

Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 61895

City of Quanah

RN102080215

Docket No. 2022-0163-MWD-E

Order Type:

Findings Agreed Order

Findings Order Justification:

People or environmental receptors have been exposed to pollutants which exceed levels that are protective.

Media:

MWD

Small Business:

No

Location(s) Where Violation(s) Occurred:

City of Quanah WWTF, 1009 East Nelson Street, Quanah, Hardeman 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: November 1, 2024

Comments Received: No

Penalty Information

Total Penalty Assessed: \$29,000

Total Paid to General Revenue: \$0

Total Due to General Revenue: \$0

Payment Plan: N/A

Supplemental Environmental Project (“SEP”) Conditional Offset: \$29,000

Name of SEP: Clarifier Upgrades (Compliance)

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: August 30, 2021

Date(s) of NOE(s): January 12, 2022

Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 61895

City of Quanah

RN102080215

Docket No. 2022-0163-MWD-E

Violation Information

Failed to comply with permitted effluent limitations for carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (5-day), total residual chlorine, *Escherichia coli*, ammonia nitrogen, dissolved oxygen, and total suspended solids [30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 305.125(1), TEX. WATER CODE § 26.121(a)(1), and Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("TPDES") Permit No. WQ0010600001, Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements Nos. 1, 2, and 6].

Corrective Actions/Technical Requirements

Corrective Action(s) Completed:

N/A

Technical Requirements:

1. The Order will require the Respondent to implement and complete a SEP (see SEP Attachment A).
2. The Order will also require the Respondent to, within 130 days, submit written certification of compliance with the permitted effluent limitations of TPDES Permit No. WQ0010600001, 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.

Contact Information

TCEQ Attorney: N/A

TCEQ Enforcement Coordinator: Taylor Williamson, Enforcement Division, Enforcement Team 1, MC R-12, (512) 239-2097; Michael Parrish, Enforcement Division, MC 219, (512) 239-2548

TCEQ SEP Coordinator: Adena Crider, Litigation Division, MC-175, (512) 239-0648

Respondent: The Honorable Kathy Butler, Mayor, City of Quanah, P.O. Box 629, Quanah, Texas 79252

Paula Wilson, City Administrator, City of Quanah, P.O. Box 629, Quanah, Texas 79252

Respondent's Attorney: N/A



Penalty Calculation Worksheet (PCW)

Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)

PCW Revision February 11, 2021

DATES	Assigned	24-Jan-2022	Screening	3-Feb-2022	EPA Due	
	PCW	3-Mar-2022				

RESPONDENT/FACILITY INFORMATION

Respondent	City of Quanah
Reg. Ent. Ref. No.	RN102080215
Facility/Site Region	3-Abilene
Major/Minor Source	Minor

CASE INFORMATION

Enf./Case ID No.	61895	No. of Violations	2
Docket No.	2022-0163-MWD-E	Order Type	Findings
Media Program(s)	Water Quality	Government/Non-Profit	Yes
Multi-Media		Enf. Coordinator	Taylor Williamson
		EC's Team	Enforcement Team 1
Admin. Penalty \$ Limit Minimum	\$0	Maximum	\$25,000

Penalty Calculation Section

TOTAL BASE PENALTY (Sum of violation base penalties)	Subtotal 1	\$20,000
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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.

Compliance History	45.0%	Adjustment	Subtotals 2, 3, & 7	\$9,000
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Notes	Enhancement for nine NOVs with same/similar violations.
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Culpability	No	0.0%	Enhancement	Subtotal 4	\$0
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Notes	The Respondent does not meet the culpability criteria.
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Good Faith Effort to Comply Total Adjustments	Subtotal 5	\$0
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Economic Benefit	0.0%	Enhancement*	Subtotal 6	\$0
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Total EB Amounts	\$1,498	*Capped at the Total EB \$ Amount
Estimated Cost of Compliance	\$15,000	

SUM OF SUBTOTALS 1-7	Final Subtotal	\$29,000
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OTHER FACTORS AS JUSTICE MAY REQUIRE	0.0%	Adjustment	\$0
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Reduces or enhances the Final Subtotal by the indicated percentage.

Notes	
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Final Penalty Amount	\$29,000
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STATUTORY LIMIT ADJUSTMENT	Final Assessed Penalty	\$29,000
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DEFERRAL	0.0%	Reduction	Adjustment	\$0
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Reduces the Final Assessed Penalty by the indicated percentage.

Notes	No deferral is recommended for Findings Orders.
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PAYABLE PENALTY	\$29,000
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Screening Date	3-Feb-2022	Docket No.	2022-0163-MWD-E	PCW
Respondent	City of Quanah	Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)		
Case ID No.	61895	PCW Revision February 11, 2021		
Reg. Ent. Reference No.	RN102080215			
Media	Water Quality			
Enf. Coordinator	Taylor Williamson			

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>)	9	45%
	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) 45%

>> 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 nine NOVs with same/similar violations.

Total Compliance History Adjustment Percentage (Subtotals 2, 3, & 7) 45%

>> Final Compliance History Adjustment

Final Adjustment Percentage *capped at 100% 45%

Screening Date 3-Feb-2022 Respondent City of Quanah Case ID No. 61895 Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102080215 Media Water Quality Enf. Coordinator Taylor Williamson	Docket No. 2022-0163-MWD-E	PCW <i>Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)</i> <i>PCW Revision February 11, 2021</i>
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Violation Number	1	
Rule Cite(s)		30 Tex. Admin. Code § 305.125(1), Tex. Water Code § 26.121(a)(1), and Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("TPDES") Permit No. WQ0010600001, Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements Nos. 1, and 6
Violation Description		Failed to comply with permitted effluent limitations, as shown in the attached effluent violation table.

Base Penalty	\$25,000
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>> Environmental, Property and Human Health Matrix

OR		Release	Harm	Major	Moderate	Minor	
		Actual		x			
		Potential					

Percent 50.0%

>> Programmatic Matrix

	Falsification	Major	Moderate	Minor	

Percent 0.0%

Matrix Notes	A simplified model was used to evaluate carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (5-day) and ammonia nitrogen to determine whether the discharged amount of pollutants exceeded levels protective of human health or the environment. Total suspended solids, dissolved oxygen, and Escherichia coli were also considered. Human health or the environment has been exposed to pollutants which exceed levels that are protective of human health or environmental receptors as a result of the violation.
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Adjustment	\$12,500
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	\$12,500
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Violation Events

Number of Violation Events	1	30	Number of violation days
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	daily						
	weekly						
	monthly		x				
	quarterly						
	semiannual						
	annual						
	single event						

Violation Base Penalty \$12,500

One monthly event is recommended for the month of April 2021.	
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Good Faith Efforts to Comply

0.0%	
Before NOE/NOV	NOE/NOV to EDPRP/Settlement Offer
Extraordinary	
Ordinary	
N/A	x
Notes	The Respondent does not meet the good faith criteria for this violation.

Reduction \$0

Violation Subtotal	\$12,500
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Economic Benefit (EB) for this violation

Estimated EB Amount	\$1,498	Statutory Limit Test
		Violation Final Penalty Total
		\$18,125
		This violation Final Assessed Penalty (adjusted for limits)
		\$18,125

Economic Benefit Worksheet

Respondent City of Quanah
Case ID No. 61895
Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102080215
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				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)	\$15,000	31-Mar-2021	30-Mar-2023	2.00	\$1,498	n/a	\$1,498
Notes for DELAYED costs Estimated Other cost to determine the cause of noncompliance, make the necessary repairs/adjustments to the Facility, and achieve compliance with the 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	\$15,000	TOTAL	\$1,498
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Screening Date 3-Feb-2022 Respondent City of Quanah Case ID No. 61895 Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102080215 Media Water Quality Enf. Coordinator Taylor Williamson	Docket No. 2022-0163-MWD-E	PCW <i>Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)</i> <i>PCW Revision February 11, 2021</i>
Violation Number 2		
Rule Cite(s) 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 305.125(1), Tex. Water Code § 26.121(a)(1), and TPDES Permit No. WQ0010600001, Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements Nos. 1, 2, and 6		
Violation Description Failed to comply with permitted effluent limitations, as shown in the attached effluent violation table.		
Base Penalty		\$25,000

>> Environmental, Property and Human Health Matrix

OR		Harm			
	Release	Major	Moderate	Minor	
	Actual			x	Percent 15.0%
	Potential				

>> Programmatic Matrix

Matrix Notes		Falsification	Major	Moderate	Minor	
						Percent 0.0%
	A simplified model was used to evaluate carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (5-day) and ammonia nitrogen to determine whether the discharged amount of pollutants exceeded levels protective of human health or the environment. Total suspended solids, dissolved oxygen, and total residual chlorine 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	2		92	Number of violation days
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	daily		Violation Base Penalty \$7,500
	weekly		
	monthly		
	quarterly	x	
	semiannual		
	annual		
	single event		

Two quarterly events are recommended from the quarters containing the months of March, May, and June 2021.

Good Faith Efforts to Comply

	0.0%	
	Before NOE/NOV	NOE/NOV to EDPRP/Settlement Offer
Extraordinary		
Ordinary		
N/A	x	
Notes	The Respondent does not meet the good faith criteria for this violation.	

Violation Subtotal \$7,500

Economic Benefit (EB) for this violation

	Statutory Limit Test
Estimated EB Amount	\$0
	Violation Final Penalty Total \$10,875
This violation Final Assessed Penalty (adjusted for limits) \$10,875	

Economic Benefit Worksheet

Respondent City of Quanah
Case ID No. 61895
Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102080215
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	The delayed cost is captured in the 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

TOTAL

City of Quanah
Docket No. 2022-0163-MWD-E
TPDES Permit No. WQ0010600001
Case No. 61895

Effluent Violation Table

	Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)			Total Residual Chlorine	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	
	Daily Average Conc.	Single Grab Conc.	Daily Average Loading	Monthly Maximum	Daily Average Conc.	Single Grab Conc.
Monitoring Period	Limit = 10 mg/L	Limit = 35 mg/L	Limit = 39 lbs/day	Limit = 4.0 mg/L	Limit = 126 CFU/100 mL	Limit = 399 CFU/100 mL
March 2021	18.8	86	c	c	c	c
April 2021	68.7	123	49.2	c	921	921
June 2021	c	c	c	5	c	c

	Ammonia Nitrogen			Dissolved Oxygen	Total Suspended Solids	
	Daily Average Conc.	Single Grab Conc.	Daily Average Loading	Minimum	Daily Average Conc.	Single Grab Conc.
Monitoring Period	Limit = 3 mg/L	Limit = 15 mg/L	Limit = 12 lbs/day	Limit = 4.0 mg/L	Limit = 15 mg/L	Limit = 60 mg/L
March 2021	8.22	40.7	c	0	17.4	c
April 2021	42	54	30.3	0	62.8	98
May 2021	10.4	25.6	c	c	23.9	c
June 2021	11.2	19.4	c	c	c	c

Conc. = concentration mg/L = milligrams per liter c = compliant

CFU/100 mL = colony forming units per 100 milliliters lbs/day = pounds per day



Compliance History Report

Compliance History Report for CN600648133, RN102080215, Rating Year 2023 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 1, 2018, through August 31, 2023.

Customer, Respondent, or Owner/Operator:	CN600648133, City of Quanah	Classification:	SATISFACTORY	Rating:	3.58
Regulated Entity:	RN102080215, CITY OF QUANAH	Classification:	SATISFACTORY	Rating:	5.64
Complexity Points:	7	Repeat Violator:	NO		
CH Group:	08 - Sewage Treatment Facilities				
Location:	1009 E NELSON ST QUANAH, TX 79252-0629, HARDEMAN COUNTY				
TCEQ Region:	REGION 03 - ABILENE				
ID Number(s):					
WASTEWATER PERMIT	WQ0010600001	WASTEWATER EPA ID	TX0024139		
WASTEWATER AUTHORIZATION	R10600001				
Compliance History Period:	September 01, 2018 to August 31, 2023	Rating Year:	2023	Rating Date:	09/01/2023
Date Compliance History Report Prepared:	January 18, 2024				
Agency Decision Requiring Compliance History:	Enforcement				
Component Period Selected:	September 01, 2018 to January 18, 2024				
TCEQ Staff Member to Contact for Additional Information Regarding This Compliance History.					
Name:	TCEQ Staff Member		Phone:	(512) 239-1000	

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	October 02, 2018	(1527503)
Item 2	October 18, 2018	(1533860)
Item 3	November 19, 2018	(1541687)
Item 4	January 03, 2019	(1545465)
Item 5	January 16, 2019	(1560394)
Item 6	September 20, 2019	(1606630)
Item 7	July 16, 2020	(1673806)
Item 8	August 20, 2020	(1680585)
Item 9	September 22, 2020	(1687151)
Item 10	October 22, 2020	(1693494)
Item 11	November 06, 2020	(1685292)

Item 12	November 30, 2020	(1713177)
Item 13	December 29, 2020	(1713178)
Item 14	January 19, 2021	(1713179)
Item 15	February 18, 2021	(1726236)
Item 16	March 22, 2021	(1726237)
Item 17	August 30, 2021	(1766500)
Item 18	September 27, 2021	(1766501)
Item 19	October 20, 2021	(1777072)
Item 20	November 22, 2021	(1783862)
Item 21	December 28, 2021	(1790891)
Item 22	January 31, 2022	(1798682)
Item 23	March 03, 2022	(1806558)
Item 24	April 08, 2022	(1813624)
Item 25	May 23, 2022	(1829035)
Item 26	September 23, 2022	(1856460)
Item 27	November 22, 2022	(1869730)
Item 28	March 28, 2023	(1898777)
Item 29	April 24, 2023	(1905567)
Item 30	August 21, 2023	(1933274)

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:	01/31/2023	(1890214)		
	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:	03/01/2023	(1868606)		
	Self Report?	NO		Classification:	Moderate
	Citation:	30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(5) WQ0010600001 PERMIT			
	Description:	Failure to maintain annual certification on backflow device.			
	Self Report?	NO		Classification:	Moderate
	Citation:	30 TAC Chapter 210, SubChapter C 210.33(1) R10600001 PERMIT			
	Description:	Failure to analyze the effluent for turbidity for the Type 1 reuse water.			
	Self Report?	NO		Classification:	Moderate
	Citation:	30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125 WQ0010600001 PERMIT			
	Description:	Failure to submit noncompliance forms for effluent violations exceeding the permit effluent limits by greater than 40%.			
	Self Report?	NO		Classification:	Minor
	Citation:	30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(5) 30 TAC Chapter 317 317.3(e)(5) WQ0010600001 PERMIT			
	Description:	Failure to maintain lift stations.			
	Self Report?	NO		Classification:	Minor
	Citation:	30 TAC Chapter 210, SubChapter B 210.25(g) R10600001 PERMIT			
	Description:	Failure to install purple piping transporting reuse water.			
	Self Report?	NO		Classification:	Moderate
	Citation:	30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125 TWC Chapter 26 26.121 WQ0010600001 PERMIT			
	Description:	Failure to prevent the discharge of sludge to the receiving stream.			
	Self Report?	NO		Classification:	Moderate
	Citation:	30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(5) WQ0010600001 PERMIT			
	Description:	Failure to properly operate and maintain the chlorine contact basin.			
	Self Report?	NO		Classification:	Moderate
	Citation:	30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(5) WQ0010600001 PERMIT			

Compliance History Report for CN600648133, RN102080215, Rating Year 2023 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 01, 2018, through January 18, 2024.

Description: Failure to properly operate and maintain the clarifier.
 Self Report? NO Classification: Moderate
 Citation: 30 TAC Chapter 210, SubChapter C 210.33(1)
 R10600001 PERMIT
 Description: Failure to prevent the distribution of reuse water that does not meet Type 1 quality.

3 Date: 04/30/2023 (1912746)
 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: 05/01/2023 (1896960)
 Self Report? NO Classification: Moderate
 Citation: 30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(1)
 WQ0010600001 PERMIT
 Description: Failure to submit noncompliance forms for unauthorized discharges
 Self Report? NO Classification: Moderate
 Citation: 2D TWC Chapter 26, SubChapter A 26.121(a)
 30 TAC Chapter 305, SubChapter F 305.125(1)
 WQ0010600001 PERMIT
 Description: Failure to prevent an unauthorized discharge of sewage from the collection system into or adjacent to waters of the State.

5 Date: 05/31/2023 (1919350)
 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: 06/30/2023 (1926317)
 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

7 Date: 08/31/2023 (1939415)
 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

8 Date: 09/30/2023 (1946264)
 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

9 Date: 10/31/2023 (1951954)
 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

Compliance History Report for CN600648133, RN102080215, Rating Year 2023 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 01, 2018, through January 18, 2024.

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
CITY OF QUANAH
RN102080215

§ BEFORE THE
§ TEXAS COMMISSION ON
§ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
§

AGREED ORDER DOCKET NO. 2022-0163-MWD-E

On _____, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("the Commission" or "TCEQ") considered this agreement of the parties, resolving an enforcement action regarding the City of Quanah (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 presented this Order to the Commission.

The Respondent understands that it has certain procedural rights at certain points in the enforcement process, including the right to formal notice of violations, notice of an evidentiary hearing, the right to an evidentiary hearing, and a right to appeal. By entering into this Order, the Respondent agrees to waive all notice and procedural rights.

It is further understood and agreed that 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. The duties and responsibilities imposed by this Order are binding upon the Respondent.

The Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Respondent owns and operates a wastewater treatment facility located at 1009 East Nelson Street, in the City of Quanah, Hardeman 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. During a record review for the Facility conducted on August 30, 2021, an investigator documented that the Respondent did not comply with permitted effluent limitations, as shown in the effluent violation table below:

Effluent Violation Table						
	Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)			Total Residual Chlorine	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	
	Daily Average Conc.	Single Grab Conc.	Daily Average Loading	Monthly Maximum	Daily Average Conc.	Single Grab Conc.
Monitoring Period	Limit = 10 mg/L	Limit = 35 mg/L	Limit = 39 lbs/day	Limit = 4.0 mg/L	Limit = 126 CFU/100 mL	Limit = 399 CFU/100 mL
March 2021	18.8	86	c	c	c	c
April 2021	68.7	123	49.2	c	921	921
June 2021	c	c	c	5	c	c

	Ammonia Nitrogen			Dissolved Oxygen	Total Suspended Solids	
	Daily Average Conc.	Single Grab Conc.	Daily Average Loading	Minimum	Daily Average Conc.	Single Grab Conc.
Monitoring Period	Limit = 3 mg/L	Limit = 15 mg/L	Limit = 12 lbs/day	Limit = 4.0 mg/L	Limit = 15 mg/L	Limit = 60 mg/L
March 2021	8.22	40.7	c	0	17.4	c
April 2021	42	54	30.3	0	62.8	98
May 2021	10.4	25.6	c	c	23.9	c
June 2021	11.2	19.4	c	c	c	c

Conc. = concentration mg/L = milligrams per liter c = compliant

CFU/100 mL = colony forming units per 100 milliliters lbs/day = pounds per day

II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. As evidenced by Finding of Fact No. 1, the Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the TCEQ pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE ch. 26 and the rules of the TCEQ.
2. As evidenced by Finding of Fact No. 2, 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. WQ0010600001, Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements Nos. 1, 2, and 6.
3. Pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE § 7.051, the TCEQ has the authority to assess an administrative penalty against the Respondent for violations of state statutes within the TCEQ's jurisdiction, for violations of rules adopted under such statutes, or for violations of orders or permits issued under such statutes.
4. An administrative penalty in the amount of \$29,000 is justified by the facts recited in this Order, and considered in light of the factors set forth in TEX. WATER CODE § 7.053. Pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE § 7.067, \$29,000 of the penalty shall be conditionally offset by the Respondent's timely and satisfactory completion of a Supplemental Environmental Project ("SEP") as defined in the attached SEP Agreement ("Attachment A" - incorporated herein by reference). The Respondent's obligation to pay the conditionally offset portion of the penalty shall be discharged upon full compliance with all the terms and conditions of this Order, which includes the timely and satisfactory completion of all provisions of the SEP Agreement, as determined by the Executive Director.

III. ORDERING PROVISIONS

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

1. The Respondent is assessed a penalty as set forth in Conclusion of Law No. 4 for violations of state statutes and rules of the TCEQ. The payment of this penalty and the Respondent's compliance with all the requirements set forth in this Order resolve only the matters set forth by this Order in this action. The Commission shall not be constrained in any manner from requiring corrective actions or penalties for violations that are not raised here. Penalty payments shall be made payable to "TCEQ" and shall be sent with the notation "Re: City of Quanah, Docket No. 2022-0163-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 implement and complete the SEP as set forth in Conclusion of Law No. 4. The amount of \$29,000 of the assessed penalty is conditionally offset based on the Respondent's implementation and completion of the SEP pursuant to the terms of the SEP Agreement, as defined in Attachment A. Penalty payments for any portion of

the SEP deemed by the Executive Director as not complete shall be paid within 30 days after the date the Executive Director demands payment.

3. The Respondent shall, within 130 days after the effective date of this Order, submit written certification of compliance with the permitted effluent limitations of TPDES Permit No. WQ0010600001, 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, and include detailed supporting documentation including photographs, receipts, and/or other records to demonstrate compliance.. 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:

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

with a copy to:

Water Section Manager
Abilene Regional Office
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
1977 Industrial Boulevard
Abilene, Texas 79602-7833

4. All relief not expressly granted in this Order is denied.
5. 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.
6. If the Respondent fails to comply with any of the Ordering Provisions in this Order within the prescribed schedules, and that failure is caused solely by an act of God, war, strike, riot, or other catastrophe, the Respondent's failure to comply is not a violation of this Order. The Respondent shall have the burden of establishing to the Executive Director's satisfaction that such an event has occurred. The Respondent shall notify the

Executive Director within seven days after the Respondent becomes aware of a delaying event and shall take all reasonable measures to mitigate and minimize any delay.

7. 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.
8. 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 in this Order.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. 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

For the Commission

Date



For the Executive Director

11/20/2024

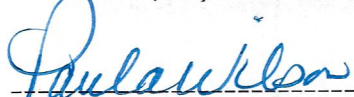
Date

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.



Signature

10-11-24

Date

Paula Wilson

Name (Printed or typed)
Authorized Representative of
City of Quanah

City Administrator

Title

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

Attachment A
Docket Number: 2022-0163-MWD-E
SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT

Respondent:	City of Quanah
Penalty Amount:	\$29,000
SEP Offset Amount:	\$29,000
Type of SEP:	Compliance
Project Name:	<i>Clarifier Upgrades</i>
Location of SEP:	Hardeman County

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (“the Commission” or “TCEQ”) agrees to offset the administrative Penalty Amount assessed in this Agreed Order in exchange for Respondent’s performance of a Supplemental Environmental Project (“SEP”). The SEP Offset Amount is set forth above and such offset is conditioned upon completion of the project in accordance with the terms of this Attachment A.

Respondent is a Local Government that qualifies under Texas Water Code § 7.067 to apply the SEP Offset Amount set forth above to correct violations at its wastewater treatment facility (the Facility”) which are described in this Agreed Order. This Agreed Order cites violations at Respondent’s Facility.

1. Project Description

A. Project

Respondent shall hire a contractor to upgrade the clarifier at the Facility. Upgrades will include a new sludge rake, skimmer arms and scum trough, torque tube, feed well, support channel, gear drive, and gear drive motor. Specifically, the SEP Offset Amount shall be used for materials, supplies, and equipment for upgrading the clarifier (the “Project”). Respondent shall solicit bids from qualified contractors to perform the Project. Any advertisement or invitation for bids, including publication, related to the SEP must include the enforcement statement as stated below in Section 6, Publicity. The SEP will be performed in accordance with all federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, including permits that may be required prior to commencement of the SEP. The Commission’s approval and issuance of this Agreed Order shall not itself be construed to authorize any activity for which Respondent is required by statute or rule to obtain authorization from the Commission.

Respondent shall use the SEP Offset Amount only for the direct cost of implementing the Project, including supplies, materials, and equipment rentals, as listed below in Subsection C. Minimum Expenditure, Estimated Cost Schedule. No portion of the SEP Offset Amount shall be spent on administrative costs, including operating costs, reporting expenses, handling of expenses, project coordination, liability, or equipment breakdowns.

Respondent’s signature affixed to the attached Agreed Order certifies that Respondent has no prior commitment to perform this Project and that the SEP is being performed solely as part of the terms of settlement in this enforcement action.

B. Environmental Benefit

This SEP will provide a discernible environmental benefit by improving the quality of wastewater effluent being released into the environment. Inadequately treated effluent can carry bacteria, viruses, protozoa (parasitic organisms), helminths (intestinal worms), and bioaerosols (inhalable molds and fungi). The diseases they may cause range in severity from mild gastroenteritis to life-threatening ailments such as cholera, dysentery, infectious hepatitis,

and severe gastroenteritis. Additional risks include occurrences of low dissolved oxygen, fish kills, algal bloom, and bacterial contamination in waterways.

C. Minimum Expenditure

Respondent shall spend at least the SEP Offset Amount to complete the project described above in Section 1.A and comply with all other provisions of this SEP. Respondent understands that it may cost more than the SEP Offset Amount to complete the Project. Costs in excess of the SEP Offset Amount shall not be grounds to relieve Respondent of its obligations to perform this SEP.

Estimated Cost Schedule

Item	Total
Clarifier Upgrades	\$77,450
Total	\$77,450

2. Performance Schedule

Within 30 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order, Respondent shall begin implementation of the SEP. Respondent shall have completed the SEP in its entirety within 130 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order.

Executive Director ("ED") staff may grant an extension to any deadline for Respondent's performance of the SEP described herein, upon a written and substantiated showing of good cause. All requests for extensions must be made by Respondent and shall be made in writing to ED staff. Extensions are not effective until Respondent receives written approval from ED staff. The determination of what constitutes good cause rests solely with ED staff. Extension requests shall be sent to the SEP Coordinator by first class mail or electronic mail, at:

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Litigation Division
Attention: SEP Coordinator, MC 175
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087
Email: sepreports@tceq.texas.gov

3. Records and Reporting

A. Progress Report

Within 30 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order, Respondent shall submit a Notice of Commencement to TCEQ describing actions performed to date to implement the Project. Within 90 days after the effective date of this Agreed Order, Respondent shall submit a report detailing the progress made and all actions completed on the Project during the previous 60-day period and setting forth a schedule for achieving completion of the Project within the 130-day timeframe set forth above in Section 2, Performance Schedule.

Reporting Schedule

Days from Effective Order Date	Information Required
30	Notice of Commencement describing actions taken to begin project
90	Actions completed during previous 60-day period
130	Notice of SEP completion

B. Final Report

Within 130 days after the effective date of the Agreed Order, or within 30 days after completion of the SEP, whichever is earlier, Respondent shall submit a Final Report to TCEQ, which shall include the following:

1. An itemized list of expenditures and total cost of the Project;
2. Copies of invoices or receipts corresponding to the itemized list in paragraph 3.B.1., above;
3. Copies of cleared checks or payment records corresponding to the itemized list in paragraph 3.B.1., above;
4. Copies of proof of advertisement of invitation for bids, if applicable;
5. A certified statement of SEP completion and document authentication;
6. A detailed map showing the specific location of the project site(s);
7. Copies of all engineering plans related to work performed pursuant to the Project, if applicable;
8. Dated photographs of the purchased materials and supplies; before and after work being performed during the Project; and of the completed Project; and
9. Any additional information Respondent believes will, or that is requested by TCEQ to demonstrate compliance with this Attachment A.

C. Submittals

Respondent shall submit all SEP reports and any additional information as requested to the SEP Coordinator at the address provided above.

4. Additional Information and Access

Respondent shall provide additional information as requested by TCEQ staff and shall allow access to all records related to the SEP Offset Amount. Respondent shall also allow representatives of TCEQ access to the site of any work being financed in whole or in part by the SEP Offset Amount. This provision shall survive the termination of this Agreed Order.

5. Failure to Fully Perform

If Respondent does not perform its obligations under this Attachment A, including full expenditure of the SEP Offset Amount and submittal of the required reporting described above in Sections 2 through 4, the ED may require immediate payment of all or part of the SEP Offset Amount as set forth in the attached Agreed Order.

In the event the ED determines that Respondent failed to fully implement and complete the Project, Respondent shall remit payment for all or a portion of the SEP Offset Amount, as determined by the ED, and as set forth in the attached Agreed Order. After receiving notice of failure to complete the SEP, Respondent shall include the docket number of the attached

Agreed Order and a note that the enclosed payment is for reimbursement of a SEP, shall make the check payable to "Texas Commission on Environmental Quality," and shall mail it to the SEP Coordinator at the address provided above.

6. Publicity

Any public statements concerning this Project made by or on behalf of Respondent must include a clear statement that **the Project was performed as part of the settlement of an enforcement action brought by TCEQ**. Such statements include advertising, public relations, and press releases.

7. Recognition

Respondent may not seek recognition for this project in any other state or federal regulatory program.

8. Other SEPs by TCEQ or Other Agencies

The SEP Offset Amount identified in this Attachment A and in the attached Agreed Order has not been, and shall not be, included as a SEP for Respondent under any other Agreed Order negotiated with TCEQ or any other agency of the state or federal government.