

# Sam Houston State University

A Member of The Texas State University System

## FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

### OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION

January 23, 2023

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Chief Clerk's Office, MC 105  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, TX 78711-3087

REVIEWED

FEB 06 2023

By GCW

TCEQ OCC

30 JAN '23 9:50

RE: Sam Houston State University Water Reclamation Facility  
Application and Preliminary Decision for TCEQ Permit #WQ0016158001

Chief Clerk's Office:

We are in receipt and acknowledge a public comment received regarding Sam Houston State University's (SHSU) Preliminary Decision and Draft Permit for its proposed Water Reclamation Facility. Sam Houston State University is providing this letter to give more background regarding the proposed facility for consideration by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in developing its response to public comments.


The University understands the commentor's concern regarding discharge of sludge and sediment to the sanitary sewer system that could settle in low spots and potentially clog the system. While some reclaimed water systems are designed to return residual solids back to the collection system, SHSU's facility is designed such that solids are not returned to the City of Huntsville sewer system.

The new onsite treatment system will separate out the sludge and sediment from the treated wastewater to be used as cooling tower water and pump the sludge to an onsite storage tank. The storage tank solids will routinely be pumped out and trucked to an offsite facility for disposal. As part of the design configuration, there is no onsite piping to allow sludge to be discharged to the sanitary sewer. There is no intent to discharge any material to the existing sanitary sewer system during normal system operation.

SHSU acknowledges the concerns regarding health and safety of the proposed treatment system. SHSU takes such comments seriously and is proactively taking steps to provide a safe and environmentally friendly system that will have minimal impacts to the community. We believe the design of the proposed system adequately mitigates the particular concern brought forward.

Please let us know if the TCEQ requires any additional information from SHSU to inform its decision regarding permit issuance and/or response to public comments. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (936) 294-3677.

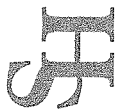
Sincerely,



Chuck Jones  
Director, Facilities Planning & Construction

Sam Houston State University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

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