Technical Package Cover Page

This file contains the following documents:

1. Summary of application (in plain language)
2. First notice (NORI-Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain a Permit)
3. Second notice (NAPD-Notice of Preliminary Decision)
4. Application materials (**NOTE:** This application was declared Administratively Complete before June 1, 2024. Application materials are available for review at the Public Viewing Location provided in the NORI.)
5. Draft permit
6. Technical summary or fact sheet

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN WATER QUALITY PERMIT

PROPOSED PERMIT NO. WQ0010665002

APPLICATION. City of Richland Springs, P.O. Box 27, Richland Springs, Texas 76871, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for proposed Texas Land Application Permit (TLAP) No. WQ0010665002 to authorize the disposal of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 50,000 gallons per day via evaporation. The domestic wastewater treatment facility and disposal area will be located at 200 County Road 252, Richland Springs, in San Saba County, Texas 76871. Authorization to dispose was previously permitted by expired Permit No. WQ0010665001. TCEQ received this application on March 27, 2023. The permit application will be available for viewing and copying at Richland Springs City Hall, Mayor's Office, 106 Main Street, Richland Springs, Texas prior to the date this notice is published in the newspaper. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application.
https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-98.941388,31.278611&level=18

ADDITIONAL NOTICE. TCEQ's Executive Director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After technical review of the application is complete, the Executive Director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. **Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the county-wide mailing list and to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the deadline for submitting public comments.**

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting on this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments, and the Executive Director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for**

requesting reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period and, the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period.**

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE. For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid. Search the database using the permit number for this application**,** which is provided at the top of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address, and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit

their website at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from City of Richland Springs at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Johnie Reeves, Mayor, at 325-452-3549.

Issuance Date: May 23, 2023

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

COMBINED NOTICE OF RECEIPT AND INTENT TO OBTAIN WATER QUALITY PERMIT (NORI)

AND

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR WATER QUALITY LAND APPLICATION PERMIT FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER (NAPD)

NEW

PERMIT NO. WQ0010665002

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. City of Richland Springs, P.O. Box 27, Richland Springs, Texas 76871, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a new permit, TCEQ Permit No. WQ0010665002 to authorize the disposal of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 50,000 gallons per day via **surface irrigation** of 25 acres of non-public access cropland. The facility was previously permitted under Permit No. WQ0010665001 which expired on December 1, 2004. This permit will not authorize a discharge of pollutants into water in the state. TCEQ received this application on March 27, 2023.

PURPOSE OF COMBINED NOTICE: This combined notice is being issued due to the applicant selecting an alternative method of land application than submitted in the original application.

The wastewater treatment facility and disposal site are located at 200 County Road 252, in San Saba County, Texas 76871. The wastewater treatment facility and disposal site are located in the drainage basin of San Saba River in Segment No. 1416 of the Colorado River Basin. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and is not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application. https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-98.941388,31.278611&level=18

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at Richland Springs City Hall, Richland Springs Sewer Department, 106 Main Street, Richland Springs, Texas.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. **You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application.** The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision**. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period; and the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment **within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.**

INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE. For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid. Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Any personal information you submit to the TCEQ will become part of the agency's record; this includes email addresses. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from City of Richland Springs at the address stated above or by calling Mr. J. Frank Pearce, at (325) 452-3549.

Issuance Date April 30, 2026

PERMIT NO. WQ0010665002

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

PERMIT TO DISCHARGE WASTES
under provisions of Chapter 26
of the Texas Water Code

City of Richland Springs

whose mailing address is

P.O. Box 27
Richland Springs, Texas 76871

Nature of Business Producing Waste: Domestic wastewater treatment operation, SIC Code 4952.

General Description and Location of Waste Disposal System:

Description: The City of Richland Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant consists of an activated sludge process plant using the complete mix mode. Treatment units include a bar screen, an aeration basin, a final clarifier, a digester, a granular activated carbon pressure filter, and a chlorine contact chamber. The permittee is authorized to dispose of treated domestic wastewater effluent at a daily average flow not to exceed 0.05 million gallons per day (MGD) via surface irrigation of 25 acres of non-public access cropland. The facility includes one storage pond with a total surface area of 0.49 acres and total capacity of 2.95 acre-feet for storage of treated effluent prior to irrigation. Application rates to the irrigated land shall not exceed 2.24 acre-feet per year per acre irrigated. The irrigated crops include Sorghum Sudan Haygrazer (warm season) and Wheat (cool season).

Location: The wastewater treatment facility and disposal site are located at 200 County Road 252, in San Saba County, Texas 76871. (See Attachment A.)

Drainage Area: The wastewater treatment facility and disposal site are located in the drainage basin of San Saba River in Segment No. 1416 of the Colorado River Basin. No discharge of pollutants into water in the state is authorized by this permit.

This permit and the authorization contained herein shall expire at midnight, **five years from the date of issuance**.

ISSUED DATE:

_____
For the Commission

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Conditions of the Permit: No discharge of pollutants into water in the state is authorized.

A. Effluent Limitations

Character: Treated Domestic Sewage Effluent

Volume: Daily Average Flow – 0.05 MGD from the treatment system

Quality: The following effluent limitations are required:

	Effluent Concentrations (Not to Exceed)	
Parameter	Daily Average mg/l	Single Grab mg/l
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	N/A	65

The pH shall not be less than 6.0 standard units nor greater than 9.0 standard units.

B. Monitoring Requirements:

Parameter	Monitoring Frequency	Sample Type
Flow	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	One/week	Grab
pH	One/month	Grab

The monitoring shall be done after the final treatment unit and prior to storage of the treated effluent. If the effluent is land applied directly from the treatment system, monitoring shall be done after the final treatment unit and prior to land application. These records shall be maintained on a monthly basis and be available at the plant site for inspection by authorized representatives of the Commission for at least three years.

STANDARD PERMIT CONDITIONS

This permit is granted in accordance with the Texas Water Code and the rules and other Orders of the Commission and the laws of the State of Texas.

DEFINITIONS

All definitions in Section 26.001 of the Texas Water Code 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. 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.

    b. 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 a 1 million gallons per day or greater permitted flow.

    c. Instantaneous flow - the measured flow during the minimum time required to interpret the flow measuring device.

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.

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 which 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 REQUIREMENTS

1. Monitoring Requirements

   Monitoring results shall be collected 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 in accordance with 30 TAC §§ 319.4 - 319.12.

   As provided by state law, the permittee is subject to administrative, civil and criminal penalties, as applicable, for negligently or knowingly violating the Texas Water Code, Chapters 26, 27, and 28, and Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 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, records 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 Chapter 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, monitoring and reporting records, including strip charts and records of calibration and maintenance, copies of all records required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit 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, or application. 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 determining compliance with permit requirements.

5. Calibration of Instruments

All automatic flow measuring or recording devices and all totalizing meters for measuring flows shall be accurately calibrated by a trained person at plant start-up and as often thereafter as necessary to ensure accuracy, but not less often than annually unless authorized by the Executive Director for a longer period. Such person shall verify in writing that the device is operating properly and giving accurate results. Copies of the verification shall be retained at the facility site and/or shall be readily available for review by a TCEQ representative for a period of three years.

6. Compliance Schedule Reports

   Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of the permit shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date to the Regional Office and the Enforcement Division (MC 224).

7. Noncompliance Notification

   a. In accordance with 30 TAC § 305.125(9), any noncompliance which may endanger human health or safety, or the environment shall be reported by the permittee to the TCEQ. 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 Enforcement Division (MC 224) within five working days of becoming aware of the noncompliance. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the potential danger to human health or safety, or the environment; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times; if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance, and to mitigate its adverse effects.

   b. The following violations shall be reported under Monitoring and Reporting Requirement 7.a.:

      i. Unauthorized discharges as defined in Permit Condition 2(g).

      ii. Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit.

   c. In addition to the above, any effluent violation which deviates from the permitted effluent limitation by more than 40% shall be reported by the permittee in writing to the Regional Office and the Enforcement Division (MC 224) within 5 working days of becoming aware of the noncompliance.

   d. Any noncompliance other than that specified in this section, or any required information not submitted or submitted incorrectly, shall be reported to the Enforcement Division (MC 224) as promptly as possible.

8. In accordance with the procedures described in 30 TAC §§ 35.301 - 35.303 (relating to Water Quality Emergency and Temporary Orders) if the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice by applying for such authorization.

9. Changes in Discharges of Toxic Substances

   All existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural permittees shall notify the Regional Office, orally or by facsimile transmission within 24 hours, and both the Regional Office and the Enforcement Division (MC 224) in writing within five (5) working days, after becoming aware of or having reason to believe:

   a. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant listed at 40 CFR Part 122, Appendix D,

Tables II and III (excluding Total Phenols) which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":

i. One hundred micrograms per liter (100 µg/L);
ii. Two hundred micrograms per liter (200 µg/L) for acrolein and acrylonitrile; five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L) for 2,4-dinitrophenol and for 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
iii. Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or
iv. The level established by the TCEQ.

b. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in any discharge, on a nonroutine or infrequent basis, of a toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":

i. Five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L);
ii. One milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
iii. Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or
iv. The level established by the TCEQ.

10. Signatories to Reports

All reports and other information requested by the Executive Director shall be signed by the person and in the manner required by 30 TAC § 305.128 (relating to Signatories to Reports).

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 which 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 Texas Water Code Section 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 Special Provisions section of this permit.

   h. The permittee is subject to administrative, civil, and criminal penalties, as applicable, under Texas Water Code §§ 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).

3. Inspections and Entry

   a. Inspection and entry shall be allowed as prescribed in the Texas Water Code Chapters 26, 27, and 28, and Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 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 Texas Water Code Section 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 could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements in Monitoring and Reporting Requirements No. 9;

      ii. 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 Texas Water Code § 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.

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 which requires a permit or other authorization pursuant to the Texas Health and Safety Code.

7. Property Rights

A permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege.

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. 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 Domestic Permits Team, Domestic Wastewater 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 Domestic Permits Team, Domestic Wastewater 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 Texas Water Code § 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 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 which 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 percent 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 percent 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 percent 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 judgement 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. Facilities which 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 Remediation 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 Chapter 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.

11. For industrial facilities to which the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 335 do not apply, sludge and solid wastes, including tank cleaning and contaminated solids for disposal, shall be disposed of in accordance with Chapter 361 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

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SLUDGE PROVISIONS

The permittee is authorized to dispose of sludge or biosolids 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 or biosolids supplies the sewage sludge or biosolids 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 or biosolids 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 once during the term of this permit 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 9) 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 9) and the Enforcement Division (MC 224) by September 30th of each year.

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

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

* Dry weight basis

3. Pathogen Control

All sewage sludge that is applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, or a reclamation site 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)(3)(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 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. Sewage sludge shall be injected below the surface of the land.

ii. No significant amount of the sewage sludge shall be present on the land surface within one hour after the sewage sludge is injected.

iii. When sewage sludge that is injected below the surface of the land is Class A 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 sewage sludge shall be applied to or placed on the land within eight hours after being discharged from the pathogen treatment process.

C. Monitoring Requirements

Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) Test	- once during the term of this permit
PCBs	- once during the term of this permit

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):

Amount of biosolids (*) metric tons per 365-day period	Monitoring Frequency
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, 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 FOR APPLICATION TO THE LAND MEETING CLASS A, CLASS AB or B BIOSOLIDS 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

Pollutant	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

Pollutant	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 or biosolids enters a wetland or other waters in the State.

2. Bulk sewage sludge not meeting Class A biosolids 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 Class A or AB 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 sewage sludge 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 biosolids are 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.

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 or biosolids treatment activities.

   b. The location, by street address, and specific latitude and longitude, of each site on which sludge or biosolids are applied.

   c. The number of acres in each site on which bulk sludge or biosolids are applied.

   d. The date and time sludge or 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 sludge applied to each site in dry tons.

The above records shall be maintained on-site on a monthly basis and shall be made available to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality upon request.

F. Reporting Requirements

The permittee shall report annually to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 9) and the Enforcement Division (MC 224), by September 30th of each year the following information:

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 or biosolids 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 or biosolids meet the requirements in 30 TAC § 330 concerning the quality of the sludge disposed in a municipal solid waste landfill.

B. If the permittee generates sewage sludge or biosolids 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. Sewage sludge or biosolids shall be tested once during the term of this permit 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 9) 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 9) and the Enforcement Division (MC 224), by September 30_{th} of each year.

D. Sewage sludge or biosolids shall be tested as needed, in accordance with the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 330.

E. 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.

F. Reporting Requirements

The permittee shall report annually to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 9) and the Enforcement Division (MC 224), by September 30th of each year the following information:

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. 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 or biosolids 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 annually to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 9) and the Enforcement Division (MC 224), by September 30th of each year the following information:

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.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS:

1. This permit is 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 this permit in accordance with applicable procedural requirements to require the system covered by this permit to be integrated into an area-wide system, if an area-wide system is developed; to require the delivery of the wastes authorized to be collected in, treated by, or discharged from the system, to an 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.

2. 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 D* facility must be operated by a chief operator or an operator holding a Class D* 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 which 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.

   *A Class D Wastewater Treatment Operator license is not renewable for operators of a facility listed in 30 TAC Section 30.342(c) and must be upgraded to a Class C Wastewater Treatment Operator license or higher prior to the expiration date of the Class D license.

3. The permittee shall maintain and operate the treatment facility in order to achieve optimum efficiency of treatment capability. This shall include required monitoring of effluent flow and quality as well as appropriate grounds and building maintenance.

4. Prior to construction of the 0.05 MGD wastewater treatment facility, the permittee shall submit to the TCEQ Domestic Wastewater Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division, a summary transmittal letter according to the requirements in 30 TAC § 217.6(d). If requested by the Domestic Wastewater Section, the permittee shall submit plans, specifications and a final engineering design report which comply with the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 217, Design Criteria for Domestic Wastewater Systems. The permittee shall clearly show how the treatment system will meet the permitted effluent limitations required on Page 2 of the permit. A copy of the summary transmittal letter shall be available at the plant site for inspection by authorized representatives of the TCEQ.

5. Reporting requirements according to 30 TAC § 319.1-319.11 and any additional effluent reporting requirements contained in this permit are suspended from the effective date of the permit until plant startup or discharge, whichever occurs first, from the facility described by

this permit. The permittee shall provide written notice to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 9) and the Applications Review and Processing Team (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division at least forty-five (45) days prior to plant startup or anticipated discharge, whichever occurs first, on Notification of Completion Form 20007.

6. The permittee shall provide facilities for the protection of its wastewater treatment facility from a 100-year flood.

7. Prior to construction of the 0.05 MGD wastewater treatment facility, the permittee shall submit sufficient evidence of legal restrictions prohibiting residential structures within the part of the buffer zone not owned by the permittee according to 30 TAC § 309.13(e)(3). The evidence of legal restrictions shall be submitted to the Executive Director in care of the TCEQ Domestic Wastewater Section (MC 148). The permittee shall comply with the requirements of 30 TAC § 309.13(a) through (d). (See Attachment B.)

8. Holding or storage ponds shall conform to the design criteria for stabilization ponds with regard to construction and levee design and shall maintain a minimum freeboard of two feet according to 30 TAC Chapter 217, Design Criteria for Domestic Wastewater Systems.

9. Permanent transmission lines shall be installed from the holding pond to each tract of land to be irrigated utilizing effluent from that pond.

10. Any new or modified wastewater pond shall be adequately lined to control seepage in accordance with 30 TAC §217.203 and 30 TAC §309.13(d) since the facility overlies the recharge zone of an aquifer. The Permittee shall submit the liner certification for a newly-constructed or modified wastewater pond to the Land Application Team (MC 150), the TCEQ Waco Regional Office (MC Region 9), and the Enforcement Division (MC 224) within 30 days of completion and prior to use. The certification shall be signed and sealed by a Texas-licensed professional engineer and include a description of how the liner meets the requirements of 30 TAC §217.203 and 30 TAC §309.13(d) since the facility is located on the recharge zone of an aquifer.

11. Facilities for the retention of treated or untreated wastewater shall be adequately managed and lined to control seepage. At least once per month, the Permittee shall inspect the sides and bottom (if visible) of all wastewater ponds for signs of damage and leakage, and any pond leak detection systems that are in service. Leaking ponds shall be removed from service, or operated in a manner to prevent discharge, until repairs are made or replacement ponds are constructed. A record of the monthly inspections shall be maintained in a field log and kept onsite for TCEQ inspection.

12. Pond liner certifications and all liner construction and repair and documentation shall be maintained by the Permittee for the life of the facility and be made available for TCEQ personnel for inspection and review.

13. The permittee shall comply with buffer zone requirements of 30 TAC §309.13(c). A wastewater treatment plant unit, defined by 30 TAC Section §309.11(a)(9), must be located a minimum horizontal distance of 250 feet from a private well and a minimum horizontal distance of 500 feet from a public water well site, spring, or other similar sources of public drinking water, as provided by §290.41(c)(1)(C) of this title. Wastewater irrigation fields must be a minimum horizontal distance of 500 feet from public water wells, springs, or

other similar sources of public drinking water; 150 feet from private water wells; and 100 feet from surface waters in the state.

14. The permittee shall maintain berms and other flood protection measures around the wastewater ponds to prevent inundation.

15. The irrigated crops include Sorghum Sudan Haygrazer (warm season) and Wheat (cool season). Application rates to the irrigated land shall not exceed 2.24 acre-feet/acre/year. The permittee is responsible for providing equipment to determine application rates and maintaining accurate records of the volume of effluent applied. The records shall be made available for review by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and shall be maintained for at least three years.

16. The permittee shall use cultural practices to promote and maintain the health and propagation of the Sorghum Sudan Haygrazer and Wheat crops and avoid plant lodging. The permittee shall harvest the crops (cut and remove it from the field) at least once during the year. Harvesting and mowing dates shall be recorded in a log book kept on site to be made available to TCEQ personnel upon request.

17. The permittee shall erect adequate signs stating that the irrigation water is from a non-potable water supply for any area where treated effluent is stored or where there exist hose bibs or faucets. Signs shall consist of a red slash superimposed over the international symbol for drinking water accompanied by the message “DO NOT DRINK THE WATER” in both English and Spanish. All piping transporting the effluent shall be clearly marked with these same signs.

18. Irrigation practices shall be designed and managed as to prevent ponding of effluent or contamination of ground and surface waters and to prevent the occurrence of nuisance conditions in the area. To promote effluent and nutrient uptake by the crop, and to prevent pathways for effluent surfacing, the crops shall be established and well maintained in the irrigation area throughout the year. Tailwater controls facilities shall be provided as necessary to prevent the discharge of any effluent from the irrigated land.

19. Effluent shall not be applied for irrigation during rainfall events or when the ground is frozen or saturated.

20. The physical condition of the spray irrigation fields will be monitored on a weekly basis when the fields are being utilized for the purpose of wastewater irrigation. Any areas with problems such as surface runoff, surficial erosion, stressed or damaged vegetation will be recorded in the field log kept onsite and corrective measures will be initiated within 24 hours of discovery.

21. Spray fixtures for the irrigation system shall be of such design that they cannot be operated by unauthorized personnel.

22. The permittee shall obtain representative soil samples from the root zones of the land application area receiving wastewater. Composite sampling techniques shall be used. Each composite sample shall represent no more than 25 acres, with no less than 10 to 15 subsamples representing each composite sample. Subsamples shall be composited by like sampling depth and soil type for analysis and reporting. Soil types are soils that have like topsoil or plow layer textures. These soils shall be sampled individually from 0 to 6 inches, 6

inches to 18 inches, and 18 inches to 30 inches below ground level. The permittee shall sample soils in December to February of each year. Soil samples shall be analyzed within 30 days of sample collection.

The permittee shall provide annual soil analyses of the land application area according to the following table:

Parameter	Method	Minimum Analytical Level (MAL)	Reporting units
pH	2:1 (v/v) water to soil mixture		Reported to 0.1 pH units after calibration of pH meter
Electrical Conductivity	2:1 (v/v) water to soil mixture	0.01	dS/m (same as mmho/cm)
Nitrate-nitrogen	From a 1 N KCl soil extract	1	mg/kg (dry weight basis)
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN)	For determination of Organic plus Ammonium Nitrogen. Procedures that use Mercury (Hg) are not acceptable.	20	mg/kg (dry weight basis)
Total Nitrogen	= TKN + nitrate-nitrogen (same as, organic-nitrogen + ammonium-nitrogen + nitrate-nitrogen)		mg/kg (dry weight basis)
Plant-available: Phosphorus	Mehlich III with inductively coupled plasma	1	mg/kg (dry weight basis)
Plant-available: Potassium	May be determined in the same Mehlich III extract with inductively coupled plasma	5	mg/kg (dry weight basis)
Amendment addition, e.g., gypsum			Report in *short tons/acre* in the year effected

The permittee shall provide a copy of this plan to the analytical laboratory prior to sample analysis. The permittee shall submit the results of the annual soil sample analyses with copies of the laboratory reports and a map depicting the areas that have received wastewater within the permanent land application fields to the Land Application Team (MC 150), TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 9) and the Enforcement Division (MC 224) no later than end of September following the sampling date of each year. If wastewater is not applied in a particular year, the permittee shall notify the same TCEQ offices and indicate that wastewater has not been applied on the approved land disposal site(s) during that year.

TECHNICAL SUMMARY AND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY DECISION

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION

Applicant:	City of Richland Springs TCEQ Permit No. WQ0010665002
Regulated Activity:	Domestic Wastewater Permit
Type of Application:	New Permit
Request:	New Permit
Authority:	Texas Water Code (TWC) § 26.027; 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapters 305, 309, 312, 319, and 30; and Commission policies.

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,** according to 30 TAC Section 305.127(1)(C)(ii)(III), Conditions to be Determined for Individual Permits.

REASON FOR PROJECT PROPOSED

City of Richland Springs has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for new Permit No. WQ0010665002 to authorize the disposal of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 0.05 million gallons per day (MGD) via surface irrigation of 25 acres of non-public access cropland. The facility includes one storage pond with a total surface area of 0.49 acres and total capacity of 2.95 acre-feet for storage of treated effluent prior to irrigation.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The City of Richland Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant will consist of an activated sludge process plant using the complete mix mode. Treatment units will include a bar screen, an aeration basin, a final clarifier, a digester, a granular activated carbon pressure filter, and a chlorine contact chamber. The facility has not been constructed and is still operating using the existing pond system.

The draft permit authorizes the disposal of sludge at a TCEQ-authorized land application site, co-disposal landfill, wastewater treatment facility, or facility that further processes sludge.

The wastewater treatment facility and disposal site are located 200 County Road 252, in San Saba County, Texas 76871.

The wastewater treatment facility and disposal site are located in the drainage basin of San Saba River in Segment No. 1416 of the Colorado River Basin. No discharge of pollutants into water in

the state is authorized by this permit.

SUMMARY OF EFFLUENT DATA

There is no effluent data available.

DRAFT PERMIT CONDITIONS

The draft permit authorizes the disposal of treated domestic wastewater effluent at a daily average flow not to exceed 0.05 MGD via surface irrigation of 25 acres of non-public access cropland. The facility includes one storage pond with a total surface area of 0.49 acres and total capacity of 2.95 acre-feet for storage of treated effluent prior to irrigation. Application rates to the irrigated land shall not exceed 2.24 acre-feet per year per acre irrigated The irrigated crops include Sorghum Sudan Haygrazer (warm season) and Wheat (cool season).

The effluent limitation in the draft permit, based on a single grab, is 65 mg/l biochemical oxygen demand (BOD_5).

The permittee shall comply with the requirements of 30 TAC § 309.13(a) through (d). In addition, by ownership of the required buffer zone area, the permittee shall comply with the requirements of 30 TAC § 309.13(e).

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

SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM APPLICATION

The applicant changed the method of land application from evaporation to surface irrigation.

BASIS FOR DRAFT PERMIT

The following items were considered in developing the draft permit:

1. Application received on March 27, 2023, and additional information received on April 10, 2023, March 5, 2025, October 1, 2025, November 21, 2025, and January 19, 2026.

3. Interoffice Memorandum from the Land Application Team, Water Quality Assessment & Standards Section, Water Quality Division.

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 Connor Reilly at (512) 239-4526.

Connor J. Reilly

Connor Reilly
Land Application Team
Water Quality Assessment Section (MC 150)

4/13/2026
Date