

Jon Niermann, *Chairman*  
Emily Lindley, *Commissioner*  
Bobby Janecka, *Commissioner*  
Kelly Keel, *Interim Executive Director*



## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution*

October 5, 2023

Laurie Gharis  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Re: Application by City of Houston  
TPDES No. WQ0010495030  
TCEQ Docket No. 2023-0556-MWD

Dear Ms. Gharis:

I have enclosed the following copies of documents to be included in the Administrative Record for the above-referenced case as required by 30 Tex. Admin Code § 80.118. The documents included are as follows:

- Draft Permit No. WQ0010495030
- Statement of Basis/Technical Summary and Executive Director's Preliminary Decision
- Technical Memoranda
- Compliance History Report

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bobby Salehi".

Bobby Salehi  
Staff Attorney  
Environmental Law Division



TPDES PERMIT NO.  
WQ0010495030  
*[For TCEQ office use only - EPA I.D.  
No. TX0063002]*

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

This major amendment supersedes and  
replaces TPDES Permit No.  
WQ0010495030 issued on September  
21, 2017.

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

City of Houston

whose mailing address is

10500 Bellaire Boulevard  
Houston, Texas 77072

is authorized to treat and discharge wastes from the West District Wastewater Treatment  
Facility, SIC Code 4952

located at 12901 Hermitage Lane, in the City of Houston, Harris County, Texas 77079

directly 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, **five years from the date of issuance.**

ISSUED DATE:

---

For the Commission

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Outfall Number 001

1. During the period beginning upon the date of issuance 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 26.4 million gallons per day (MGD), nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 66,277 gallons per minute (gpm).

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations				Min. Self-Monitoring Requirements	
	Daily Avg mg/l (lbs/day)	7-day Avg mg/l	Daily Max mg/l	Single Grab mg/l	Report Daily Avg. & Daily Max. Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow, MGD	Report	N/A	Report	N/A	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	10 (2,202)	15	25	35	One/day	Composite
Total Suspended Solids	15 (3,303)	25	40	60	One/day	Composite
Ammonia Nitrogen						
June - August	2 (440)	5	10	15	One/day	Composite
September - May	4 (881)	6	10	15	One/day	Composite
<i>E. coli</i> , colony-forming units or most probable number per 100 ml	63	N/A	200	N/A	Five/week	Grab

2. The effluent shall contain a total 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 total chlorine residual and shall monitor total 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 day 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): CBOD<sub>5</sub>, TSS, NH<sub>3</sub>-N, Cl<sub>2</sub> residual, and *E. coli* shall be taken after obtaining a 20-minute detention time in the chlorination basin and prior to dechlorination. Dissolved Oxygen, Cl<sub>2</sub>, and pH shall be taken after the final treatment unit.
6. The effluent shall contain a minimum dissolved oxygen of 6.0 mg/l and shall be monitored once per day 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. The term "biosolids" is defined as sewage sludge that has been tested or processed to meet Class A, Class AB, or Class B pathogen standards in 30 TAC Chapter 312 for beneficial use.
7. 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, effluent monitoring data shall be submitted each month, to the Compliance Monitoring Team of 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 submitted online using the NetDMR reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver. Monitoring results must be 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 or biosolids 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 Compliance

Monitoring Team of 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. Except as allowed by 30 TAC § 305.132, 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 Compliance Monitoring Team of the Enforcement Division (MC 224) within five working days of becoming aware of the noncompliance. For Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs), effective December 21, 2025, the permittee must submit the written report for unauthorized discharges and unanticipated bypasses that exceed any effluent limit in the permit using the online electronic reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver. 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 Compliance Monitoring Team of 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 Compliance Monitoring Team of 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 Compliance Monitoring Team of 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 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; or
  - 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;
  - ii. the permit number(s);
  - iii. the bankruptcy court in which the petition for bankruptcy was filed; and
  - iv. 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 or biosolids 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 219) 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 Corrective Action 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 Permitting and Registration Support 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.

TCEQ Revision 06/2020

## SLUDGE PROVISIONS

The permittee is authorized to dispose of sludge only at a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) authorized land application site, co-disposal landfill, wastewater treatment facility, or facility that further processes sludge. **The disposal of sludge or biosolids 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 Class A or Class AB Biosolids. This provision does not authorize the permittee to land apply biosolids on property owned, leased or under the direct control of the permittee.**

### SECTION I. REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO ALL SEWAGE SLUDGE OR BIOSOLIDS LAND APPLICATION

#### A. General Requirements

1. The permittee shall handle and dispose of sewage sludge or biosolids 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 or biosolids.
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 land application of processed or unprocessed chemical toilet waste, grease trap waste, grit trap waste, milk solids, or similar non-hazardous municipal or industrial solid wastes, or any of the wastes listed in this provision combined with biosolids, WTP residuals or domestic septage is prohibited unless the grease trap waste is added at a fats, oil and grease (FOG) receiving facility as part of an anaerobic digestion process.

#### B. Testing Requirements

1. Sewage sludge or biosolids shall be tested annually 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 or biosolids 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 or biosolids 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 or biosolids 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 Registration 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, Permitting and Registration Support 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 Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division by September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. The permittee must submit this annual report using the online electronic reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver.

2. Biosolids 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. of this permit.

TABLE 1

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Ceiling Concentration</u> <u>(Milligrams per kilogram)*</u>
Arsenic	75
Cadmium	85
Chromium	3000
Copper	4300
Lead	840
Mercury	57
Molybdenum	75
Nickel	420
PCBs	49
Selenium	100
Zinc	7500

\* Dry weight basis

3. Pathogen Control

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

- a. For sewage sludge to be classified as Class A biosolids with respect to pathogens, the density of fecal coliform in the sewage sludge must be less than 1,000 most probable number (MPN) per gram of total solids (dry weight basis), or the density of *Salmonella* sp. bacteria in the sewage sludge must be less than three MPN per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed. In addition, one of the alternatives listed below must be met:

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 5 (PFRP) - Sewage sludge that is used or disposed of must 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; or

Alternative 6 (PFRP Equivalent) - Sewage sludge that is used or disposed of must 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. For sewage sludge to be classified as Class AB biosolids with respect to pathogens, the density of fecal coliform in the sewage sludge must be less than 1,000 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. In addition, one of the alternatives listed below must be met:

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%; or

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; or

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.

- c. Sewage sludge that meets the requirements of Class AB biosolids may be classified a Class A biosolids if a variance request is submitted in writing that is supported by substantial documentation demonstrating equivalent methods for reducing odors and written approval is granted by the executive director. The executive director may deny the variance request or revoke that approved variance if it is determined that the variance may potentially endanger human health or the environment, or create nuisance odor conditions.
- d. Three alternatives are available to demonstrate compliance with Class B biosolids

criteria.

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 to the Alternatives 1 – 3, the following site restrictions must be met if Class B biosolids are land applied:

- i. Food crops with harvested parts that touch the biosolids/soil mixture and are totally above the land surface shall not be harvested for 14 months after application of biosolids.
- ii. Food crops with harvested parts below the surface of the land shall not be harvested for 20 months after application of biosolids when the biosolids remain 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 biosolids when the biosolids remain 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 biosolids.
- v. Domestic livestock shall not be allowed to graze on the land for 30 days after application of biosolids.
- vi. Turf grown on land where biosolids are applied shall not be harvested for 1 year after application of the biosolids 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 biosolids.

viii. Public access to land with a low potential for public exposure shall be restricted for 30 days after application of biosolids.

ix. Land application of biosolids 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. Biosolids shall be injected below the surface of the land.
  - ii. No significant amount of the biosolids shall be present on the land surface within one hour after the biosolids are injected.
  - iii. When sewage sludge that is injected below the surface of the land is Class A or Class AB with respect to pathogens, the biosolids shall be injected below the land surface within eight hours after being discharged from the pathogen treatment process.

- Alternative 10-
- i. Biosolids 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 biosolids that are incorporated into the soil is Class A or Class AB with respect to pathogens, the biosolids 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 - annually  
 PCBs - annually

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 biosolids (*) 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 biosolids applied to the land (dry wt. basis).*

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



Identify each of the analytic methods used by the facility to analyze enteric viruses, fecal coliforms, helminth ova, *Salmonella* sp., and other regulated parameters.

Identify in the following categories (as applicable) the sewage sludge or biosolids treatment process or processes at the facility: preliminary operations (e.g., sludge or biosolids grinding and degritting), thickening (concentration), stabilization, anaerobic digestion, aerobic digestion, composting, conditioning, disinfection (e.g., beta ray irradiation, gamma ray irradiation, pasteurization), dewatering (e.g., centrifugation, sludge drying beds, sludge lagoons), heat drying, thermal reduction, and methane or biogas capture and recovery.

Identify the nature of material generated by the facility (such as a biosolid for beneficial use or land-farming, or sewage sludge or biosolids for disposal at a monofill) and whether the material is ultimately conveyed off-site in bulk or in bags.

**SECTION II. REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO BULK SEWAGE SLUDGE OR BIOSOLIDS FOR APPLICATION TO THE LAND MEETING CLASS A, CLASS AB 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, Class AB or B pathogen reduction requirements and that meet the cumulative loading rates in Table 2 below, or the Class B pathogen reduction requirements and contain concentrations of pollutants below listed in Table 3, the following conditions apply:

**A. Pollutant Limits**

Table 2

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

Table 3

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

\*Dry weight basis

**B. Pathogen Control**

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

### **C. Management Practices**

1. Bulk biosolids 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 biosolids not meeting Class A requirements shall be land applied in a manner which complies with Applicability in accordance with 30 TAC §312.41 and the Management Requirements in accordance with 30 TAC § 312.44.
3. Bulk biosolids 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 Class A or AB biosolids sold or given away. The information sheet shall contain the following information:
  - a. The name and address of the person who prepared the Class A or AB biosolids that are sold or given away in a bag or other container for application to the land.
  - b. A statement that application of the biosolids 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 biosolids application rate for the biosolids 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 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 biosolids are 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 biosolids 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 biosolids.
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 biosolids disposal practice.

### **E. Record Keeping Requirements**

The 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 biosolids 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 AB and Class B biosolids, 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 biosolids are 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 biosolids 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 biosolids are applied.
  - c. The number of acres in each site on which bulk biosolids are applied.
  - d. The date and time biosolids are 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 biosolids 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 Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division, by September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year the following information. The permittee must submit this annual report using the online electronic reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver.

1. Identify in the following categories (as applicable) the sewage sludge or biosolids treatment process or processes at the facility: preliminary operations (e.g., sludge or biosolids grinding and degritting), thickening (concentration), stabilization, anaerobic digestion, aerobic digestion, composting, conditioning, disinfection (e.g., beta ray irradiation, gamma ray irradiation, pasteurization), dewatering (e.g., centrifugation, sludge drying beds, sludge lagoons), heat drying, thermal reduction, and methane or biogas capture and recovery.
2. Identify the nature of material generated by the facility (such as a biosolid for beneficial use or land-farming, or sewage sludge for disposal at a monofill) and whether the material is ultimately conveyed off-site in bulk or in bags.
3. Results of tests performed for pollutants found in either Table 2 or 3 as appropriate for the permittee's land application practices.
4. The frequency of monitoring listed in Section I.C. that applies to the permittee.
5. Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) results.
6. PCB concentration in sludge or biosolids in mg/kg.
7. Identity of hauler(s) and TCEQ transporter number.
8. Date(s) of transport.
9. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality registration number, if applicable.
10. Amount of sludge or biosolids disposal dry weight (lbs/acre) at each disposal site.
11. 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.
12. Level of pathogen reduction achieved (Class A, Class AB or Class B).
13. Alternative used as listed in Section I.B.3.(a. or b.). Alternatives describe how the pathogen reduction requirements are met. If Class B biosolids, include information on how site restrictions were met.
14. Identify each of the analytic methods used by the facility to analyze enteric viruses, fecal coliforms, helminth ova, *Salmonella* sp., and other regulated parameters.
15. Vector attraction reduction alternative used as listed in Section I.B.4.

16. Amount of sludge or biosolids transported in dry tons/year.
17. 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 or biosolids treatment activities, shall be attached to the annual reporting form.
18. 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 biosolids are applied.
  - c. The date and time bulk biosolids are applied to each site.
  - d. The cumulative amount of each pollutant (i.e., pounds/acre) listed in Table 2 in the bulk biosolids applied to each site.
  - e. The amount of biosolids (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 OR BIOSOLIDS DISPOSED IN A MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL**

- A. The permittee shall handle and dispose of sewage sludge or biosolids 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 or biosolids disposed in a municipal solid waste landfill.
- B. If the permittee generates sewage sludge and supplies that sewage sludge or biosolids 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 or biosolids disposal practice.
- D. Sewage sludge or biosolids shall be tested annually 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 or biosolids 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 or biosolids 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 or biosolids 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 Registration 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, Permitting and Registration Support 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 Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division by September 30 of each year.

- E. Sewage sludge or biosolids 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 Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division by September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year the following information. The permittee must submit this annual report using the online electronic reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver.

1. Identify in the following categories (as applicable) the sewage sludge or biosolids treatment process or processes at the facility: preliminary operations (e.g., sludge or biosolids grinding and dewatering), thickening (concentration), stabilization, anaerobic digestion, aerobic digestion, composting, conditioning, disinfection (e.g., beta ray irradiation, gamma ray irradiation, pasteurization), dewatering (e.g., centrifugation, sludge drying beds, sludge lagoons), heat drying, thermal reduction, and methane or biogas capture and recovery.
2. Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) results.
3. Annual sludge or biosolids production in dry tons/year.
4. Amount of sludge or biosolids disposed in a municipal solid waste landfill in dry tons/year.
5. Amount of sludge or biosolids transported interstate in dry tons/year.
6. A certification that the sewage sludge or biosolids meets the requirements of 30 TAC § 330 concerning the quality of the sludge disposed in a municipal solid waste landfill.
7. Identity of hauler(s) and transporter registration number.
8. Owner of disposal site(s).
9. Location of disposal site(s).
10. 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.



#### **SECTION IV. REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO SLUDGE OR BIOSOLIDS TRANSPORTED TO ANOTHER FACILITY FOR FURTHER PROCESSING**

These provisions apply to sludge or biosolids that is transported to another wastewater treatment facility or facility that further processes sludge or biosolids. These provisions are intended to allow transport of sludge or biosolids to facilities that have been authorized to accept sludge or biosolids. These provisions do not limit the ability of the receiving facility to determine whether to accept the sludge or biosolids, nor do they limit the ability of the receiving facility to request additional testing or documentation.

##### **A. General Requirements**

1. The permittee shall handle and dispose of sewage sludge or biosolids in accordance with 30 TAC Chapter 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. Sludge or biosolids may only be transported using a registered transporter or using an approved pipeline.

##### **B. Record Keeping Requirements**

1. For sludge transported by an approved pipeline, the permittee must maintain records of the following:
  - a. the amount of sludge or biosolids transported;
  - b. the date of transport;
  - c. the name and TCEQ permit number of the receiving facility or facilities;
  - d. the location of the receiving facility or facilities;
  - e. the name and TCEQ permit number of the facility that generated the waste; and
  - f. copy of the written agreement between the permittee and the receiving facility to accept sludge or biosolids.
2. For sludge or biosolids transported by a registered transporter, the permittee must maintain records of the completed trip tickets in accordance with 30 TAC § 312.145(a)(1)-(7) and amount of sludge or biosolids transported.
3. The above records shall be maintained on-site on a monthly basis and shall be made available to the TCEQ upon request. These records shall be retained for at least five years.

### **C. Reporting Requirements**

The permittee shall report the following information annually to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 12) and Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division, by September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. The permittee must submit this annual report using the online electronic reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver.

1. Identify in the following categories (as applicable) the sewage sludge or biosolids treatment process or processes at the facility: preliminary operations (e.g., sludge or biosolids grinding and degritting), thickening (concentration), stabilization, anaerobic digestion, aerobic digestion, composting, conditioning, disinfection (e.g., beta ray irradiation, gamma ray irradiation, pasteurization), dewatering (e.g., centrifugation, sludge drying beds, sludge lagoons), heat drying, thermal reduction, and methane or biogas capture and recovery.
2. the annual sludge or biosolids production;
3. the amount of sludge or biosolids transported;
4. the owner of each receiving facility;
5. the location of each receiving facility; and
6. the date(s) of disposal at each receiving facility.

## 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 A facility must be operated by a chief operator or an operator holding a Class A license or higher. The facility must be operated a minimum of five days per week by the licensed chief operator or an operator holding the required level of license or higher. The licensed chief operator or operator holding the required level of license or higher must be available by telephone or pager seven days per week. Where shift operation of the wastewater treatment facility is necessary, each shift 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. Chronic toxic criteria apply at the edge of the mixing zone. The mixing zone is defined as 300 feet downstream and 100 feet upstream from the point of discharge.
4. 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, 5/week may be reduced to 3/week. **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.
5. The sludge from the treatment process may be piped to the City of Houston, 69<sup>th</sup> Street Wastewater Treatment Plant, Permit No. 10495-090 or hauled to another permitted facility owned by the City of Houston to be digested, dewatered and then disposed of with the bulk of the sludge from the plant accepting the sludge. The permittee shall keep records of all sludge removed from the wastewater treatment plant site. Such records will include the following information:
  - a. volume of sludge hauled.
  - b. date(s) of disposal.
  - c. identity of hauler(s).
  - d. location of the wastewater treatment plant to which the sludge is hauled.
  - e. owner of wastewater treatment plant and TCEQ permit number.

The above records shall be maintained on a monthly basis and shall be reported to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 12) and the TCEQ Water Quality Compliance Monitoring Team (MC 224) of the Enforcement Division by September 30th of each year.

**CONTRIBUTING INDUSTRIES AND PRETREATMENT REQUIREMENTS**

1. The permittee shall operate an industrial pretreatment program in accordance with Sections 402(b)(8) and (9) of the Clean Water Act, the General Pretreatment Regulations (40 CFR Part 403), and the approved **City of Houston** publicly owned treatment works (POTW) pretreatment program submitted by the permittee. The pretreatment program was approved on **November 27, 1984** and modified on **February 26, 1993, and March 11, 2020 (nonsubstantial Streamlining Rule modification), and on June 14, 2021 (TBLLs)**.

The POTW pretreatment program is hereby incorporated by reference and shall be implemented in a manner consistent with the following requirements:

- a. Industrial user (IU) information shall be kept current according to 40 CFR §§403.8(f)(2)(i) and (ii) and updated at a frequency set forth in the approved pretreatment program to reflect the accurate characterization of all IUs.
- b. The frequency and nature of IU compliance monitoring activities by the permittee shall be consistent with the approved POTW pretreatment program and commensurate with the character, consistency, and volume of waste. The permittee is required to inspect and sample the effluent from each significant industrial user (SIU) at least once per year, except as specified in 40 CFR §403.8(f)(2)(v). This is in addition to any industrial self-monitoring activities.
- c. The permittee shall enforce and obtain remedies for IU noncompliance with applicable pretreatment standards and requirements and the approved POTW pretreatment program.
- d. The permittee shall control through permit, order, or similar means, the contribution to the POTW by each IU to ensure compliance with applicable pretreatment standards and requirements and the approved POTW pretreatment program. In the case of SIUs (identified as significant under 40 CFR §403.3(v)), this control shall be achieved through individual permits or general control mechanisms, in accordance with 40 CFR §403.8(f)(1)(iii).

Both individual and general control mechanisms must be enforceable and contain, at a minimum, the following conditions:

- (1) Statement of duration (in no case more than five years);
- (2) Statement of non-transferability without, at a minimum, prior notification to the POTW and provision of a copy of the existing control mechanism to the new owner or operator;
- (3) Effluent limits, which may include enforceable best management practices (BMPs), based on applicable general pretreatment standards, categorical pretreatment standards, local limits, and State and local law;
- (4) Self-monitoring, sampling, reporting, notification and record keeping requirements, identification of the pollutants to be monitored (including, if applicable, the process for seeking a waiver for a pollutant neither present nor expected to be present in the IU's discharge in accordance with 40 CFR §403.12(e)(2), or a specific waived pollutant in the case of an individual control mechanism), sampling location, sampling frequency, and sample type, based on the applicable general pretreatment standards in 40 CFR Part



effluent.

The influent and effluent samples collected shall be composite samples consisting of at least 12 aliquots collected at approximately equal intervals over a representative 24-hour period and composited according to flow. Sampling and analytical procedures shall be in accordance with guidelines established in 40 CFR Part 136, as amended; as approved by the EPA through the application for alternate test procedures; or as suggested in Tables E-1 and E-2 of the *Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards* (RG-194), June 2010, as amended and adopted by the TCEQ. The effluent samples shall be analyzed to the minimum analytical level (MAL), if necessary, to determine compliance with the daily average water quality based effluent concentration from the TCEQ's Texas Toxicity Modeling Program (TEXTOX) and other applicable water quality discharge standards. Where composite samples are inappropriate due to sampling, holding time, or analytical constraints, at least four (4) grab samples shall be taken at equal intervals over a representative 24-hour period.

4. The permittee shall prepare annually a list of IUs, which during the preceding twelve (12) months were in significant noncompliance (SNC) with applicable pretreatment requirements. For the purposes of this section of the permit, "CONTRIBUTING INDUSTRIES AND PRETREATMENT REQUIREMENTS," SNC shall be determined based upon the more stringent of either criteria established at 40 CFR §403.8(f)(2)(viii) [rev. 10/14/05] or criteria established in the approved POTW pretreatment program. This list is to be published annually during the month of **November** in a newspaper of general circulation that provides meaningful public notice within the jurisdiction(s) served by the POTW.

In addition, each **November** the permittee shall submit an updated pretreatment program annual status report, in accordance with 40 CFR §§403.12(i) [rev. 10/22/15] and (m), to the TCEQ Pretreatment Team (MC148) of the Water Quality Division. The report summary shall be submitted on the Pretreatment Performance Summary (PPS) form [TCEQ-20218]. The report shall contain the following information as well as the information on the tables in this section:

- a. An updated list of all regulated IUs as indicated in this section. For each listed IU, the following information shall be included:
  - (1) Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) or North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code *and* categorical determination.
  - (2) If the pretreatment program has been modified and approved to incorporate reduced monitoring for any of the categorical IUs as provided by 40 CFR Part 403 [rev. 10/14/05], then the list must also identify:
    - categorical IUs subject to the conditions for reduced monitoring and reporting requirements under 40 CFR § 403.12(e)(1) [rev. 10/22/15] and (3);
    - those IUs that are non-significant categorical industrial users (NSCIUs) under 40 CFR §403.3(v)(2); and
    - those IUs that are middle tier categorical industrial users (MTCIUs) under 40 CFR §403.12(e)(3).

- (3) Control mechanism status.
    - Indicate whether the IU has an effective individual or general control mechanism, and the date such control mechanism was last issued, reissued, or modified;
    - Indicate which IUs were added to the system, or newly identified, during the pretreatment year reporting period;
    - Include the type of general control mechanisms; and
    - Report all NSCIU annual evaluations performed, as applicable.
  - (4) A summary of all compliance monitoring activities performed by the POTW during the pretreatment year reporting period. The following information shall be reported:
    - Total number of inspections performed; and
    - Total number of sampling events conducted.
  - (5) Status of IU compliance with effluent limitations, reporting, and narrative standard (which may include enforceable BMPs, narrative limits, and/or operational standards) requirements. Compliance status shall be defined as follows:
    - Compliant (C) - no violations during the pretreatment year reporting period;
    - Non-compliant (NC) - one or more violations during the pretreatment year reporting period but does not meet the criteria for SNC; and
    - Significant Noncompliance (SNC) - in accordance with requirements described above in this section.
  - (6) For noncompliant IUs, indicate the nature of the violations, the type and number of actions taken (notice of violation, administrative order, criminal or civil suit, fines or penalties collected, etc.), and the current compliance status. If any IU was on a schedule to attain compliance with effluent limits or narrative standards, indicate the date the schedule was issued and the date compliance is to be attained.
- b. A list of each IU whose authorization to discharge was terminated or revoked during the pretreatment year reporting period and the reason for termination.
  - c. A report on any interference, pass through, Act of God, or POTW permit violations known or suspected to be caused by IUs and response actions taken by the permittee.
  - d. The results of all influent and effluent analyses performed pursuant to Item 3 of this section.



- e. An original newspaper public notice, or copy of the newspaper publication with official affidavit, of the list of IUs that meet the criteria of SNC, giving the name of the newspaper and date the list was published.
- f. The daily average water quality based effluent concentrations (from the TCEQ's Texas Toxicity Modeling Program (TexTox)) necessary to attain the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, 30 TAC Chapter 307, in water in the state.
- g. The maximum allowable headworks loading (MAHL) in pounds per day (lb/day) of the approved TBLLs or for each pollutant of concern (POC) for which the permittee has calculated a MAHL. In addition, the influent loading as a percent of the MAHL, using the annual average flow of the wastewater treatment plant in million gallons per day (MGD) during the pretreatment year reporting period, for each pollutant that has an adopted TBLL or for each POC for which the permittee has calculated a MAHL. (*See Endnotes No. 2 at the end of this section for the influent loading as a percent of the MAHL equation.*)
- h. The permittee may submit the updated pretreatment program annual status report information in tabular form using the example table format provided. Please attach, on a separate sheet, explanations to document the various pretreatment activities, including IU permits that have expired, BMP violations, and any sampling events that were not conducted by the permittee as required.
- i. A summary of changes to the POTW's approved pretreatment program that have not been previously reported to the Approval Authority.

Effective December 21, 2025, the permittee must submit the updated pretreatment program annual status report required by this section electronically using the online electronic reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver. [*rev. Federal Register/ Vol. 80/ No. 204/ Friday, October 22, 2015/ Rules and Regulations, pages 64064-64158*].

5. The permittee shall provide adequate written notification to the Executive Director, care of the Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division, within 30 days of the permittee's knowledge of the following:
  - a. Any new introduction of pollutants into the treatment works from an indirect discharger that would be subject to Sections 301 and 306 of the Clean Water Act, if the indirect discharger was directly discharging those pollutants; and
  - b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the treatment works by a source introducing pollutants into the treatment works at the time of issuance of the permit.

Adequate notice shall include information on the quality and quantity of effluent to be introduced into the treatment works and any anticipated impact of the change on the quality or quantity of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.

*Revised June 2020*

**TPDES Pretreatment Program Annual Report Form for Updated Industrial Users List**

**Reporting month/year:** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ **to** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**TPDES Permit No.:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Permittee:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Treatment Plant:** \_\_\_\_\_

PRETREATMENT PROGRAM STATUS REPORT UPDATED INDUSTRIAL USERS' LIST																
Industrial User Name	SIC or NAICS Code	CIU <sup>2</sup>	CONTROL MECHANISM				New User <sup>3</sup> (Y or N)	Times Inspected by the CA	Times Sampled by the CA	COMPLIANCE STATUS During the Pretreatment Year Reporting Period <sup>4</sup> (C = Compliant, NC = Noncompliant, SNC= Significant Noncompliance)						
			Y/N or NR <sup>5</sup>	IND or GEN or NR	Last Action <sup>6</sup>	TBLLs or TBLLs only <sup>7</sup>				REPORTS				NSCIU Certifications	Effluent Limits	Narrative Standards
										BMR	90-Day	Semi-Annual	Self-Monitoring <sup>8</sup>			

- 1 Include all significant industrial users (SIUs), non-significant categorical industrial users (NSCIUs) as defined in 40 CFR §403.3(v)(2), and/or middle tier categorical industrial users (MTCIUs) as defined in 40 CFR §403.12(e)(3). Please do not include non-significant noncategorical IUs that are covered under best management practices (BMPs) or general control mechanisms.
- 2 Categorical determination (include 40 CFR citation and NSCIU or MTCIU status, if applicable).
- 3 Indicate whether the IU is a new user. If the answer is No or N, then indicate the expiration date of the last issued IU permit.
- 4 The term SNC applies to a broader range of violations, such as daily maximum, long-term average, instantaneous limits, and narrative standards (which may include enforceable BMPs, narrative limits and/or operational standards). Any other violation, or group of violations, which the POTW determines will adversely affect the operation or implementation of the local Pretreatment Program now includes BMP violations (40 CFR §403.8(f)(2)(viii)(H)).
- 5 Code NR= None required (NSCIUs only); IND = individual control mechanism; GEN = general control mechanism. Include as a footnote (or on a separate page) the name of the general control mechanism used for similar groups of IUs, identify the similar types of operations and types of wastes that are the same for each general control mechanism. Any BMPs through general control mechanisms that are applied to nonsignificant IUs need to be reported separately, e.g. the sector type and BMP description.
- 6 Permit or NSCIU evaluations as applicable.
- 7 According to 40 CFR §403.12(i)(1), indicate whether the IU is subject to technically based local limits (TBLLs) that are more stringent than categorical pretreatment standards, e.g. where there is one end-of-pipe sampling point at a CIU, and you have determined that the TBLLs are more stringent than the categorical pretreatment standards for any pollutant at the end-of-pipe sampling point; **OR** the IU is subject only to local limits (TBLLs only), e.g. the IU is a non-categorical SIU subject only to TBLLs at the end-of-pipe sampling point.
- 8 For those IUs where a monitoring waiver has been granted, please add the code "W" (after either C, NC, or SNC codes) and indicate the pollutant(s) for which the waiver has been granted.

**TPDES Pretreatment Program Annual Report Form for  
Industrial User Inventory Modifications**

**Reporting month/year:** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ **to** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**TPDES Permit No:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Permittee:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Treatment Plant:** \_\_\_\_\_

INDUSTRIAL USER INVENTORY MODIFICATIONS					
FACILITY NAME, ADDRESS AND CONTACT PERSON	ADD, CHANGE, DELETE  (Including categorical reclassification to NSCIU or MTCIU)	IF DELETION: Reason For Deletion	IF ADDITION OR SIGNIFICANT CHANGE:		
			PROCESS DESCRIPTION	POLLUTANTS (Including any sampling waiver given for each pollutant not present)	FLOW RATE <sup>9</sup> (In gpd) R = Regulated U = Unregulated T = Total

9 For NSCIUs, total flow must be given, if regulated flow is not determined.

**TPDES Pretreatment Program Annual Report Form for Enforcement Actions Taken**

**Reporting month/year:** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ **to** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**TPDES Permit No:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Permittee:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Treatment Plant:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Overall SNC** \_\_\_\_% **SNC <sup>10</sup> based on:** **Effluent Violations** \_\_\_\_%  
**Reporting Violations** \_\_\_\_% **Narrative Standard Violations** \_\_\_\_%

Noncompliant Industrial Users - Enforcement Actions Taken															
Industrial User Name	Nature of Violation <sup>11</sup>				Number of Actions Taken					Penalties Collected (Do not Include Surcharge)	Compliance Schedule			Current Status Returned to Compliance: (Y or N)	Comments
	Effluent Limits	Reports	NSCIU Certifications	Narrative Standards	NOV	A.O.	Civil	Criminal	Other		Y or N	Date Issued	Date Due		

10 # %  
 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Pretreatment Standards [WENDB-PSNC] (Local Limits/Categorical Standards)  
 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Reporting Requirements [WENDB-PSNC]  
 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Narrative Standards

11 Please specify a separate number for each type of violation, e.g. report, notification, and/or NSCIU certification.

**TPDES Pretreatment Program Annual Report Form for  
Influent and Effluent Monitoring Results<sup>1</sup>**

**Reporting month/year:** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**TPDES Permit No.:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Permittee:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Treatment Plant:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>PRETREATMENT PROGRAM INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT MONITORING RESULTS</b>											
POLLUTANT	MAHL, if Applicable in lb/day	Influent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL)				Average Influent % of the MAHL <sup>2</sup>	Daily Average Effluent Limit (µg/L) <sup>3</sup>	Effluent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL) <sup>4</sup>			
		Date	Date	Date	Date			Date	Date	Date	Date
<b>METALS, CYANIDE AND PHENOLS</b>											
Antimony, Total											
Arsenic, Total											
Beryllium, Total											
Cadmium, Total											
Chromium, Total											
Chromium (Hex)											
Chromium (Tri) <sup>5</sup>											
Copper, Total											
Lead, Total											
Mercury, Total											
Nickel, Total											
Selenium, Total											
Silver, Total											
Thallium, Total											
Zinc, Total											

<b>PRETREATMENT PROGRAM INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT MONITORING RESULTS</b>											
POLLUTANT	MAHL, if Applicable in lb/day	Influent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL)				Average Influent % of the MAHL <sup>2</sup>	Daily Average Effluent Limit (µg/L) <sup>3</sup>	Effluent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL) <sup>4</sup>			
		Date	Date	Date	Date			Date	Date	Date	Date
Cyanide, Available <sup>6</sup>											
Cyanide, Total											
Phenols, Total											
<b>VOLATILE COMPOUNDS</b>											
Acrolein											
Acrylonitrile											
Benzene											
Bromoform							See TTHM				
Carbon Tetrachloride											
Chlorobenzene											
Chlorodibromomethane							See TTHM				
Chloroethane											
2-Chloroethylvinyl Ether											
Chloroform							See TTHM				
Dichlorobromomethane							See TTHM				
1,1-Dichloroethane											
1,2-Dichloroethane											
1,1-Dichloroethylene											
1,2-Dichloropropane											

<b>PRETREATMENT PROGRAM INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT MONITORING RESULTS</b>											
POLLUTANT	MAHL, if Applicable in lb/day	Influent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL)				Average Influent % of the MAHL <sup>2</sup>	Daily Average Effluent Limit (µg/L) <sup>3</sup>	Effluent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL) <sup>4</sup>			
		Date	Date	Date	Date			Date	Date	Date	Date
1,3-Dichloropropylene											
Ethyl benzene											
Methyl Bromide											
Methyl Chloride											
Methylene Chloride											
1,1,2,2-Tetra-chloroethane											
Tetrachloroethylene											
Toluene											
1,2-Trans-Dichloroethylene											
1,1,1-Trichloroethane											
1,1,2-Trichloroethane											
Trichloroethylene											
Vinyl Chloride											
<b>ACID COMPOUNDS</b>											
2-Chlorophenol											
2,4-Dichlorophenol											
2,4-Dimethylphenol											
4,6-Dinitro-o-Cresol											
2,4-Dinitrophenol											
2-Nitrophenol											

<b>PRETREATMENT PROGRAM INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT MONITORING RESULTS</b>											
POLLUTANT	MAHL, if Applicable in lb/day	Influent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL)				Average Influent % of the MAHL <sup>2</sup>	Daily Average Effluent Limit (µg/L) <sup>3</sup>	Effluent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL) <sup>4</sup>			
		Date	Date	Date	Date			Date	Date	Date	Date
4-Nitrophenol											
P-Chloro-m-Cresol											
Pentachlorophenol											
Phenol											
2,4,6-Trichlorophenol											
<b>BASE/NEUTRAL COMPOUNDS</b>											
Acenaphthene											
Acenaphthylene											
Anthracene											
Benzidine											
Benzo(a)Anthracene											
Benzo(a)Pyrene											
3,4-Benzofluoranthene											
Benzo(ghi)Perylene											
Benzo(k)Fluoranthene											
Bis(2-Chloroethoxy)Methane											
Bis(2-Chloroethyl)Ether											
Bis(2-Chloroisopropyl)Ether											
Bis(2-Ethylhexyl)Phthalate											
4-Bromophenyl Phenyl Ether											



PRETREATMENT PROGRAM INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT MONITORING RESULTS											
POLLUTANT	MAHL, if Applicable in lb/day	Influent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL)				Average Influent % of the MAHL <sup>2</sup>	Daily Average Effluent Limit (µg/L) <sup>3</sup>	Effluent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL) <sup>4</sup>			
		Date	Date	Date	Date			Date	Date	Date	Date
Butylbenzyl Phthalate											
2-Chloronaphthalene											
4-Chlorophenyl Phenyl Ether											
Chrysene											
Dibenzo(a,h)Anthracene											
1,2-Dichlorobenzene											
1,3-Dichlorobenzene											
1,4-Dichlorobenzene											
3,3-Dichlorobenzidine											
Diethyl Phthalate											
Dimethyl Phthalate											
Di-n-Butyl Phthalate											
2,4-Dinitrotoluene											
2,6-Dinitrotoluene											
Di-n-Octyl Phthalate											
1,2-Diphenyl Hydrazine											
Fluoranthene											
Fluorene											
Hexachlorobenzene											
Hexachlorobutadiene											

<b>PRETREATMENT PROGRAM INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT MONITORING RESULTS</b>											
POLLUTANT	MAHL, if Applicable in lb/day	Influent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL)				Average Influent % of the MAHL <sup>2</sup>	Daily Average Effluent Limit (µg/L) <sup>3</sup>	Effluent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL) <sup>4</sup>			
		Date	Date	Date	Date			Date	Date	Date	Date
Hexachloro- cyclopentadiene											
Hexachloroethane											
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene											
Isophorone											
Naphthalene											
Nitrobenzene											
N-Nitrosodimethylamine											
N-Nitrosodi-n-Propylamine											
N-Nitrosodiphenylamine											
Phenanthrene											
Pyrene											
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene											
<b>PESTICIDES</b>											
Aldrin											
Alpha-hexachlorocyclohexane (BHC)											
beta-BHC											
gamma-BHC (Lindane)											
delta-BHC											
Chlordane											
4,4-DDT											

PRETREATMENT PROGRAM INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT MONITORING RESULTS											
POLLUTANT	MAHL, if Applicable in lb/day	Influent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL)				Average Influent % of the MAHL <sup>2</sup>	Daily Average Effluent Limit (µg/L) <sup>3</sup>	Effluent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL) <sup>4</sup>			
		Date	Date	Date	Date			Date	Date	Date	Date
4,4-DDE											
4,4-DDD											
Dieldrin											
alpha-Endosulfan											
beta-Endosulfan											
Endosulfan Sulfate											
Endrin											
Endrin Aldehyde											
Heptachlor											
Heptachlor Epoxide											
Polychlorinated biphenols (PCBs) <i>The sum of PCB concentrations not to exceed daily average value.</i>											
PCB-1242							See PCBs				
PCB-1254							See PCBs				
PCB-1221							See PCBs				
PCB-1232							See PCBs				
PCB-1248							See PCBs				
PCB-1260							See PCBs				
PCB-1016							See PCBs				

<b>PRETREATMENT PROGRAM INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT MONITORING RESULTS</b>											
POLLUTANT	MAHL, if Applicable in lb/day	Influent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL)				Average Influent % of the MAHL <sup>2</sup>	Daily Average Effluent Limit (µg/L) <sup>3</sup>	Effluent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL) <sup>4</sup>			
		Date	Date	Date	Date			Date	Date	Date	Date
Toxaphene											
<b>ADDITIONAL TOXIC POLLUTANTS REGULATED UNDER 30 TAC CHAPTER 307</b>											
Aluminum											
Barium											
Bis(chloromethyl)ether <sup>7</sup>											
Carbaryl											
Chloropyrifos											
Cresols											
2,4-D											
Danitol <sup>8</sup>											
Demeton											
Diazinon											
Dicofol											
Dioxin/Furans <sup>9</sup>											
Diuron											
Epichlorohydrin <sup>9</sup>											
Ethylene glycol <sup>9</sup>											
Fluoride											
Guthion											
Hexachlorophene											

PRETREATMENT PROGRAM INFLUENT AND EFFLUENT MONITORING RESULTS											
POLLUTANT	MAHL, if Applicable in lb/day	Influent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL)				Average Influent % of the MAHL <sup>2</sup>	Daily Average Effluent Limit (µg/L) <sup>3</sup>	Effluent Measured in µg/L (Actual Concentration or < MAL) <sup>4</sup>			
		Date	Date	Date	Date			Date	Date	Date	Date
4,4'-Isopropylidenediphenolediphenol (biphenol A) <sup>9</sup>											
Malathion											
Methoxychlor											
Methyl Ethyl Ketone											
Methyl tert-butyl-ether (MTBE) <sup>9</sup>											
Mirex											
Nitrate-Nitrogen											
N-Nitrosodiethylamine											
N-Nitroso-di-n-Butylamine											
Nonylphenol											
Parathion											
Pentachlorobenzene											
Pyridine											
1,2-Dibromoethane											
1,2,4,5-Tetrachlorobenzene											
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)											
Tributyltin <sup>9</sup>											
2,4,5-Trichlorophenol											
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)											

**Endnotes:**

1. It is advised that the permittee collect the influent and effluent samples considering flow detention time through each wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).
2. The MAHL of the approved TBLLs or for each pollutant of concern (POC) for which the permittee has calculated a MAHL. Only complete the column labeled "Average Influent % of the MAHL," as a percentage, for pollutants that have approved TBLLs or for each POC for which the permittee has calculated a MAHL (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency *Local Limits Development Guidance*, July 2004, EPA933-R-04-002A).

The % of the MAHL is to be calculated using the following formulas:

$$\text{Equation A: } L_{\text{INF}} = (C_{\text{POLL}} \times Q_{\text{WWTP}} \times 8.34) / 1000$$

$$\text{Equation B: } L\% = (L_{\text{INF}} / \text{MAHL}) \times 100$$

Where:

$L_{\text{INF}}$ =	Current Average (Avg) influent loading in lb/day
$C_{\text{POLL}}$ =	Avg concentration in $\mu\text{g/L}$ of all influent samples collected during the pretreatment year.
$Q_{\text{WWTP}}$ =	Annual average flow of the WWTP in MGD, defined as the arithmetic average of all daily flow determinations taken within the preceding 12 consecutive calendar months (or during the pretreatment year), and as described in the Definitions and Standard Permit Conditions section.
$L\%$ =	% of the MAHL
MAHL =	Calculated MAHL in lb/day
8.34 =	Unit conversion factor

3. Daily average effluent limit (metal values are for total metals) as derived by the Texas Toxicity Modeling Program (TexTox). Effluent limits as calculated are designed to be protective of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards. The permittee shall determine and indicate which effluent limit is the most stringent between the 30 TAC Chapter 319, Subchapter B (Hazardous Metals) limit, TexTox values, or any applicable limit in the Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements Section of this TPDES permit. Shaded blocks need not be filled in unless the permittee has received a permit requirement/limit for the particular parameter.
4. Minimum analytical levels (MALs) and analytical methods as suggested in Tables E-1 and E-2 of the *Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards* (June 2010), as amended and adopted by the TCEQ. Pollutants that are not detectable above the MAL need to be reported as less than (<) the MAL numeric value.
5. Report result by subtracting Hexavalent Chromium from Total Chromium.
6. Either the method for Amenable to Chlorination or Weak-Acid Dissociable is authorized.
7. Hydrolyzes in water. Will not require permittee to analyze at this time.
8. EPA procedure not approved. Will not require permittee to analyze at this time.
9. Analyses are not required at this time for these pollutants unless there is reason to believe that these pollutants may be present.

**BIOMONITORING REQUIREMENTS****CHRONIC BIOMONITORING REQUIREMENTS: FRESHWATER**

The provisions of this section apply to Outfall 001 for whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing.

**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, reproduction, or growth of the test organisms.
- b. The permittee shall conduct the following toxicity tests using the test organisms, procedures and quality assurance requirements specified in this part of this 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) Chronic static renewal survival and reproduction test using the water flea (*Ceriodaphnia dubia*) (Method 1002.0). This test should be terminated when 60% of the surviving adults in the control produce three broods or at the end of eight days, whichever occurs first. This test shall be conducted once per quarter.
  - 2) Chronic static renewal 7-day larval survival and growth test using the fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*) (Method 1000.0). 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 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 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 effluent dilution concentrations are 29%, 39%, 52%, 69% and 100% effluent. The critical dilution, defined as 52% 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 effluent limit, a best management practice, or other appropriate actions to address toxicity. The permittee may be required to conduct a toxicity reduction evaluation (TRE) after multiple toxic events.
- e. Testing Frequency Reduction
  - 1) If none of the first four consecutive quarterly tests demonstrates significant toxicity, 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 toxicity, the permittee shall continue quarterly testing for that species until this permit is reissued. If a testing frequency reduction had been previously granted and a subsequent test demonstrates significant toxicity, the permittee shall resume a quarterly testing frequency for that species until this 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 fail to meet the following criteria:
  - 1) a control mean survival of 90% or greater;
  - 2) a control mean number of water flea neonates per surviving adult of 15 or greater;
  - 3) a control mean dry weight of surviving fathead minnow larvae of 0.25 mg or greater;
  - 4) a control coefficient of variation percent (CV%) of 40 or less in between replicates for the young of surviving females in the water flea test; and the growth and survival endpoints in the fathead minnow test;
  - 5) a critical dilution CV% of 40 or less for young of surviving females in the water flea test; and the growth and survival endpoints for the fathead minnow test, unless statistically significant toxicity is demonstrated at the critical dilution, in which case the test shall be considered valid;
  - 6) a percent minimum significant difference of 47 or less for water flea reproduction, unless statistically significant sublethal toxicity is demonstrated at the critical dilution, in which case the test shall be considered valid; and
  - 7) a PMSD of 30 or less for fathead minnow growth, unless statistically significant sublethal toxicity is demonstrated at the critical dilution, in which case the test shall be considered valid.
- b. Statistical Interpretation
  - 1) For the water flea survival and reproduction test, the statistical analyses used to determine the inhibition concentration of effluent that would cause a 25% reduction (IC25) in survival or mean young per female shall be as described in the methods manual referenced in Part 1.b.
  - 2) For the fathead minnow larval survival and growth tests, the statistical analyses used to determine the IC25 in survival or growth shall be as



described in the methods manual referenced in Part 1.b.

- 3) The permittee is responsible for reviewing test concentration-response relationships to ensure that calculated test-results are interpreted and reported correctly. The document entitled “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.
- 4) Most point estimates are derived from a mathematical model that assumes a continuous dose-response relationship. For any test result that demonstrates a non-continuous (threshold) response, or a non-monotonic dose-response relationship, the IC<sub>25</sub> should be determined based on the method guidance manual referenced in Item 3.
- 5) Pursuant to the responsibility assigned to the permittee in Part 2.b.3), test results that demonstrate a non-monotonic dose-response relationship may be submitted, prior to the due date, for technical review of test validity and acceptability. The method guidance manual referenced in Item 3 will be used as the basis, along with best professional judgement, for making a determination of test validity and acceptability.

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) use the closest downstream perennial water unaffected by the discharge.
- 2) Where the receiving water proves unsatisfactory as a result of pre-existing instream toxicity (i.e. fails to fulfill the test acceptance criteria of Part 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 Part 2.a;
  - b) the test indicating receiving water toxicity was carried out to completion (i.e., 7 days);

- c) the permittee submitted all test results indicating receiving water toxicity with the reports and information required in Part 3.
  - 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 three composite samples from Outfall 001. The second and third composite samples 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 being 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 any 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 number 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 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 in Part 1.b. 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 T4P3B, enter a "1" if the IC25 for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."
  - 2) For the water flea, Parameter T6P3B, report the IC25 for survival.
  - 3) For the water flea, Parameter T5P3B, enter a "1" if the IC25 for reproduction is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."
  - 4) For the water flea, Parameter T7P3B, report the IC25 for reproduction.
  - 5) For the fathead minnow, Parameter T4P6C, enter a "1" if the IC25 for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."
  - 6) For the fathead minnow, Parameter T6P6C, report the IC25 for survival.
  - 7) For the fathead minnow, Parameter T5P6C, enter a "1" if the IC25 for growth is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."
  - 8) For the fathead minnow, Parameter T7P6C, report the IC25 for growth.
- d. Enter the following codes for retests only:
- 1) For retest number 1, Parameter 22415, enter a "1" if the IC25 for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."
  - 2) For retest number 2, Parameter 22416, enter a "1" if the IC25 for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."

4. Persistent Toxicity

The requirements of this Part apply only when a test demonstrates a significant effect at the critical dilution. A significant effect is defined as an IC25 of a specified endpoint (survival, growth, or reproduction) less than the critical dilution. Significant lethality is defined as a survival IC25 less than the critical dilution. Similarly, significant

sublethality is defined as a growth or reproduction IC25 less than the critical dilution.

- a. The permittee shall conduct a total of 2 additional tests (retests) for any species that demonstrates a significant effect (lethal or sublethal) at the critical dilution. 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 the retests are performed due to a demonstration of significant lethality, and one or both of the two retests specified in Part 4.a. demonstrates significant lethality, the permittee shall initiate the TRE requirements as specified in Part 5. The provisions of Part 4.a. are suspended upon completion of the two retests and submittal of the TRE action plan and schedule defined in Part 5.

If neither test demonstrates significant lethality and the permittee is testing under the reduced testing frequency provision of Part 1.e., the permittee shall return to a quarterly testing frequency for that species.

- c. If the two retests are performed due to a demonstration of significant sublethality, and one or both of the two retests specified in Part 4.a. demonstrates significant lethality, the permittee shall again perform two retests as stipulated in Part 4.a.
- d. If the two retests are performed due to a demonstration of significant sublethality, and neither test demonstrates significant lethality, the permittee shall continue testing at the quarterly frequency.
- e. Regardless of whether retesting for lethal or sublethal effects, or a combination of the two, no more than one retest per month is required for a species.

#### 5. Toxicity Reduction Evaluation

- a. Within 45 days of the retest that demonstrates significant lethality, or within 45 days of being so instructed due to multiple toxic events, the permittee shall submit a general outline for initiating a 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, or within 90 days of being so instructed due to multiple toxic events, 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 analyses 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 Part 1.b. At 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 "Toxicity Identification Evaluation: Characterization of Chronically Toxic Effluents, Phase I" (EPA/600/6-91/005F) 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 a specific pollutant and source of effluent toxicity, the permittee shall conduct, concurrent with toxicity testing, chemical-specific analyses for the identified and suspected pollutant and source 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, and 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 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 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 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.
- 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, i.e., there is a cessation of lethality, 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.

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 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 its pursuit of the toxicity identification evaluation/TRE and must prove that circumstances beyond its control stalled the toxicity identification evaluation/TRE. The report shall provide information pertaining to the specific control mechanism selected that will, when implemented, result in the reduction

of effluent toxicity to no significant lethality at the critical dilution. The report shall also provide a specific corrective action schedule for implementing the selected control mechanism.

- h. Based on the results of the TRE and proposed corrective actions, this permit may be amended to modify the biomonitoring requirements, where necessary, require a compliance schedule for implementation of corrective actions, specify a WET limit, specify a best management practice, and specify a chemical-specific limit.
- i. Copies of any and all required TRE plans and reports shall also be submitted to the U.S. EPA Region 6 office, 6WQ-PO.

TABLE 1 (SHEET 1 OF 4)

BIOMONITORING REPORTING

CERIODAPHNIA DUBIA SURVIVAL AND REPRODUCTION

Dates and Times Composites Collected

		Date	Time	Date	Time
No. 1	FROM:	_____	_____	TO:	_____
No. 2	FROM:	_____	_____	TO:	_____
No. 3	FROM:	_____	_____	TO:	_____

Test initiated: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm \_\_\_\_\_ date

Dilution water used: \_\_\_\_\_ Receiving water \_\_\_\_\_ Synthetic Dilution water

NUMBER OF YOUNG PRODUCED PER ADULT AT END OF TEST

REP	Percent effluent					
	0%	29%	39%	52%	69%	100%
A						
B						
C						
D						
E						
F						
G						
H						
I						
J						
Survival Mean						
Total Mean						
CV%*						

\*Coefficient of Variation = standard deviation x 100/mean (calculation based on young of the surviving adults)

Designate males (M), and dead females (D), along with number of neonates (x) released prior to death.



TABLE 1 (SHEET 2 OF 4)

CERIODAPHNIA DUBIA SURVIVAL AND REPRODUCTION TEST

PERCENT SURVIVAL

Time of Reading	Percent effluent					
	0%	29%	39%	52%	69%	100%
24h						
48h						
End of Test						

1. Is the IC25 for reproduction less than the critical dilution (52%)? \_\_\_\_\_ YES  
 \_\_\_\_\_ NO

2. Is the IC25 for survival less than the critical dilution (52%)? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

3. Enter percent effluent corresponding to each IC25 below:

IC25 survival = \_\_\_\_\_%

IC25 reproduction = \_\_\_\_\_%

TABLE 1 (SHEET 3 OF 4)

BIOMONITORING REPORTING

FATHEAD MINNOW LARVAE GROWTH AND SURVIVAL

Dates and Times  
Composites  
Collected

No. 1 FROM: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ TO: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

No. 2 FROM: \_\_\_\_\_ TO: \_\_\_\_\_

No. 3 FROM: \_\_\_\_\_ TO: \_\_\_\_\_

Test initiated: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm \_\_\_\_\_ date

Dilution water used: \_\_\_\_\_ Receiving water \_\_\_\_\_ Synthetic dilution water

FATHEAD MINNOW GROWTH DATA

Effluent Concentration	Average Dry Weight in replicate chambers					Mean Dry Weight	CV%*
	A	B	C	D	E		
0%							
29%							
39%							
52%							
69%							
100%							

\* Coefficient of Variation = standard deviation x 100/mean

TABLE 1 (SHEET 4 OF 4)  
 BIOMONITORING REPORTING  
 FATHEAD MINNOW GROWTH AND SURVIVAL TEST

FATHEAD MINNOW SURVIVAL DATA

Effluent Concentration	Percent Survival in replicate chambers					Mean percent survival			CV%*
	A	B	C	D	E	24h	48h	7 day	
0%									
29%									
39%									
52%									
69%									
100%									

\* Coefficient of Variation = standard deviation x 100/mean

1. Is the IC<sub>25</sub> for growth less than the critical dilution (52%)? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO
2. Is the IC<sub>25</sub> for survival less than the critical dilution (52%)? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO
3. Enter percent effluent corresponding to each IC<sub>25</sub> below:  
 IC<sub>25</sub> survival = \_\_\_\_\_%  
 IC<sub>25</sub> growth = \_\_\_\_\_%

24-HOUR ACUTE BIOMONITORING REQUIREMENTS: FRESHWATER

The provisions of this section apply to Outfall 001 for whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing.

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 Texas Surface Water Quality Standard 30 TAC § 307.6(e)(2)(B), which requires 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 using 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 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 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 defined as any test failing to satisfy the test acceptability criteria, procedures, and quality assurance requirements specified in the test methods and permit.

- c. In addition to an appropriate control, a 100% effluent concentration shall be used in the toxicity tests. Except as discussed in item 2.b., 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 Best Management Practice (BMP), Chemical-Specific (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 Chronic 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 normally consist of standard, synthetic, moderately hard, reconstituted water. If the permittee utilizes the results of a chronic test to satisfy the requirements in item 1.e., the permittee may use the receiving water or dilution water that meets the requirements of item 2.a as the control and dilution 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 sample is representative of any periodic episode of chlorination, biocide usage, or other potentially toxic substance being discharged.
  - 3) The permittee shall initiate the toxicity tests within 36 hours after collection of the last portion of the composite sample. The 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.
  - 5) The effluent sample shall not be dechlorinated after sample collection.

### 3. Reporting

All reports, tables, plans, summaries, and related correspondence required in 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 in Part 1.b. 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 July 20th and January 20th for biomonitoring conducted during the previous 6-month period.
  - 2) 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.

- 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, which is defined as a mean mortality of 50% or greater of organisms exposed to the 100% effluent concentration for 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 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 Part 4.a. demonstrates significant lethality, the permittee shall initiate the TRE requirements as specified in Part 5.

#### 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 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 Part 1.b. At 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 a specific pollutant and source of effluent toxicity, the permittee shall conduct, concurrent with toxicity testing, chemical-specific analyses for the identified and suspected pollutant and source 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, and 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 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 and source 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.
- 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, i.e., there is a cessation of lethality, 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.

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 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 its pursuit of the toxicity identification evaluation/TRE and must prove that circumstances beyond its control stalled the toxicity identification evaluation/TRE. The report shall specify the control mechanism that will, when implemented, reduce effluent toxicity as specified in item 5.h. The report will also specify a corrective action schedule for implementing the selected control mechanism.

- 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 its pursuit of the toxicity identification evaluation/TRE and must prove that circumstances beyond its control stalled the toxicity identification evaluation/TRE.

The permittee may be exempted from complying with 30 TAC § 307.6(e)(2)(B) upon proving 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, this 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, require a compliance schedule for implementation of corrective actions, specify a WET limit, specify a best management practice, and specify a chemical-specific limit.
- j. Copies of any and all required TRE plans and reports shall also be submitted to the U.S. EPA Region 6 office, 6WQ-PO.

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

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

## FACT SHEET AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY DECISION

For draft Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0010495030, EPA I.D. No. TX0063002, to discharge to water in the state.

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

Applicant: City of Houston  
10500 Bellaire Boulevard  
Houston, Texas 77072

Prepared By: Tong Li, P.E.  
Municipal Permits Team  
Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148)  
Water Quality Division  
(512) 239-4653

Date: 4/12/2022 (Revised 4/19/2022, 4/20/2022, and 4/28/2022)

Permit Action: Major Amendment with Renewal

### 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 **five years from the date of issuance**.

### 2. APPLICANT ACTIVITY

The applicant has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an amendment of the existing permit to authorize the removal of the existing Sublethal Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) limits and monitoring requirements from the permit pursuant to the Environmental Protection Agency's WET policies, the Clean Water Act, and the Code of Federal Regulations. The existing wastewater treatment facility serves an area in West Houston inside Harris County that includes residential and commercial development.

### 3. FACILITY AND DISCHARGE LOCATION

The plant site is located at 12901 Hermitage Lane, in the City of Houston, Harris County, Texas 77079.

#### Outfall Location:

<b>Outfall Number</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
001	29.761965 N	95.561934 W

The treated effluent is discharged directly to Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal in Segment No. 1014 of the San Jacinto River Basin. The designated uses for Segment No. 1014 are

primary contact recreation and limited aquatic life use.

**4. TREATMENT PROCESS DESCRIPTION AND SEWAGE SLUDGE DISPOSAL**

The West District Wastewater Treatment Facility is an activated sludge process plant operated in the single stage nitrification mode. Treatment units include a bar screen, nine aeration basins, six final clarifiers, two chlorine contact chambers, and dechlorination chamber. The facility is in operation.

Sludge generated from the treatment facility is pumped by pipe or hauled by a registered transporter to City of Houston 69th Street Wastewater Treatment Facility, Permit No. WQ0010495090, or another permitted wastewater treatment facility owned by the City of Houston to be digested, dewatered and then disposed of with the bulk of the sludge from the plant accepting the sludge. The draft permit also authorizes the disposal of sludge at a TCEQ-authorized land application site, co-disposal landfill, wastewater treatment facility, or facility that further processes sludge.

**5. INDUSTRIAL WASTE CONTRIBUTION**

The draft permit includes pretreatment requirements that are appropriate for a facility of this size and complexity. The facility receives significant industrial wastewater contributions.

**6. SUMMARY OF SELF-REPORTED EFFLUENT ANALYSES**

The following is a summary of the applicant's effluent monitoring data for the period February 2020 through February 2022. The average of Daily Average value is computed by the averaging of all 30-day average values for the reporting period for each parameter: flow, five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD<sub>5</sub>), total suspended solids (TSS), and ammonia nitrogen (NH<sub>3</sub>-N). The average of Daily Average value for *Escherichia coli* in colony-forming units (CFU) or most probable number (MPN) per 100 ml is calculated via geometric mean.

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Average of Daily Avg</u>
Flow, MGD	9.5 (annual average as of 1/31/2022)
CBOD <sub>5</sub> , mg/l	2.6
TSS, mg/l	3.3
NH <sub>3</sub> -N, mg/l	
June - August	1.0
September - May	1.0
<i>E. coli</i> , CFU or MPN per 100 ml	2

**7. 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. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

The annual average flow of effluent shall not exceed 26.4 MGD, nor shall the

average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 66,277 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>lbs/day</u>	<u>mg/l</u>	<u>mg/l</u>
CBOD <sub>5</sub>	10	2,202	15	25
TSS	15	3,303	25	40
NH <sub>3</sub> -N				
April–October	2	440	5	10
November–March	4	881	6	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 day 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 total 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 total chlorine residual and shall monitor total 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 <sub>5</sub>	One/day
TSS	One/day
NH <sub>3</sub> -N	One/day
DO	One/day
<i>E. coli</i>	Five/week

**B. SEWAGE SLUDGE REQUIREMENTS**

The draft permit includes Sludge Provisions according to the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 312, Sludge Use, Disposal, and Transportation. Sludge generated from the treatment facility is pumped by pipe or hauled by a registered transporter to City of Houston 69th Street Wastewater Treatment Facility, Permit No. WQ0010495090, or another permitted wastewater treatment facility owned by the City of Houston to be digested, dewatered and then disposed of with the bulk of the sludge from the plant accepting the sludge. The draft permit also authorizes the disposal of sludge at a TCEQ-authorized land application site, co-disposal landfill, wastewater treatment facility, or facility that further processes sludge.

C. PRETREATMENT REQUIREMENTS

Permit requirements for pretreatment are based on TPDES regulations contained in 30 TAC Chapter 315, which references 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 403, "General Pretreatment Regulations for Existing and New Sources of Pollution" [*rev. Federal Register/ Vol. 70/ No. 198/ Friday, October 14, 2005/ Rules and Regulations, pages 60134-60798*]. The permit includes specific requirements that establish responsibilities of local government, industry, and the public to implement the standards to control pollutants which pass through or interfere with treatment processes in publicly owned treatment works or which may contaminate the sewage sludge. This permit has appropriate pretreatment language for a facility of this size and complexity.

The permittee has a pretreatment program which was approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on **November 27, 1984** and modified on **February 26, 1993**, and **March 11, 2020 (nonsubstantial Streamlining Rule modification)**, and **June 14, 2021 (Technology Based Local Limits)**. The permittee is required, under the conditions of the approved pretreatment program, to prepare annually a list of industrial users which during the preceding twelve months were in significant noncompliance with applicable pretreatment requirements for those facilities covered under the program. This list is to be published annually during the month of **November** in a newspaper of general circulation that provides meaningful public notice within the jurisdiction(s) served by the POTW.

Effective December 21, 2025, the permittee must submit the pretreatment program annual status report electronically using the online electronic reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver. [*rev. Federal Register/ Vol. 80/ No. 204/ Friday, October 22, 2015/ Rules and Regulations, pages 64064-64158*].

The permittee is under a continuing duty to: establish and enforce specific local limits to implement the provisions of 40 CFR §403.5, to develop and enforce local limits as necessary, and to modify the approved POTW pretreatment program as necessary to comply with federal, state, and local law, as amended. The permittee is required to effectively enforce such limits and to modify their pretreatment program, including the Legal Authority, Enforcement Response Plan, and/or Standard Operating Procedures, if required by the Executive Director to reflect changing conditions at the POTW.

This permittee has submitted a substantial modification package revising the existing TBLLs, the Legal Authority, which incorporates such revisions, and any additional modifications to the pretreatment program including an Enforcement Response Plan and Standard Operating Procedures (including forms). This substantial modification documentation submitted by the permittee has been reviewed by the TCEQ staff and determined to be administratively and technically complete on January 6, 2020. The permit action for TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495076, incorporates the pretreatment program substantial modification request by the permittee on November 16, 2020. This substantial modification meets all of the requirements of 40 CFR §§403.8(f) and 403.9(b) prior to October 14, 2005, and with the permittee's existing TPDES permit.



The permittee incorporated a substantial modification of their TBLLs into their pretreatment program via the permit action on TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495076 on June 14, 2021. The revised TBLLs will be incorporated by reference into TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495030.

D. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY (BIOMONITORING) REQUIREMENTS

- (1) The draft permit includes 7-day chronic 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 29%, 39%, 52%, 69%, and 100%. The low-flow effluent concentration (critical dilution) is defined as 52% effluent. The critical dilution is in accordance with the "Aquatic Life Criteria" section of the "Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations/Conditions" section.
  - (a) Chronic static renewal survival and reproduction test using the water flea (*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) Chronic static renewal 7-day larval survival and growth 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*).

E. SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM APPLICATION

None.

F. SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM EXISTING PERMIT

The Standard Permit Conditions, Sludge Provisions, Other Requirements, and Biomonitoring sections of the draft permit have been updated.

The pretreatment language has been updated from the current permit. The pretreatment requirements will continue until permit expiration. Please see specific details in the Pretreatment Requirements Section of the fact sheet. For Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs), effective December 21, 2025, the permittee must submit the written report for unauthorized discharges and

unanticipated bypasses that exceed any effluent limit in the permit using the online electronic reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver.

Certain accidental discharges or spills of treated or untreated wastewater from wastewater treatment facilities or collection systems owned or operated by a local government may be reported on a monthly basis in accordance with 30 TAC § 305.132.

At the permittee's request, the sublethal WET limit for the water flea is removed. The removal of the WET limit is in accordance with the EPA Region 6 WET letter dated December 28, 2015, which concurs with TCEQ's policy, which states that WET limits may be removed from a permit after three years of compliance with the limit. Pursuant to CWA § 402(o)(2)(B)(i) and 40 CFR § 122.44(l)(2)(i)(B)(1), a permit may be reissued containing effluent limitations that are less stringent than comparable effluent limitations in the previous permit if information is available which was not available at the time of permit issuance, and which would have justified the application of a less stringent effluent limitation at the time of permit issuance. The test results submitted by the permittee during the past three years warrant the removal of the sublethal WET limit.

The treatment unit description has been updated from the existing permit.

The draft permit includes all updates based on the 30 TAC § 312 rule change effective April 23, 2020.

## 8. DRAFT PERMIT RATIONALE

### A. TECHNOLOGY-BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS/CONDITIONS

Regulations promulgated in Title 40 of the CFR require that technology-based limitations be placed in wastewater discharge permits based on effluent limitations guidelines, where applicable, 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).

Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (TSWQS) at 30 TAC Chapter 307 allow for consideration of the mixing of effluent and receiving water when evaluating discharge compliance with water quality criteria for pH. The discharge authorized by this permit shall meet the TSWQS pH criterion for Segment No. 1014 of 6.5 to 9.0 standard units at the edge of the chronic mixing zone.

A mixing zone evaluation for pH is included within Attachment A of this Fact Sheet. The evaluation has demonstrated that the technology based pH limitations of 6.0 to 9.0 standard units will ensure compliance with the TSWQS pH criterion at the edge of the chronic mixing zone. **See Attachment A of this Fact Sheet.**

B. WATER QUALITY SUMMARY AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

(1) WATER QUALITY SUMMARY

The treated effluent is discharged directly to Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal in Segment No. 1014 of the San Jacinto River Basin. The designated uses for Segment No. 1014 are primary contact recreation and limited aquatic life use. The effluent limitations in the draft permit will maintain and protect the existing instream uses.

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's) 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 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 2020 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list).

The total maximum daily loads (TMDL) project *Fourteen Total Maximum Daily Loads for Nickel in the Houston Ship Channel System (TMDL Project No.1)* **has been withdrawn and is no longer applicable.**

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. On April 8, 2009, the TCEQ adopted *Eighteen Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria in Buffalo and Whiteoak Bayous and Tributaries*. 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 CFU or MPN per 100 ml has been continued in the draft permit.

The effluent limitations and conditions in the draft permit comply with EPA-approved portions of the 2018 Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (TSWQS), 30 TAC §§ 307.1 - 307.10, effective March 1, 2018; 2014 TSWQS, effective March 6, 2014; 2010 TSWQS, effective July 22, 2010; and 2000 TSWQS, effective July 26, 2000.

(2) CONVENTIONAL PARAMETERS

Effluent limitations for the conventional effluent parameters (i.e., Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand or Five-Day 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 TSWQS and the State of Texas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP).

The effluent limitations in the draft permit have been reviewed for consistency with the WQMP. The existing effluent limitations are contained in the approved WQMP.

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 "Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, June 2010" 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).

Acute freshwater criteria are applied at the edge of the zone of initial

dilution (ZID), and chronic freshwater criteria are applied at the edge of the aquatic life mixing zone. The ZID for this discharge is defined as 20 feet upstream and 60 feet downstream from the point where the discharge enters Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal. The aquatic life mixing zone for this discharge is defined as 100 feet upstream and 300 feet downstream from the point where the discharge enters Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal.

TCEQ uses the mass balance equation to estimate dilutions at the edges of the ZID and aquatic life mixing zone during critical conditions. The estimated dilution at the edge of the aquatic life mixing zone is calculated using the permitted flow of 26.4 MGD and the 7-day, 2-year (7Q2) flow of 37.05 cubic feet per second (cfs) for Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal. The estimated dilution at the edge of the ZID is calculated using the permitted flow of 26.4 MGD and 25% of the 7Q2 flow. The following critical effluent percentages are being used:

Acute Effluent %:	81.52%	Chronic Effluent %:	52.44%
-------------------	--------	---------------------	--------

Waste load allocations (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 90<sup>th</sup> 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 lower of the two LTAs (acute and chronic) 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 99<sup>th</sup> 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 TCEQ guidance document "Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, June 2010." The segment values are 40 mg/l for hardness (as calcium carbonate), 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 TCEQ guidance document.

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. **See Attachment B of this Fact Sheet.**

(b) PERMIT ACTION

Analytical data reported in the application was screened against calculated water quality-based effluent limitations for the protection of aquatic life. Reported analytical data does not exceed 70% of the calculated daily average water quality-based effluent limitations for aquatic life protection.

(3) AQUATIC ORGANISM BIOACCUMULATION CRITERIA

(a) SCREENING

Water quality-based effluent limitations for the protection of human health are calculated using criteria for the consumption of freshwater fish tissue found in Table 2 of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (30 TAC Chapter 307). Freshwater fish tissue bioaccumulation criteria are applied at the edge of the human health mixing zone. The human health mixing zone for this discharge is identical to the aquatic life mixing zone. TCEQ uses the mass balance equation to estimate dilution at the edge of the human health mixing zone during average flow conditions. The estimated dilution at the edge of the human health mixing zone is calculated using the permitted flow of 26.4 MGD and the harmonic mean flow of 96.47 cfs for Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal. The following critical effluent percentage is being used:

Human Health Effluent %: 29.75%

Water quality-based effluent limitations for human health protection against the consumption of fish tissue are calculated using the same procedure as outlined for calculation of water quality-based effluent limitations for aquatic life protection. A 99<sup>th</sup> percentile confidence level in the long-term average calculation is used with only one long-term average value being calculated.

Significant potential is again determined by comparing reported analytical data against 70% and 85% of the calculated daily average water quality-based effluent limitation. **See Attachment B of this Fact Sheet.**

(b) PERMIT ACTION

Reported analytical data does not exceed 70% of the calculated daily average water quality-based effluent limitation for human health protection.

(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 existing permit includes 7-day chronic freshwater biomonitoring requirements. A summary of the biomonitoring testing for the facility indicates that in the past three years, the permittee has performed thirteen chronic tests, with zero demonstrations of significant toxicity (i.e., zero failures).

At the permittee's request, the sublethal WET limit for the water flea is removed. The removal of the WET limit is in accordance with the EPA Region 6 WET letter (see reference below), which concurs with TCEQ's policy (see reference below), which states that WET limits may be removed from a permit after three years of compliance with the limit. Pursuant to CWA § 402(o)(2)(B)(i) and 40 CFR § 122.44(l)(2)(i)(B)(1), a permit may be reissued containing effluent limitations that are less stringent than comparable effluent limitations in the previous permit if information is available which was not available at the time of permit issuance, and which would have justified the application of a less stringent effluent limitation at the time of permit issuance. The test results submitted by the permittee during the past three years warrant the removal of the sublethal WET limit.

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. Since the water flea already has a WET limit, only the fathead minnow was evaluated. The RP determination is based on representative data from the previous three years of chronic WET testing. This determination was performed in accordance with the methodology outlined in the TCEQ letter to the EPA dated December 28, 2015 and approved by the EPA in a letter dated December 28, 2015.

With zero failures, a determination of no RP was made. WET limits are not required and both test species may be eligible for the testing frequency reduction after one year of quarterly testing.

(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.

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

(a) SCREENING

The existing permit includes 24-hour acute freshwater biomonitoring language. A summary of the biomonitoring testing for the facility indicates that in the past three years, the permittee has performed ten 24-hour acute tests, with zero demonstrations of significant lethality (i.e., zero failures).

(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.

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 Tong Li, P.E. at (512) 239-4653.

## **11. ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

The following items were considered in developing the draft permit:

**A. PERMIT(S)**

TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495030 issued on September 21, 2017.

**B. APPLICATION**

Application received on October 22, 2021.

**C. MEMORANDA**

Interoffice Memoranda from the Water Quality Assessment Section of the TCEQ Water Quality Division. Interoffice Memorandum from the Pretreatment Team of

the TCEQ Water Quality Division.

D. MISCELLANEOUS

Federal Clean Water Act § 402; Texas Water Code § 26.027; 30 TAC Chapters 30, 305, 309, 312, and 319; Commission policies; and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency guidelines.

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

*Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (IP)*, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, June 2010, as approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the IP, January 2003, for portions of the 2010 IP not approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Texas 2020 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, March 25, 2020; approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on May 12, 2020.

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, Guidance Document for Establishing Monitoring Frequencies for Domestic and Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permits, Document No. 98-001.000-OWR-WQ, May 1998.

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.*

**Attachment A: pH Screening**

OUTFALL 001

Calculation of pH of a mixture of two flows. Based on the procedure in EPA's DESCON program (EPA, 1988. Technical Guidance on Supplementary Stream Design Conditions for Steady State Modeling. USEPA Office of Water, Washington D.C.)

INPUT		
1. DILUTION FACTOR AT MIXING ZONE BOUNDARY	3.000	3.000
RECEIVING WATER CHARACTERISTICS		
2. Temperature (deg C): Segment Criteria (convert from F to C)	33.30	33.30
3. pH: IPs for Segment	7.10	7.10
4. Hardness: IPs for Segment	40.00	40.00
EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		
5. Temperature (deg C):	22.50	23.00
6. pH: current limits	6.00	9.00
7. Alkalinity (mg CaCO3/L): default of 10-20	20.00 *	166.00
OUTPUT		
1. IONIZATION CONSTANTS		
Upstream/Background pKa:	6.31	6.31
Effluent pKa:	6.37	6.36
2. IONIZATION FRACTIONS		
Upstream/Background Ionization Fraction:	0.86	0.86
Effluent Ionization Fraction:	0.30	1.00
3. TOTAL INORGANIC CARBON		
Upstream/Background Total Inorganic Carbon (mg CaCO3/L):	46.49	46.49
Effluent Total Inorganic Carbon (mg CaCO3/L):	66.37	166.38
4. CONDITIONS AT MIXING ZONE BOUNDARY		
Temperature (deg C):	29.70	29.87
Alkalinity (mg CaCO3/L):	33.33	82.00
Total Inorganic Carbon (mg CaCO3/L):	53.12	86.45
pKa:	6.33	6.32
<b>pH at Mixing Zone Boundary:</b>	<b>6.55</b>	<b>7.59</b>

\* Assume minimal total alkalinity at low effluent pH based on carbonate equilibrium chemistry of natural and treated waters

City of Houston TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495030  
 Fact Sheet and Executive Director's Preliminary Decision

**Attachment B: Calculated Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations**

**TEXTOX MENU #3 - PERENNIAL STREAM OR RIVER**

The water quality-based effluent limitations developed below are calculated using:

Table 1, 2014 Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (30 TAC 307) for Freshwater Aquatic Life

Table 2, 2018 Texas Surface Water Quality Standards for Human Health

"Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards," TCEQ, June 2010

**PERMIT INFORMATION**

Permittee Name:	City of Houston
TPDES Permit No.:	WQ0010495030
Outfall No.:	001
Prepared by:	TONG LI
Date:	3/4/2022

**DISCHARGE INFORMATION**

Receiving Waterbody:	Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal
Segment No.:	1014
TSS (mg/L):	17
pH (Standard Units):	7.1
Hardness (mg/L as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ):	40
Chloride (mg/L):	64
Effluent Flow for Aquatic Life (MGD):	26.4
Critical Low Flow [7Q2] (cfs):	37.05
% Effluent for Chronic Aquatic Life (Mixing Zone):	52.44
% Effluent for Acute Aquatic Life (ZID):	81.52
Effluent Flow for Human Health (MGD):	26.4
Harmonic Mean Flow (cfs):	96.47
% Effluent for Human Health:	29.75
Human Health Criterion (select: PWS, FISH, or INC)	<b>FISH</b>

**CALCULATE DISSOLVED FRACTION (AND ENTER WATER EFFECT RATIO IF APPLICABLE):**

<i>Stream/River Metal</i>	<i>Intercept (b)</i>	<i>Slope (m)</i>	<i>Partition Coefficient (Kp)</i>	<i>Dissolved Fraction (Cd/Ct)</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Water Effect Ratio (WER)</i>	<i>Source</i>
Aluminum	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.00	Assumed	1.00	Assumed
Arsenic	5.68	-0.73	60502.3	0.493		1.00	Assumed
Cadmium	6.60	-1.13	162028.99	0.266		1.00	Assumed
Chromium (total)	6.52	-0.93	237510.33	0.199		1.00	Assumed
Chromium (trivalent)	6.52	-0.93	237510.33	0.199		1.00	Assumed
Chromium (hexavalent)	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.00	Assumed	1.00	Assumed
Copper	6.02	-0.74	128667.18	0.314		1.00	Assumed
Lead	6.45	-0.80	292173.53	0.168		1.00	Assumed
Mercury	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.00	Assumed	1.00	Assumed

City of Houston TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495030  
 Fact Sheet and Executive Director's Preliminary Decision

Nickel	5.69	-0.57	97419.1 0	0.376		1.00	Assumed
Selenium	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.00	Assumed	1.00	Assumed
Silver	6.38	-1.03	129609. 73	0.312		1.00	Assumed
Zinc	6.10	-0.70	173254. 99	0.253		1.00	Assumed

**AQUATIC LIFE**

**CALCULATE DAILY AVERAGE AND DAILY MAXIMUM EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS:**

Parameter	FW		WLA <sub>a</sub> (µg/L)	WLA <sub>c</sub> (µg/L)	LTA <sub>a</sub> (µg/L)	LTA <sub>c</sub> (µg/L)	Daily Avg. (µg/L)	Daily Max. (µg/L)
	FW Acute Criterion (µg/L)	FW Chronic Criterion (µg/L)						
Aldrin	3.0	N/A	3.68	N/A	2.11	N/A	3.09	6.55
Aluminum	991	N/A	1216	N/A	697	N/A	1024	2166
Arsenic	340	150	846	580	485	447	656	1389
Cadmium	3.5	0.130	16.2	0.931	9.29	0.717	1.05	2.22
Carbaryl	2.0	N/A	2.45	N/A	1.41	N/A	2.06	4.37
Chlordane	2.4	0.004	2.94	0.00763	1.69	0.00587	0.00863	0.0182
Chlorpyrifos	0.083	0.041	0.102	0.0782	0.0583	0.0602	0.0857	0.181
Chromium (trivalent)	269	35	1663	336	953	259	380	805
Chromium (hexavalent)	15.7	10.6	19.3	20.2	11.0	15.6	16.2	34.3
Copper	6.0	4.3	23.4	26.3	13.4	20.3	19.7	41.7
Cyanide (free)	45.8	10.7	56.2	20.4	32.2	15.7	23.0	48.8
4,4'-DDT	1.1	0.001	1.35	0.00191	0.773	0.00147	0.00215	0.0045 6
Demeton	N/A	0.1	N/A	0.191	N/A	0.147	0.215	0.456
Diazinon	0.17	0.17	0.209	0.324	0.119	0.250	0.175	0.371
Dicofol [Kelthane]	59.3	19.8	72.7	37.8	41.7	29.1	42.7	90.4
Dieldrin	0.24	0.002	0.294	0.00381	0.169	0.00294	0.00431	0.0091 3
Diuron	210	70	258	133	148	103	151	319
Endosulfan I (alpha)	0.22	0.056	0.270	0.107	0.155	0.0822	0.120	0.255
Endosulfan II (beta)	0.22	0.056	0.270	0.107	0.155	0.0822	0.120	0.255
Endosulfan sulfate	0.22	0.056	0.270	0.107	0.155	0.0822	0.120	0.255
Endrin	0.086	0.002	0.106	0.00381	0.0605	0.00294	0.00431	0.0091 3
Guthion [Azinphos Methyl]	N/A	0.01	N/A	0.0191	N/A	0.0147	0.0215	0.0456
Heptachlor	0.52	0.004	0.638	0.00763	0.366	0.00587	0.00863	0.0182
Hexachlorocyclohexane (gamma) [Lindane]	1.126	0.08	1.38	0.153	0.792	0.117	0.172	0.365
Lead	24	0.92	172	10.4	98.6	8.03	11.8	24.9
Malathion	N/A	0.01	N/A	0.0191	N/A	0.0147	0.0215	0.0456
Mercury	2.4	1.3	2.94	2.48	1.69	1.91	2.47	5.24
Methoxychlor	N/A	0.03	N/A	0.0572	N/A	0.0441	0.0647	0.137
Mirex	N/A	0.001	N/A	0.00191	N/A	0.00147	0.00215	0.0045 6
Nickel	216	24.0	703	121	403	93.4	137	290
Nonylphenol	28	6.6	34.3	12.6	19.7	9.69	14.2	30.1
Parathion (ethyl)	0.065	0.013	0.0797	0.0248	0.0457	0.0191	0.0280	0.0593
Pentachlorophenol	9.6	7.4	11.8	14.1	6.78	10.9	9.96	21.0
Phenanthrene	30	30	36.8	57.2	21.1	44.1	30.9	65.5
Polychlorinated Biphenyls [PCBs]	2.0	0.014	2.45	0.0267	1.41	0.0206	0.0302	0.0639
Selenium	20	5	24.5	9.54	14.1	7.34	10.7	22.8
Silver	0.8	N/A	17.2	N/A	9.86	N/A	14.4	30.6

City of Houston TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495030  
 Fact Sheet and Executive Director's Preliminary Decision

				0.00038		0.00029	0.00043	0.0009
Toxaphene	0.78	0.0002	0.957	1	0.548	4	1	13
Tributyltin [TBT]	0.13	0.024	0.159	0.0458	0.0914	0.0352	0.0518	0.109
2,4,5 Trichlorophenol	136	64	167	122	95.6	94.0	138	292
Zinc	54	54	261	409	150	315	219	464

**HUMAN HEALTH**

**CALCULATE DAILY AVERAGE AND DAILY MAXIMUM EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS:**

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Water and Fish Criterion n (µg/L)</i>	<i>Fish Only Criterion n (µg/L)</i>	<i>Incidental Fish Criterion (µg/L)</i>	<i>WLAh (µg/L)</i>	<i>LTAh (µg/L)</i>	<i>Daily Avg. (µg/L)</i>	<i>Daily Max. (µg/L)</i>
Acrylonitrile	1.0	115	1150	387	360	528	1118
Aldrin	1.146E-05	1.147E-05	1.147E-04	0.00003	0.00003	0.00005	0.00011
Anthracene	1109	1317	13170	4427	4118	6052	12805
Antimony	6	1071	10710	3600	3348	4922	10413
Arsenic	10	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Barium	2000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Benzene	5	581	5810	1953	1816	2670	5649
Benzidine	0.0015	0.107	1.07	0.360	0.335	0.491	1.04
Benzo(a)anthracene	0.024	0.025	0.25	0.0840	0.0782	0.114	0.243
Benzo(a)pyrene	0.0025	0.0025	0.025	0.00840	0.00782	0.0114	0.0243
Bis(chloromethyl)ether	0.0024	0.2745	2.745	0.923	0.858	1.26	2.66
Bis(2-chloroethyl)ether	0.60	42.83	428.3	144	134	196	416
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate [Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate]	6	7.55	75.5	25.4	23.6	34.6	73.4
Bromodichloromethane [Dichlorobromomethane]	10.2	275	2750	924	860	1263	2673
Bromoform [Tribromomethane]	66.9	1060	10600	3563	3314	4871	10306
Cadmium	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Carbon Tetrachloride	4.5	46	460	155	144	211	447
Chlordane	0.0025	0.0025	0.025	0.00840	0.00782	0.0114	0.0243
Chlorobenzene	100	2737	27370	9201	8557	12578	26612
Chlorodibromomethane [Dibromochloromethane]	7.5	183	1830	615	572	841	1779
Chloroform [Trichloromethane]	70	7697	76970	25875	24064	35374	74839
Chromium (hexavalent)	62	502	5020	1688	1569	2307	4881
Chrysene	2.45	2.52	25.2	8.47	7.88	11.5	24.5
Cresols [Methylphenols]	1041	9301	93010	31268	29079	42746	90435
Cyanide (free)	200	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
4,4'-DDD	0.002	0.002	0.02	0.00672	0.00625	0.00919	0.0194
4,4'-DDE	0.00013	0.00013	0.0013	0.00043	0.00040	0.00059	
4,4'-DDT	0.0004	0.0004	0.004	0.00134	0.00125	0.00183	0.00388
2,4'-D	70	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Danitol [Fenprothrin]	262	473	4730	1590	1479	2173	4599
1,2-Dibromoethane [Ethylene Dibromide]	0.17	4.24	42.4	14.3	13.3	19.4	41.2
m-Dichlorobenzene [1,3-Dichlorobenzene]	322	595	5950	2000	1860	2734	5785
o-Dichlorobenzene [1,2-Dichlorobenzene]	600	3299	32990	11090	10314	15161	32076
p-Dichlorobenzene [1,4-Dichlorobenzene]	75	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine	0.79	2.24	22.4	7.53	7.00	10.2	21.7
1,2-Dichloroethane	5	364	3640	1224	1138	1672	3539
1,1-Dichloroethylene [1,1-Dichloroethene]	7	55114	551140	185280	172310	253296	535885
Dichloromethane [Methylene Chloride]	5	13333	133330	44822	41685	61276	129639
1,2-Dichloropropane	5	259	2590	871	810	1190	2518

City of Houston TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495030  
 Fact Sheet and Executive Director's Preliminary Decision

1,3-Dichloropropene [1,3-Dichloropropylene]	2.8	119	1190	400	372	546	1157
Dicofol [Kelthane]	0.30	0.30	3	1.01	0.938	1.37	2.91
				0.00006	0.00006	0.00009	0.00019
Dieldrin	2.0E-05	2.0E-05	2.0E-04	72	25	19	4
2,4-Dimethylphenol	444	8436	84360	28360	26375	38770	82025
Di- <i>n</i> -Butyl Phthalate	88.9	92.4	924	311	289	424	898
	7.80E-	7.97E-		2.68E-	2.49E-	3.66E-	
Dioxins/Furans [TCDD Equivalents]	08	08	7.97E-07	07	07	07	7.74E-07
Endrin	0.02	0.02	0.2	0.0672	0.0625	0.0919	0.194
Epichlorohydrin	53.5	2013	20130	6767	6294	9251	19572
Ethylbenzene	700	1867	18670	6276	5837	8580	18153
		1.68E+0	1.68E+0	564775	525241	772105	1633501
Ethylene Glycol	46744	7	8	85	54	06	18
Fluoride	4000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
				0.00033	0.00031	0.00045	0.00097
Heptachlor	8.0E-05	0.0001	0.001	6	3	9	2
				0.00097	0.00090		
Heptachlor Epoxide	0.00029	0.00029	0.0029	5	7	0.00133	0.00281
Hexachlorobenzene	0.00068	0.00068	0.0068	0.00229	0.00213	0.00312	0.00661
Hexachlorobutadiene	0.21	0.22	2.2	0.740	0.688	1.01	2.13
Hexachlorocyclohexane ( <i>alpha</i> )	0.0078	0.0084	0.084	0.0282	0.0263	0.0386	0.0816
Hexachlorocyclohexane ( <i>beta</i> )	0.15	0.26	2.6	0.874	0.813	1.19	2.52
Hexachlorocyclohexane ( <i>gamma</i> ) [Lindane]	0.2	0.341	3.41	1.15	1.07	1.56	3.31
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	10.7	11.6	116	39.0	36.3	53.3	112
Hexachloroethane	1.84	2.33	23.3	7.83	7.28	10.7	22.6
Hexachlorophene	2.05	2.90	29	9.75	9.07	13.3	28.1
4,4'-Isopropylidenediphenol	1092	15982	159820	53728	49967	73451	155396
Lead	1.15	3.83	38.3	76.8	71.4	105	222
Mercury	0.0122	0.0122	0.122	0.0410	0.0381	0.0560	0.118
Methoxychlor	2.92	3.0	30	10.1	9.38	13.7	29.1
		9.92E+0	9.92E+0	333486	310142	455909	
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	13865	5	6	7	6	6	9645435
Methyl <i>tert</i> -butyl ether [MTBE]	15	10482	104820	35238	32771	48173	101918
Nickel	332	1140	11400	10179	9467	13916	29441
Nitrate-Nitrogen (as Total Nitrogen)	10000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nitrobenzene	45.7	1873	18730	6297	5856	8608	18211
N-Nitrosodiethylamine	0.0037	2.1	21	7.06	6.57	9.65	20.4
N-Nitroso-di- <i>n</i> -Butylamine	0.119	4.2	42	14.1	13.1	19.3	40.8
Pentachlorobenzene	0.348	0.355	3.55	1.19	1.11	1.63	3.45
Pentachlorophenol	0.22	0.29	2.9	0.975	0.907	1.33	2.81
Polychlorinated Biphenyls [PCBs]	6.4E-04	6.4E-04	6.40E-03	0.00215	0.00200	0.00294	0.00622
Pyridine	23	947	9470	3184	2961	4352	9207
Selenium	50	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
1,2,4,5-Tetrachlorobenzene	0.23	0.24	2.4	0.807	0.750	1.10	2.33
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	1.64	26.35	263.5	88.6	82.4	121	256
Tetrachloroethylene [Tetrachloroethylene]	5	280	2800	941	875	1286	2722
Thallium	0.12	0.23	2.3	0.773	0.719	1.05	2.23
Toluene	1000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Toxaphene	0.011	0.011	0.11	0.0370	0.0344	0.0505	0.106
2,4,5-TP [Silvex]	50	369	3690	1240	1154	1695	3587
				263681	245223	360478	
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	200	784354	7843540	1	4	3	7626447
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	5	166	1660	558	519	762	1614
Trichloroethylene [Trichloroethene]	5	71.9	719	242	225	330	699
2,4,5-Trichlorophenol	1039	1867	18670	6276	5837	8580	18153
TTHM [Sum of Total Trihalomethanes]	80	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

City of Houston TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495030  
 Fact Sheet and Executive Director's Preliminary Decision

Vinyl Chloride 0.23 16.5 165 55.5 51.6 75.8 160

**CALCULATE 70% AND 85% OF DAILY AVERAGE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS:**

<b>Aquatic Life</b>	<b>70% of Daily Avg.</b>	<b>85% of Daily Avg.</b>
<b>Parameter</b>	<b>(µg/L)</b>	<b>(µg/L)</b>
Aldrin	2.16	2.63
Aluminum	716	870
Arsenic	459	558
Cadmium	0.737	0.895
Carbaryl	1.44	1.75
Chlordane	0.00604	0.00733
Chlorpyrifos	0.0600	0.0729
Chromium (trivalent)	266	323
Chromium (hexavalent)	11.3	13.7
Copper	13.8	16.7
Cyanide (free)	16.1	19.6
4,4'-DDT	0.00151	0.00183
Demeton	0.151	0.183
Diazinon	0.122	0.149
Dicofol [Kelthane]	29.9	36.3
Dieldrin	0.00302	0.00366
Diuron	105	128
Endosulfan I ( <i>alpha</i> )	0.0846	0.102
Endosulfan II ( <i>beta</i> )	0.0846	0.102
Endosulfan sulfate	0.0846	0.102
Endrin	0.00302	0.00366
Guthion [Azinphos Methyl]	0.0151	0.0183
Heptachlor	0.00604	0.00733
Hexachlorocyclohexane ( <i>gamma</i> ) [Lindane]	0.120	0.146
Lead	8.26	10.0
Malathion	0.0151	0.0183
Mercury	1.73	2.10
Methoxychlor	0.0453	0.0550
Mirex	0.00151	0.00183
Nickel	96.1	116
Nonylphenol	9.97	12.1
Parathion (ethyl)	0.0196	0.0238
Pentachlorophenol	6.97	8.47
Phenanthrene	21.6	26.3
Polychlorinated Biphenyls [PCBs]	0.0211	0.0256
Selenium	7.55	9.17
Silver	10.1	12.3
Toxaphene	0.00030 2	0.00036 6
Tributyltin [TBT]	0.0362	0.0440
2,4,5 Trichlorophenol	96.7	117
Zinc	153	186

<b>Human Health</b>	<b>70% of Daily Avg.</b>	<b>85% of Daily Avg.</b>
<b>Parameter</b>	<b>(µg/L)</b>	<b>(µg/L)</b>



City of Houston TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495030  
 Fact Sheet and Executive Director's Preliminary Decision

Acrylonitrile	369	449
	0.00003	0.00004
Aldrin	69	48
Anthracene	4236	5144
Antimony	3445	4183
Arsenic	N/A	N/A
Barium	N/A	N/A
Benzene	1869	2269
Benzidine	0.344	0.417
Benzo(a)anthracene	0.0804	0.0976
Benzo(a)pyrene	0.00804	0.00976
Bis(chloromethyl)ether	0.883	1.07
Bis(2-chloroethyl)ether	137	167
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate [Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate]	24.2	29.4
Bromodichloromethane [Dichlorobromomethane]	884	1074
Bromoform [Tribromomethane]	3410	4140
Cadmium	N/A	N/A
Carbon Tetrachloride	147	179
Chlordane	0.00804	0.00976
Chlorobenzene	8805	10692
Chlorodibromomethane [Dibromochloromethane]	588	714
Chloroform [Trichloromethane]	24762	30068
Chromium (hexavalent)	1614	1961
Chrysene	8.10	9.84
Cresols [Methylphenols]	29922	36334
Cyanide (free)	N/A	N/A
4,4'-DDD	0.00643	0.00781
	0.00041	0.00050
4,4'-DDE	8	7
4,4'-DDT	0.00128	0.00156
2,4'-D	N/A	N/A
Danitol [Fenpropathrin]	1521	1847
1,2-Dibromoethane [Ethylene Dibromide]	13.6	16.5
<i>m</i> -Dichlorobenzene [1,3-Dichlorobenzene]	1914	2324
<i>o</i> -Dichlorobenzene [1,2-Dichlorobenzene]	10613	12887
<i>p</i> -Dichlorobenzene [1,4-Dichlorobenzene]	N/A	N/A
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine	7.20	8.75
1,2-Dichloroethane	1171	1421
1,1-Dichloroethylene [1,1-Dichloroethene]	177307	215301
Dichloromethane [Methylene Chloride]	42893	52085
1,2-Dichloropropane	833	1011
1,3-Dichloropropene [1,3-Dichloropropylene]	382	464
Dicofol [Kelthane]	0.965	1.17
	0.00006	0.00007
Dieldrin	43	81
2,4-Dimethylphenol	27139	32955
Di- <i>n</i> -Butyl Phthalate	297	360
	2.56E-	3.11E-
Dioxins/Furans [TCDD Equivalentents]	07	07
Endrin	0.0643	0.0781
Epichlorohydrin	6476	7863
Ethylbenzene	6006	7293

City of Houston TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495030  
 Fact Sheet and Executive Director's Preliminary Decision

	540473	656289
Ethylene Glycol	54	30
Fluoride	N/A	N/A
	0.00032	0.00039
Heptachlor	1	0
	0.00093	
Heptachlor Epoxide	2	0.00113
Hexachlorobenzene	0.00218	0.00265
Hexachlorobutadiene	0.707	0.859
Hexachlorocyclohexane ( <i>alpha</i> )	0.0270	0.0328
Hexachlorocyclohexane ( <i>beta</i> )	0.836	1.01
Hexachlorocyclohexane ( <i>gamma</i> ) [Lindane]	1.09	1.33
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	37.3	45.3
Hexachloroethane	7.49	9.10
Hexachlorophene	9.32	11.3
4,4'-Isopropylidenediphenol	51415	62433
Lead	73.5	89.2
Mercury	0.0392	0.0476
Methoxychlor	9.65	11.7
	319136	387523
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	7	2
Methyl <i>tert</i> -butyl ether [MTBE]	33721	40947
Nickel	9741	11828
Nitrate-Nitrogen (as Total Nitrogen)	N/A	N/A
Nitrobenzene	6025	7316
N-Nitrosodiethylamine	6.75	8.20
N-Nitroso-di- <i>n</i> -Butylamine	13.5	16.4
Pentachlorobenzene	1.14	1.38
Pentachlorophenol	0.932	1.13
Polychlorinated Biphenyls [PCBs]	0.00205	0.00250
Pyridine	3046	3699
Selenium	N/A	N/A
1,2,4,5-Tetrachlorobenzene	0.772	0.937
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	84.7	102
Tetrachloroethylene [Tetrachloroethylene]	900	1093
Thallium	0.739	0.898
Toluene	N/A	N/A
Toxaphene	0.0353	0.0429
2,4,5-TP [Silvex]	1187	1441
	252334	306406
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	8	6
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	534	648
Trichloroethylene [Trichloroethene]	231	280
2,4,5-Trichlorophenol	6006	7293
TTHM [Sum of Total Trihalomethanes]	N/A	N/A
Vinyl Chloride	53.0	64.4

# TCEQ Interoffice Memorandum

---

**To:** Municipal Permits Team  
Wastewater Permitting Section  
Water Quality Division

**Thru:** Peter Schaefer, Standards Implementation Team Peer Review  
Water Quality Assessment Section  
Water Quality Division

**From:** Jeff Paull, Standards Implementation Team  
Water Quality Assessment Section  
Water Quality Division

**Date:** December 16, 2021

**Subject:** City of Houston (West District WWTP); Permit No. WQ0010495-030  
Amendment; Application Received: 10/22/2021

The discharge route for the above referenced permit is directly to Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal in Segment 1014 of the San Jacinto River Basin. The designated uses and dissolved oxygen criterion as stated in Appendix A of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (30 Texas Administrative Code §307.10) for Segment 1014 are primary contact recreation, limited aquatic life use, and 3.0 mg/L dissolved oxygen.

Based on pH screening, the current permit limits (6.0 to 9.0 standard units) are protective of segment pH criteria.

In accordance with 30 Texas Administrative Code §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. A Tier 2 review is not required since no exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life use water bodies have been identified in the discharge route. 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 Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES; September 14, 1998; October 21, 1998 update). To make this determination for TPDES permits, TCEQ and EPA only considered aquatic or aquatic dependent species occurring in watersheds of critical concern or high priority as listed in Appendix A of the USFWS biological opinion. The determination is subject to reevaluation due to subsequent updates or amendments to the biological opinion. The permit does not require EPA review with respect to the presence of endangered or threatened species.

# TCEQ Interoffice Memorandum

---

To: Municipal Permits Team  
Wastewater Permitting Section

From: Josi Robertson, Water Quality Assessment Team  
Water Quality Assessment Section

Date: January 4, 2022

Subject: City of Houston  
Wastewater Permit No. WQ0010495030  
Critical Conditions Recommendation Memo

The following information applies to **Outfall 001**.

The TexTox menu number is **3** for a perennial freshwater ditch, stream, or river.

This discharge is to Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal (Segment 1014).

---

Segment No.	1014
Effluent Flow for Aquatic Life (MGD)	26.4
Critical Low Flow [7Q2] (cfs)	37.05
Effluent Flow for Human Health (MGD)	26.4
Harmonic Mean Flow (cfs)	96.47

---

Human Health criteria apply for Fish Only.

The chronic aquatic life mixing zone is defined as 300 feet downstream and 100 feet upstream from the point of discharge. Chronic toxic criteria apply at the edge of the chronic aquatic life mixing zone.

---

## OUTFALL LOCATION

---

<b>Outfall Number</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
001	29.761965 N	95.561934 W


---

# TCEQ Interoffice Memorandum

---

**To:** Municipal Permits Team  
Wastewater Permitting Section

**Thru:** Josi Robertson  
Modeler, Water Quality Assessment Team  
Water Quality Assessment Section

**From:** Xing Lu, P.E.   
Modeler, Water Quality Assessment Team  
Water Quality Assessment Section

**Date:** January 4, 2022

**Subject:** City of Houston  
Permit Amendment (WQ0010495030, TX0063002)  
Discharge directly into Buffalo Bayou above Tidal (Segment No. 1014)

The referenced applicant is proposing to amend its permit authorizing the discharge of domestic wastewater into the watershed of Buffalo Bayou above Tidal (Segment No. 1014). The amendment is to remove WET limits and monitoring requirements. A dissolved oxygen analysis of the referenced discharge was conducted using an updated version of the calibrated QUAL-TX model documented in the *Waste Load Evaluation WLE-1R for the Houston Ship Channel System* (September 2006) for an effluent flow of 26.4 MGD. The facility is located in Harris County.

Based on model results, the existing effluent limits of **10 mg/L CBOD<sub>5</sub>, 2 mg/L NH<sub>3</sub>-N (June-August), 4 mg/L NH<sub>3</sub>-N (September-May), and 6.0 mg/L DO** are predicted to be adequate to maintain the dissolved oxygen level above the criterion stipulated by the Standards Implementation Team for the Buffalo Bayou above Tidal (3.0 mg/L).

Segment No. 1014 is not currently listed on the State's inventory of impaired and threatened waters (the **2020** Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list).

The TMDL project Fourteen Total Maximum Daily Loads for Nickel in the Houston Ship Channel System (TMDL Project No.1) **has been withdrawn and is no longer applicable.**

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.

The effluent limits recommended above have been reviewed for consistency with the State of Texas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP). The recommended limits are consistent with the approved WQMP.

# Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Date:** 1/27/2022

**To:** Municipal Team  
**Thru:** Colleen Cook, Pretreatment Team Leader  
**From:** Maria Denise Benitez, Pretreatment Coordinator  
**Subject:** Pretreatment program option for the TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495030  
City of Houston – West District WWTP summary sheet

I have reviewed the above referenced permit and have placed the following standard and any additional language in I:\WQ\muni\pret\10495-030.docx. This memo is placed in H:\WQ\muni\pret\memos\10495-030memo.docx.

Option 3 - General Pretreatment language for POTWs with *regulated* industrial users on the collection system and with an approved Program

Within this standard language, the Pretreatment Program has incorporated additional pretreatment language requirements. Please incorporate the following language for permittee's FACT SHEET, if applicable, under:

1. INDUSTRIAL WASTE CONTRIBUTION

The West District WWTP receives significant industrial wastewater contributions.

2. PRETREATMENT REQUIREMENTS

Permit requirements for pretreatment are based on TPDES regulations contained in 30 TAC Chapter 315 which references 40 CFR Part 403, General Pretreatment Regulations for Existing and New Sources of Pollution [*rev. Federal Register/ Vol. 70/ No. 198/ Friday, October 14, 2005/ Rules and Regulations, pages 60134-60798*]. The permit includes specific requirements that establish responsibilities of local government, industry, and the public to implement the standards to control pollutants which pass through or interfere with treatment processes in publicly owned treatment works or which may contaminate the sewage sludge. This permit has appropriate pretreatment language for a facility of this size and complexity.

The permittee has a pretreatment program which was approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on **November 27, 1984** and modified on **February 26, 1993**, and **March 11, 2020 (nonsubstantial Streamlining Rule modification)**, and **June 14, 2021 (TBLLs)**. The permittee is required, under the conditions of the approved pretreatment program, to prepare annually a list of industrial users which during the preceding twelve months were in significant noncompliance with applicable pretreatment requirements for those facilities covered under the program. This list is to be published annually during the month of **November** in a newspaper of general circulation that provides meaningful public notice within the jurisdiction(s)

served by the POTW.

Effective December 21, 2023, the permittee must submit the pretreatment program annual status report electronically using the online electronic reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver. [rev. Federal Register/ Vol. 80/ No. 204/ Friday, October 22, 2015/ Rules and Regulations, pages 64064-64158].

The permittee is under a continuing duty to: establish and enforce specific local limits to implement the provisions of 40 CFR §403.5, to develop and enforce local limits as necessary, and to modify the approved POTW pretreatment program as necessary to comply with federal, state, and local law, as amended. The permittee is required to effectively enforce such limits and to modify their pretreatment program, including the Legal Authority, Enforcement Response Plan, and/or Standard Operating Procedures, if required by the Executive Director to reflect changing conditions at the POTW.

This permittee has submitted a substantial modification package revising the existing technically based local limits (TBLLs), the Legal Authority, which incorporates such revisions, and any additional modifications to the pretreatment program including an Enforcement Response Plan and Standard Operating Procedures (including forms). This substantial modification documentation submitted by the permittee has been reviewed by the TCEQ staff and determined to be administratively and technically complete on January 6, 2020. The permit action for TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495076, incorporates the pretreatment program substantial modification request by the permittee on November 16, 2020. This substantial modification meets all of the requirements of 40 CFR §§403.8(f) and 403.9(b) prior to October 14, 2005, and with the permittee's existing TPDES permit.

The permittee incorporated a substantial modification of their technically based local limits into their pretreatment program via the permit action on TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495076 on June 14, 2021. The revised TBLLs will be incorporated by reference into TPDES Permit No. WQ0010495030.

### 3. SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM EXISTING PERMIT

The pretreatment language has been updated from the current permit. The pretreatment requirements will continue until permit expiration. Please see specific details in the Pretreatment Requirements Section of the fact sheet.





Item 6	July 17, 2017	(1440607)
Item 7	October 16, 2017	(1450886)
Item 8	December 19, 2017	(1468597)
Item 9	January 19, 2018	(1475307)
Item 10	February 16, 2018	(1487504)
Item 11	March 16, 2018	(1491181)
Item 12	April 18, 2018	(1494433)
Item 13	May 17, 2018	(1501379)
Item 14	June 19, 2018	(1508473)
Item 15	July 20, 2018	(1514801)
Item 16	September 19, 2018	(1528036)
Item 17	November 16, 2018	(1542216)
Item 18	December 18, 2018	(1545985)
Item 19	January 15, 2019	(1561984)
Item 20	February 19, 2019	(1561982)
Item 21	March 18, 2019	(1561983)
Item 22	April 16, 2019	(1572583)
Item 23	June 20, 2019	(1584778)
Item 24	July 18, 2019	(1593929)
Item 25	September 20, 2019	(1607148)
Item 26	September 30, 2019	(1600254)
Item 27	November 18, 2019	(1619811)
Item 28	December 17, 2019	(1627172)
Item 29	January 21, 2020	(1634809)
Item 30	February 18, 2020	(1641418)
Item 31	March 17, 2020	(1647930)
Item 32	April 20, 2020	(1654284)
Item 33	June 03, 2020	(1645937)
Item 34	June 12, 2020	(1667382)
Item 35	July 20, 2020	(1674332)
Item 36	September 16, 2020	(1687676)
Item 37	September 22, 2020	(1681106)
Item 38	October 19, 2020	(1694018)
Item 39	November 18, 2020	(1714722)
Item 40	January 20, 2021	(1714724)
Item 41	February 17, 2021	(1727787)
Item 42	April 19, 2021	(1727789)
Item 43	May 18, 2021	(1741195)
Item 44	July 20, 2021	(1723576)
Item 45	August 19, 2021	(1757885)
Item 46	October 19, 2021	(1777584)
Item 47	December 16, 2021	(1791413)

**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: 05/31/2021 (1747975)  
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: 08/31/2021 (1767110)  
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: 10/31/2021 (1784383)  
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