YES	Classification: Moderate	
	Citation: 2D TWC Chapter 26, SubChapter A 26.121(a) 30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(1)		
	Description: Failure to meet the limit for one or more permit parameter		
2	Date: 07/31/2020 (1682144)		
	Self Report? YES	Classification: Moderate	
	Citation: 2D TWC Chapter 26, SubChapter A 26.121(a) 30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(1)		
	Description: Failure to meet the limit for one or more permit parameter		
3	Date: 08/31/2020 (1688708)		
	Self Report? YES	Classification: Moderate	
	Citation: 2D TWC Chapter 26, SubChapter A 26.121(a) 30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(1)		
	Description: Failure to meet the limit for one or more permit parameter		
4	Date: 09/30/2020 (1695074)		
	Self Report? YES	Classification: Moderate	
	Citation: 2D TWC Chapter 26, SubChapter A 26.121(a) 30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(1)		
	Description: Failure to meet the limit for one or more permit parameter		
5	Date: 10/31/2020		
	Self Report? YES	Classification: Moderate	
	Citation: 2D TWC Chapter 26, SubChapter A 26.121(a) 30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(1)		
	Description: Failure to meet the limit for one or more permit parameter		
6	Date: 12/31/2020		
	Self Report? YES	Classification: Moderate	
	Citation: 2D TWC Chapter 26, SubChapter A 26.121(a) 30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(1)		
	Description: Failure to meet the limit for one or more permit parameter		

#### **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

# TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



IN THE MATTER OF AN  
ENFORCEMENT ACTION  
CONCERNING  
AQUA TEXAS, INC.  
RN102344116

§ BEFORE THE  
§ TEXAS COMMISSION ON  
§ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
§

## AGREED ORDER DOCKET NO. 2021-0595-MWD-E

### I. JURISDICTION AND STIPULATIONS

On \_\_\_\_\_, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("the Commission" or "TCEQ") considered this agreement of the parties, resolving an enforcement action regarding Aqua Texas, Inc. (the "Respondent") under the authority of TEX. WATER CODE chs. 7 and 26. The Executive Director of the TCEQ, through the Enforcement Division, and the Respondent together stipulate that:

1. The Respondent owns and operates a wastewater treatment facility located at 32515 Farm-to-Market Road 2978 in Magnolia, Montgomery County, Texas (the "Facility"). The Facility is near or adjacent to water in the state as defined in TEX. WATER CODE § 26.001(5).
2. The Executive Director and the Respondent agree that the TCEQ has jurisdiction to enter this Order pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE §§ 7.002, 7.051, and 7.073, and that the Respondent is subject to TCEQ's jurisdiction. The TCEQ has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE § 5.013 because it alleges violations of TEX. WATER CODE ch. 26 and the rules of the TCEQ.
3. The occurrence of any violation is in dispute and the entry of this Order shall not constitute an admission by the Respondent of any violation alleged in Section II ("Allegations"), nor of any statute or rule.
4. An administrative penalty in the amount of \$27,625 is assessed by the Commission in settlement of the violations alleged in Section II ("Allegations"). The Respondent paid \$22,100 of the penalty and \$5,525 is deferred contingent upon the Respondent's timely and satisfactory compliance with all the terms of this Order. The deferred amount shall be waived only upon full compliance with all the terms and conditions contained in this Order. If the Respondent fails to timely and satisfactorily comply with any of the terms or requirements contained in this Order, the Executive Director may demand payment of all or part of the deferred penalty amount.
5. The Executive Director and the Respondent agree on a settlement of the matters alleged in this enforcement action, subject to final approval in accordance with 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 70.10(a). Any notice and procedures, which might otherwise be authorized or required in this action, are waived in the interest of a more timely resolution of the matter.

6. The Executive Director may, without further notice or hearing, refer this matter to the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Texas ("OAG") for further enforcement proceedings if the Executive Director determines that the Respondent has not complied with one or more of the terms or conditions in this Order.
7. This Order represents the complete and fully-integrated agreement of the parties. The provisions of this Order are deemed severable and, if a court of competent jurisdiction or other appropriate authority deems any provision of this Order unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be valid and enforceable.
8. This Order shall terminate five years from its effective date or upon compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Order, whichever is later.

## II. ALLEGATIONS

During a record review for the Facility conducted on March 18, 2021, an investigator documented that the Respondent failed to comply with permitted effluent limitations, in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 305.125(1), TEX. WATER CODE § 26.121(a)(1), and Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("TPDES") Permit No. WQ0014141001, Interim Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements No. 1, as shown in the effluent violation table below:

Effluent Violation Table					
Monitoring Period	<i>Escherichia coli</i>		Ammonia Nitrogen	Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	Total Suspended Solids
	Daily Avg. Conc. Limit = 63 MPN/100 ml	Single Grab Conc. Limit = 200 MPN/100 ml	Daily Avg. Conc. Limit = 3 mg/L	Daily Avg. Conc. Limit = 10 mg/L	Daily Avg. Conc. Limit = 15 mg/L
March 2020	c	517.2	c	c	c
April 2020	c	387	c	c	c
June 2020	c	c	3.65	c	c
July 2020	c	c	7.26	10.1	21.3
August 2020	c	c	4.42	c	c
September 2020	153.1311	>2419.7	6.19	c	c
October 2020	c	c	4.91	c	c
December 2020	c	c	c	c	26.8

Avg. = average

Conc. = concentration

c = compliant

mg/L = milligrams per liter

MPN/100 ml = most probable number per 100 milliliters

## III. DENIALS

The Respondent generally denies each allegation in Section II ("Allegations").

## IV. ORDERING PROVISIONS

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ORDERS that:

1. The Respondent is assessed a penalty as set forth in Section I, Paragraph No. 4. The payment of this penalty and the Respondent's compliance with all of the requirements set forth in this Order resolve only the allegations in Section II. The Commission shall not be constrained in any manner from requiring corrective action or penalties for violations which are not raised here. Penalty payments shall be made payable to "TCEQ" and shall be sent with the notation "Re: Aqua Texas, Inc., Docket No. 2021-0595-MWD-E" to:

Financial Administration Division, Revenue Operations Section  
Attention: Cashier's Office, MC 214  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 13088  
Austin, Texas 78711-3088

2. The Respondent shall, within 180 days after the effective date of this Order, submit written certification of compliance with the permitted effluent limitations of TPDES Permit No. WQ0014141001, including specific corrective actions that were implemented at the Facility to achieve compliance and copies of the most current self-reported discharge monitoring reports, demonstrating at least three consecutive months of compliance with all permitted effluent limitations. The certification shall include detailed supporting documentation including photographs, receipts, or other records to demonstrate compliance with the permitted effluent limitations. The certification shall be signed by the Respondent and shall include the following certification language:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted and all attached documents, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations."

The certification shall be submitted to:

Water Section  
Enforcement Division, MC 149A  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

with a copy to:

Water Section Manager  
Houston Regional Office  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
5425 Polk Street, Suite H  
Houston, Texas 77023-1452

3. All relief not expressly granted in this Order is denied.

4. The duties and provisions imposed by this Order shall apply to and be binding upon the Respondent. The Respondent is ordered to give notice of this Order to personnel who maintain day-to-day control over the Facility operations referenced in this Order.
5. The Executive Director may grant an extension of any deadline in this Order or in any plan, report, or other document submitted pursuant to this Order, upon a written and substantiated showing of good cause. All requests for extensions by the Respondent shall be made in writing to the Executive Director. Extensions are not effective until the Respondent receives written approval from the Executive Director. The determination of what constitutes good cause rests solely with the Executive Director. Extension requests shall be sent to the Enforcement Division at the address listed above.
6. This Order, issued by the Commission, shall not be admissible against the Respondent in a civil proceeding, unless the proceeding is brought by the OAG to: (1) enforce the terms of this Order; or (2) pursue violations of a statute within the Commission's jurisdiction, or of a rule adopted or an order or permit issued by the Commission under such a statute.
7. This Order may be executed in separate and multiple counterparts, which together shall constitute a single instrument. Any page of this Order may be copied, scanned, digitized, converted to electronic portable document format ("pdf"), or otherwise reproduced and may be transmitted by digital or electronic transmission, including but not limited to facsimile transmission and electronic mail. Any signature affixed to this Order shall constitute an original signature for all purposes and may be used, filed, substituted, or issued for any purpose for which an original signature could be used. The term "signature" shall include manual signatures and true and accurate reproductions of manual signatures created, executed, endorsed, adopted, or authorized by the person or persons to whom the signatures are attributable. Signatures may be copied or reproduced digitally, electronically, by photocopying, engraving, imprinting, lithographing, electronic mail, facsimile transmission, stamping, or any other means or process which the Executive Director deems acceptable. In this paragraph exclusively, the terms: electronic transmission, owner, person, writing, and written, shall have the meanings assigned to them under TEX. BUS. ORG. CODE § 1.002.
8. The effective date of this Order is the date it is signed by the Commission. A copy of this fully executed Order shall be provided to each of the parties.



## SIGNATURE PAGE

### TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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For the Commission

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Date

  
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For the Executive Director

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12/17/2024

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Date

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the attached Order. I am authorized to agree to the attached Order, and I do agree to the terms and conditions specified therein. I further acknowledge that the TCEQ, in accepting payment for the penalty amount, is materially relying on such representation.


I also understand that failure to comply with the Ordering Provisions, if any, in this Order and/or failure to timely pay the penalty amount, may result in:

- A negative impact on compliance history;
- Greater scrutiny of any permit applications submitted;
- Referral of this case to the Attorney General's Office for contempt, injunctive relief, additional penalties, and/or attorney fees, or to a collection agency;
- Increased penalties in any future enforcement actions;
- Automatic referral to the Attorney General's Office of any future enforcement actions; and
- TCEQ seeking other relief as authorized by law.

In addition, any falsification of any compliance documents may result in criminal prosecution.

  
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Signature

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October 3, 2024  
Date

  
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Name (Printed or typed)  
Authorized Representative of  
Aqua Texas, Inc.

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President  
Title

☐ If mailing address has changed, please check this box and provide the new address below:

**Instructions:** Send the original, signed Order with penalty payment to the Financial Administration Division, Revenue Operations Section at the address in Ordering Provision 1 of this Order.