



Technical Package Cover Page

This file contains the following documents:

1. Summary of application (in plain language)
 - English
 - Alternative Language (Spanish)
 2. First notice (NORI-Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain a Permit)
 - English
 - Alternative Language (Spanish)
 3. Second notice (NAPD-Notice of Preliminary Decision)
 - English
 - Alternative Language (Spanish)
 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
-



Portada de Paquete Técnico

Este archivo contiene los siguientes documentos:

1. Resumen de la solicitud (en lenguaje sencillo)
 - Inglés
 - Idioma alternativo (español)
2. Primer aviso (NORI, Aviso de Recepción de Solicitud e Intención de Obtener un Permiso)
 - Inglés
 - Idioma alternativo (español)
3. Segundo aviso (NAPD, Aviso de Decisión Preliminar)
 - Inglés
 - Idioma alternativo (español)
4. Materiales de la solicitud (**NOTA:** Esta solicitud se declaró administrativamente completa antes del 1 de junio de 2024. Los materiales de la solicitud están disponibles para revisión en la ubicación de consulta pública que se indica en el NORI.)
5. Proyecto de permiso
6. Resumen técnico u hoja de datos

Section 15. Plain Language Summary (Instructions Page 40)

This information is required for new, major amendment, and renewal applications. It is not required for minor amendment or minor modification applications.

If you are subject to the alternative language notice requirements in [30 Texas Administrative Code §39.426](#), **you must provide a translated copy of the completed plain language summary in the appropriate alternative language as part of your application package.** For your convenience, a Spanish template has been provided below.

ENGLISH TEMPLATE FOR TPDES or TLAP NEW/RENEWAL/AMENDMENT APPLICATIONS

DOMESTIC WASTEWATER

The following summary is provided for this pending water quality permit application being reviewed by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality as required by 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 39. The information provided in this summary may change during the technical review of the application and are not federal enforceable representations of the permit application.

Sigman Grafted, LLC (CN606235802) proposes to operate Martindale Tract Wastewater Treatment Plant RN111925863. a domestic wastewater treatment plant. The facility will be located approximately 2 miles southeast of the intersection of Highway 142 and San Marcos Highway, in Martindale, Caldwell County, Texas 78655.

This is for a new application to discharge processed wastewater at an average daily flow of 500,000 gallons per day on and intermittent and flow-variable basis.

Discharges from the facility are expected to contain five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅), total suspended solids (TSS), ammonia nitrogen (NH₃-N), and Escherichia Coli. Domestic wastewater will be treated by the facility which is to be constructed in three phases with a total design flow of approximately 500,000 gpd. Phase I will treat 100,000 gpd and phase II will treat approximately 300,000 gpd, the Final Phase will treat approximately 100,000 gpd, resulting in a total capacity of 500,000 gpd at full completion. Each phase will operate as suspended growth activated sludge process in the extended aeration mode. The treatment units include a bar screen, aeration basin, clarifier, chlorine contact basin and an aerobic digester. Wastewater will be pumped into the plant where it will enter through a bar screen. The influent will then pass through the aeration zone and flow into a clarifier. From the clarifier, the effluent will flow to a chlorine contact basin for disinfection prior to tertiary filtration. Finally, effluent will be dechlorinated prior to discharging into an Unnamed Tributary of Morrison Creek. This facility will also utilize a digester for sludge holding, prior to haul off.

PLANTILLA EN INGLÉS PARA SOLICITUDES DE NUEVA/RENOVACIÓN/ENMIENDA TPDES o TLAP

AGUAS RESIDUALES DOMÉSTICAS

El siguiente resumen se proporciona para esta solicitud de permiso de calidad del agua pendiente que está siendo revisada por la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas según lo exige el Capítulo 39 del Código Administrativo de Texas 30. La información proporcionada en este resumen puede cambiar durante la revisión técnica de la solicitud y no es federal. representaciones ejecutables de la solicitud de permiso.

Sigman Grafted, LLC (2. Ingrese el número de cliente aquí (es decir, CN606235802).) propone operar la planta de tratamiento de aguas residuales de Martindale Tract 5. Ingrese el número de entidad regulada aquí (es decir, RN111925863). una planta de tratamiento de aguas residuales domésticas. La instalación estará ubicada aproximadamente a 2 millas al sureste de la intersección de la autopista 142 y la autopista San Marcos, en Martindale, condado de Caldwell, Texas 78655.

Esto es para una nueva aplicación para descargar aguas residuales procesadas a un flujo diario promedio de 500,000 galones por día de forma intermitente y de flujo variable.

Se espera que las descargas de la instalación contengan demanda bioquímica de oxígeno carbonoso (CBOD₅) de cinco días, sólidos suspendidos totales (SST), nitrógeno amoniacal (NH₃-N) y Escherichia coli. Las aguas residuales domésticas serán tratadas en la instalación que se construirá en tres fases con un flujo total de diseño de aproximadamente 500.000 gpd. La Fase I tratará 100,000 gpd y la Fase II tratará aproximadamente 300,000 gpd, la Fase Final tratará aproximadamente 100,000 gpd, lo que resultará en una capacidad total de 500,000 gpd cuando esté completamente terminada. Cada fase funcionará como un proceso de lodos activados de crecimiento suspendido en el modo de aireación extendida. Las unidades de tratamiento incluyen rejilla de barra, tina de aireación, clarificador, tina de contacto de cloro y digestor aeróbico. Las aguas residuales serán bombeadas a la planta donde ingresarán a través de una reja. Luego, el afluente pasará por la zona de aireación y fluirá hacia un clarificador. Desde el clarificador, el efluente fluirá a una cubeta de contacto con cloro para su desinfección antes de la filtración terciaria. Finalmente, se eliminará el cloro del efluente antes de descargarlo en un afluente sin nombre de Morrison Creek. Esta instalación también utilizará un digestor para almacenar lodos, antes de su transporte.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



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

PERMIT NO. WQ0016494001

APPLICATION. Sigman Grafted LLC, 1659 West Highway 46, Suite 115, Box 525, New Braunfels, Texas 78132, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for proposed Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0016494001 (EPA I.D. No. TX0145700) to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 500,000 gallons per day. The domestic wastewater treatment facility will be located approximately 0.49 miles northeast of the intersection of San Marcos Highway and West Ridge Road, in Caldwell County, Texas 78655. The discharge route will be from the plant site via pipe to Morrison Creek; thence to Lower San Marcos River. TCEQ received this application on February 28, 2024. The permit application will be available for viewing and copying at Martindale Community Library, Public Viewing Table, 411 Main Street, Martindale, 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=-97.81128,29.835431&level=18>

ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE NOTICE. Alternative language notice in Spanish is available at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>. El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>.

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. All public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at <https://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 Sigman Grafted LLC at the address stated above or by calling Ms. Lauren Crone, P.E., LJA Engineering, at 512-439-4700.

Issuance Date: April 22, 2024

Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas



AVISO DE RECIBO DE LA SOLICITUD Y EL INTENTO DE OBTENER PERMISO PARA LA CALIDAD DEL AGUA

PERMISO PROPUESTO NO. WQ0016494001

SOLICITUD. Sigman Grafted, LLC, 1659 West Highway 46, Suite 115, Box 525, New Braunfels Texas 78132, ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas (TCEQ) para el propuesto Permiso No. WQ0016494001 (EPA I.D. No. TX0145700) del Sistema de Eliminación de Descargas de Contaminantes de Texas (TPDES) para autorizar la descarga de aguas residuales tratadas en un volumen que no sobrepasa un flujo promedio diario de 500,000 galones por día. La planta está ubicada aproximadamente a 0.49 millas al noreste de la intersección de San Marcos Highway y West Ridge Road en el Condado de Caldwell, Texas. La ruta de descarga es del sitio de la planta a través de un desagüe hasta Morrison Creek; de allí al Bajo Río San Marcos. La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 28 de febrero de 2024. La solicitud para el permiso está disponible para leerla y copiarla en 411 Main Street, Martindale. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación es proporcionado como una cortesía y no es parte de la solicitud o del aviso. Para la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud.

<https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-97.81128,29.835431&level=18>

AVISO ADICIONAL. El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud es administrativamente completa y conducirá una revisión técnica de la solicitud. Después de completar la revisión técnica, el Director Ejecutivo puede preparar un borrador del permiso y emitirá una Decisión Preliminar sobre la solicitud. **El aviso de la solicitud y la decisión preliminar serán publicados y enviado a los que están en la lista de correo de las personas a lo largo del condado que desean recibir los avisos y los que están en la lista de correo que desean recibir avisos de esta solicitud. El aviso dará la fecha límite para someter comentarios públicos.**

COMENTARIO PUBLICO / REUNION PUBLICA. Usted puede presentar comentarios públicos o pedir una reunión pública sobre esta solicitud. El propósito de una reunión pública es dar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas acerca de la solicitud. La TCEQ realiza una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que hay un grado de interés público suficiente en la solicitud o si un legislador local lo pide. Una reunión pública no es una audiencia

administrativa de lo contencioso.

OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO

CONTENCIOSO. Después del plazo para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará todos los comentarios apropiados y preparará una respuesta a todo los comentarios públicos esenciales, pertinentes, o significativos. **A menos que la solicitud haya sido referida directamente a una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso, la respuesta a los comentarios y la decisión del Director Ejecutivo sobre la solicitud serán enviados por correo a todos los que presentaron un comentario público y a las personas que están en la lista para recibir avisos sobre esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el aviso también proveerá instrucciones para pedir una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo y para pedir una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso.** Una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso es un procedimiento legal similar a un procedimiento legal civil en un tribunal de distrito del estado.

PARA SOLICITAR UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU SOLICITUD LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS: su nombre, dirección, y número de teléfono; el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación y distancia de su propiedad/actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el período de comentarios; y la declaración "[Yo/nosotros] solicito/solicitamos una audiencia de caso impugnado". Si presenta la petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado de parte de un grupo o asociación, debe identificar una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; identificar el nombre y la dirección de un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; proveer la información indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y su distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; explicar cómo y porqué el miembro sería afectado; y explicar cómo los intereses que el grupo desea proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Después del cierre de todos los períodos de comentarios y de petición que aplican, el Director Ejecutivo enviará la solicitud y cualquier petición para reconsideración o para una audiencia de caso impugnado a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración durante una reunión programada de la Comisión. La Comisión sólo puede conceder una solicitud de una audiencia de caso impugnado sobre los temas que el solicitante haya presentado en sus comentarios oportunos que no fueron retirados posteriormente. Si se concede una audiencia, el tema de la audiencia estará limitado a cuestiones de hecho en disputa o cuestiones mixtas de hecho y de derecho relacionadas a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad del agua que se hayan presentado durante el período de comentarios.

LISTA DE CORREO. Si somete comentarios públicos, un pedido para una audiencia administrativa de lo contencioso o una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo, la Oficina del Secretario Principal enviará por correo los avisos públicos en relación con la solicitud. Además, puede pedir que la TCEQ ponga su nombre en una o más de las listas de correos siguientes (1) la lista de correo permanente para recibir los avisos de el solicitante indicado por nombre y número del permiso específico y/o (2) la lista de correo de todas las solicitudes en un condado específico. Si desea que se agregue su nombre en una de las listas designe cual lista(s) y envía por correo su pedido a la Oficina del Secretario Principal de la TCEQ.

CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN DE LA TCEQ. Todos los comentarios escritos del público y los para pedidos una reunión deben ser presentados a la Oficina del Secretario Principal, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 o por el internet at www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html. Tenga en cuenta que cualquier información personal que usted proporcione, incluyendo su nombre, número de teléfono, dirección de correo electrónico y dirección física pasarán a formar parte del registro público de la Agencia. Si necesita más información en Español sobre esta solicitud para un permiso o el proceso del permiso, por favor llame a El Programa de Educación Pública de la TCEQ, sin cobro, al 1-800-687-4040. La información general sobre la TCEQ puede ser encontrada en nuestro sitio de la red: www.tceq.texas.gov.

También se puede obtener información adicional del Sigman Grafted, LLC a la dirección indicada arriba o llamando a Lauren Crone, P.E. al (512) 239-4912.

Fecha de emisión 22 de abril de 2024

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR TPDES PERMIT FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER

NEW

PERMIT NO. WQ0016494001

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. Sigman Grafted LLC, 1659 West Highway 46, Suite 115, Box 525, New Braunfels, Texas, 78132, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for proposed Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0016494001 to authorize the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a volume not to exceed 500,000 gallons per day. TCEQ received this application on February 28, 2024.

The facility will be located approximately 0.49 miles northeast of the intersection of San Marcos Highway and West Ridge Road, in Caldwell County, Texas 78655. The treated effluent will be discharged to Morrison Creek, thence to Lower San Marcos River in Segment No. 1808 of the Guadalupe River Basin. The unclassified receiving water use is limited aquatic life use for Morrison Creek. The designated uses for Segment No. 1808 are primary contact recreation, public water supply, and high aquatic life use. In accordance with 30 Texas Administrative Code §307.5 and TCEQ's *Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards* (June 2010), an antidegradation review of the receiving waters was performed. A Tier 1 antidegradation review has preliminarily determined that existing water quality uses will not be impaired by this permit action. Numerical and narrative criteria to protect existing uses will be maintained. This review has preliminarily determined that no water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life uses are present within the stream reach assessed; therefore, no Tier 2 degradation determination is required. No significant degradation of water quality is expected in water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life uses downstream, and existing uses will be maintained and protected. The preliminary determination can be reexamined and may be modified if new information is received. 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=-97.81128,29.835431&level=18>

The TCEQ Executive Director has reviewed this action for consistency with the Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) goals and policies in accordance with the regulations of the Texas General Land Office and has determined that the action is consistent with the applicable CMP goals and policies.

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 Martindale Community Library, Public Viewing Table, 411 Main Street, Martindale, Texas. The application, including any updates, and associated notices are available electronically at the following webpage: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/pending-permits/tpdes-applications>.

ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE NOTICE. Alternative language notice in Spanish is available at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>. El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>.

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 Sigman Grafted LLC at the address stated above or by calling Ms. Lauren Crone, P.E., LJA Engineering, at 512-439-4700.

Issuance Date: August 28, 2025

Comisión de Calidad Ambiental del Estado de Texas



AVISO DE SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR PARA PERMISO TPDES PARA AGUAS RESIDUALES MUNICIPALES

NUEVO

PERMISO PROPUESTO NO. WQ0016494001

SOLICITUD Y DECISIÓN PRELIMINAR. Sigman Grafted LLC, 1659 West Highway 46, Suite 115, Box 525, New Braunfels, Texas, 78132, ha solicitado a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ) la propuesta de Permiso No. WQ0016494001 para el Sistema de Eliminación de Descargas Contaminantes de Texas (TPDES), que autoriza la descarga de aguas residuales domésticas tratadas en un volumen que no exceda los 500,000 galones por día. La TCEQ recibió esta solicitud el 28 de febrero de 2024.

La instalación estará ubicada aproximadamente a 0,49 millas al noreste de la intersección de San Marcos Highway y West Ridge Road, en el Condado de Caldwell, Texas 78655. El efluente tratado se descargará en Morrison Creek, y de allí al Bajo Río San Marcos en el Segmento n.º 1808 de la Cuenca del Río Guadalupe. El uso no clasificado del agua receptora es limitado para la vida acuática en Morrison Creek. Los usos designados para el Segmento n.º 1808 son recreación de contacto primario, suministro público de agua y alto uso de vida acuática. De conformidad con el Título 30 del Código Administrativo de Texas, §307.5, y los Procedimientos para la Implementación de los Estándares de Calidad del Agua Superficial de Texas (junio de 2010) de la TCEQ, se realizó una revisión de antidegradación de las aguas receptoras. Una revisión de antidegradación de Nivel 1 ha determinado preliminarmente que los usos actuales de la calidad del agua no se verán afectados por esta acción de permiso. Se mantendrán los criterios numéricos y narrativos para proteger los usos existentes. Esta revisión ha determinado preliminarmente que no existen cuerpos de agua con usos acuáticos excepcionales, altos o intermedios dentro del tramo fluvial evaluado; por lo tanto, no se requiere una determinación de degradación de Nivel 2. No se prevé una degradación significativa de la calidad del agua en cuerpos de agua con usos acuáticos excepcionales, altos o intermedios aguas abajo, y se mantendrán y protegerán los usos existentes. La determinación preliminar puede reevaluarse y modificarse si se recibe nueva información. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o instalación se proporciona como cortesía pública y no forma parte de la solicitud ni del aviso. Para conocer la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud:

<https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-97.81128,29.835431&level=18>

El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha revisado esta acción para verificar su coherencia con los objetivos y políticas del Programa de Gestión Costera de Texas (CMP), de acuerdo con las regulaciones de la Oficina General de Tierras de Texas, y ha determinado que la acción es coherente con los objetivos y políticas aplicables del CMP. El Director Ejecutivo de la TCEQ ha completado la revisión técnica de la solicitud y ha preparado un borrador del permiso. De aprobarse, este borrador establecería las condiciones bajo las cuales la instalación debe operar. El Director Ejecutivo ha tomado una decisión preliminar que establece que este permiso, de ser emitido, cumple con todos los requisitos legales y reglamentarios. La solicitud de permiso, la decisión preliminar del Director Ejecutivo y el borrador del permiso están disponibles para consulta y copia en la Biblioteca Comunitaria de Martindale, Mesa de Consulta Pública, 411 Main Street, Martindale, Texas. La solicitud, incluyendo cualquier actualización y los avisos relacionados, están disponibles electrónicamente en la siguiente página web: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/pending-permits/tpdes-applications>.

ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE NOTICE. Alternative language notice in Spanish is available at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>. El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>.

COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS / REUNIÓN PÚBLICA. Puede presentar comentarios públicos o solicitar una reunión pública sobre esta solicitud. El propósito de una reunión pública es brindar la oportunidad de presentar comentarios o hacer preguntas sobre la solicitud. La TCEQ celebra una reunión pública si el Director Ejecutivo determina que existe un interés público significativo en la solicitud o si lo solicita un legislador local. Una reunión pública no constituye una audiencia de caso contencioso.

OPORTUNIDAD DE UNA AUDIENCIA ADMINISTRATIVA DE LO CONTENCIOSO. Después de la fecha límite para presentar comentarios públicos, el Director Ejecutivo considerará los comentarios y preparará una respuesta a todos los comentarios públicos relevantes y materiales, o significativos. **A menos que la solicitud sea remitida directamente para una audiencia de caso impugnado, la respuesta a los comentarios se enviará por correo a todos los que enviaron comentarios públicos y a aquellas personas que estén en la lista de correo para esta solicitud. Si se reciben comentarios, el correo también proporcionará instrucciones para solicitar una audiencia de caso impugnado o reconsiderar la decisión del Director Ejecutivo.** Una audiencia de caso impugnado es un procedimiento legal similar a un juicio civil en un tribunal de distrito estatal.

PARA SOLICITAR UNA AUDIENCIA DE CASO IMPUGNADO, USTED DEBE INCLUIR EN SU SOLICITUD LOS SIGUIENTES DATOS: su nombre, dirección, y número de teléfono; el nombre del solicitante y número del permiso; la ubicación y distancia de su propiedad/actividad con respecto a la instalación; una descripción específica de la forma cómo usted sería afectado adversamente por el sitio de una manera no común al público en general; una lista de todas las cuestiones de hecho en disputa que usted presente durante el período de comentarios; y la declaración "[Yo/nosotros] solicito/solicitamos una audiencia de caso impugnado". Si presenta la petición para una audiencia de caso impugnado de parte de un grupo o asociación, debe identificar una persona que representa al grupo para recibir correspondencia en el futuro; identificar el nombre y la dirección de un miembro del grupo que sería afectado adversamente por la planta o la actividad propuesta; proveer la información indicada anteriormente con respecto a la ubicación del miembro afectado y su distancia de la planta o actividad propuesta; explicar cómo y porqué el miembro sería afectado; y explicar cómo los intereses que el grupo desea proteger son pertinentes al propósito del grupo.

Tras el cierre de todos los periodos de comentarios y solicitudes aplicables, el Director Ejecutivo remitirá la solicitud y cualquier solicitud de reconsideración o de una audiencia de caso impugnado a los Comisionados de la TCEQ para su consideración en una reunión programada de la Comisión.

La Comisión sólo puede conceder una solicitud de una audiencia de caso impugnado sobre los temas que el solicitante haya presentado en sus comentarios oportunos que no fueron retirados posteriormente. **Si se concede una audiencia, el tema de la audiencia estará limitado a cuestiones de hecho en disputa o cuestiones mixtas de hecho y de derecho relacionadas a intereses pertinentes y materiales de calidad del agua que se hayan presentado durante el período de comentarios.**

ACCIÓN DEL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO. El Director Ejecutivo puede emitir la aprobación final de la solicitud a menos que se presente una solicitud de audiencia de caso impugnado oportunamente o una solicitud de reconsideración. Si se presenta una solicitud de audiencia oportuna o una solicitud de reconsideración, el Director Ejecutivo no emitirá la aprobación final del permiso y enviará la solicitud y la solicitud a los Comisionados de TCEQ para su consideración en una reunión programada de la Comisión.

LISTA DE CORREO. Si envía comentarios públicos, una solicitud de una audiencia de caso impugnado o una reconsideración de la decisión del Director Ejecutivo, se le agregará a la lista de correo de esta solicitud específica para recibir futuros avisos públicos enviados por correo por la Oficina del Secretario Oficial. Además, puede solicitar ser colocado en: (1) la lista de correo permanente para un nombre de solicitante específico y número de permiso; y/o (2) la lista de correo para un condado específico. Si desea ser colocado en la lista de correo permanente y / o del condado, especifique claramente qué lista (s) y envíe su solicitud a la Oficina del Secretario Oficial de la TCEQ a la dirección a continuación.

Todos los comentarios públicos escritos y las solicitudes de reunión pública deben enviarse a Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 o electrónicamente a www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment dentro de los 30 días a partir de la fecha de publicación de este aviso en el periódico.

CONTACTOS E INFORMACIÓN DE LA AGENCIA. Los comentarios y solicitudes públicas deben enviarse electrónicamente a www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment, o por escrito a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Cualquier información personal que envíe a la TCEQ pasará a formar parte del registro de la agencia; esto incluye las direcciones de correo electrónico. Para obtener más información sobre esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de permisos, llame al Programa de Educación Pública de TCEQ, línea gratuita, al 1-800-687-4040 o visite su sitio web en www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep. Si desea información en español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

También se puede obtener información adicional del Sigman Grafted LLC a la dirección indicada arriba o llamando a Sra. Lauren Crone, P.E. al 512-439-4700.

Fecha de emisión 28 de agosto de 2025



TPDES PERMIT NO. WQ0016494001
[For TCEQ office use only - EPA I.D.
No. TX0145700]

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

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

Sigman Grafted LLC

whose mailing address is

1659 West Highway 46, Suite 115, Box 525
New Braunfels, Texas, 78132

is authorized to treat and discharge wastes from the Martindale Tract Wastewater Treatment Plant, SIC Code 4952

located approximately 0.49 miles northeast of the intersection of San Marcos Highway and West Ridge Road, in Caldwell County, Texas 78655

to Morrison Creek, thence to Lower San Marcos River in Segment No. 1808 of the Guadalupe River Basin.

only according to effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in this permit, as well as the rules of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the laws of the State of Texas, and other orders of the TCEQ. The issuance of this permit does not grant to the permittee the right to use private or public property for conveyance of wastewater along the discharge route described in this permit. This includes, but is not limited to, property belonging to any individual, partnership, corporation, or other entity. Neither does this permit authorize any invasion of personal rights nor any violation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations. It is the responsibility of the permittee to acquire property rights as may be necessary to use the discharge route.

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

ISSUED DATE:

For the Commission

INTERIM I EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTSOutfall Number 001

- During the period beginning upon the date of issuance and lasting through the completion of expansion to the 0.30 million gallons per day (MGD) facility, the permittee is authorized to discharge subject to the following effluent limitations:

The daily average flow of effluent shall not exceed 0.10 MGD, nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 278 gallons per minute.

<u>Effluent Characteristic</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>				<u>Min. Self-Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	Daily Avg mg/l (lbs/day)	7-day Avg mg/l	Daily Max mg/l	Single Grab mg/l	Report Daily Avg. & Max. Single Grab Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow, MGD	Report	N/A	Report	N/A	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	5 (4.0)	10	20	30	One/week	Grab
Total Suspended Solids	5 (4.0)	10	20	30	One/week	Grab
Ammonia Nitrogen	2 (1.7)	5	10	15	One/week	Grab
Total Phosphorus	1 (0.8)	2	4	6	One/week	Grab
<i>E. coli</i> , colony-forming units or most probable number per 100 ml	126	N/A	N/A	399	One/month	Grab

- The effluent shall contain a total chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l and shall not exceed a total chlorine residual of 4.0 mg/l after a detention time of at least 20 minutes (based on peak flow), and shall be monitored five times per week by grab sample. An equivalent method of disinfection may be substituted only with prior approval of the Executive Director.
- The pH shall not be less than 6.0 standard units nor greater than 9.0 standard units and shall be monitored once per month by grab sample.
- There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts and no discharge of visible oil.
- Effluent monitoring samples shall be taken at the following location(s): Following the final treatment unit.
- The effluent shall contain a minimum dissolved oxygen of 5.0 mg/l and shall be monitored once per week by grab sample.

INTERIM II EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTSOutfall Number 001

1. During the period beginning upon the completion of expansion to the 0.30 MGD facility and lasting through the completion of expansion to the 0.50 MGD facility, the permittee is authorized to discharge subject to the following effluent limitations:

The daily average flow of effluent shall not exceed 0.30 MGD, nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 833 gallons per minute.

<u>Effluent Characteristic</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>				<u>Min. Self-Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	Daily Avg mg/l (lbs/day)	7-day Avg mg/l	Daily Max mg/l	Single Grab mg/l	Report Daily Avg. & Max. Single Grab Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow, MGD	Report	N/A	Report	N/A	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	5 (13)	10	20	30	One/week	Grab
Total Suspended Solids	5 (13)	10	20	30	One/week	Grab
Ammonia Nitrogen	2 (5.0)	5	10	15	One/week	Grab
Total Phosphorus	0.5 (1.3)	1	2	3	One/week	Grab
<i>E. coli</i> , colony-forming units or most probable number per 100 ml	126	N/A	N/A	399	One/month	Grab

2. The effluent shall contain a total chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l and shall not exceed a total chlorine residual of 4.0 mg/l after a detention time of at least 20 minutes (based on peak flow), and shall be monitored five times per week by grab sample at each chlorine contact chamber. An equivalent method of disinfection may be substituted only with prior approval of the Executive Director.
3. The pH shall not be less than 6.0 standard units nor greater than 9.0 standard units and shall be monitored once per month by grab sample.
4. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts and no discharge of visible oil.
5. Effluent monitoring samples shall be taken at the following location(s): Following the final treatment unit.
6. The effluent shall contain a minimum dissolved oxygen of 5.0 mg/l and shall be monitored once per week by grab sample.

FINAL EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTSOutfall Number 001

1. During the period beginning upon the completion of expansion to the 0.50 MGD facility and lasting through the date of expiration, the permittee is authorized to discharge subject to the following effluent limitations:

The daily average flow of effluent shall not exceed 0.50 MGD, nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 1,389 gallons per minute.

<u>Effluent Characteristic</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>				<u>Min. Self-Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	Daily Avg mg/l (lbs/day)	7-day Avg mg/l	Daily Max mg/l	Single Grab mg/l	Report Daily Avg. & Daily Max. Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow, MGD	Report	N/A	Report	N/A	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	5 (21)	10	20	30	One/week	Composite
Total Suspended Solids	5 (21)	10	20	30	One/week	Composite
Ammonia Nitrogen	2 (8.3)	5	10	15	One/week	Composite
Total Phosphorus	0.5 (2.0)	1	2	3	One/week	Composite
<i>E. coli</i> , colony-forming units or most probable number per 100 ml	126	N/A	399	N/A	One/month	Grab

2. The effluent shall contain a total chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l after a detention time of at least 20 minutes (based on peak flow) and shall be monitored daily by grab sample at each chlorine contact chamber. The permittee shall dechlorinate the chlorinated effluent to less than 0.1 mg/l total chlorine residual and shall monitor total chlorine residual daily by grab sample after the dechlorination process. An equivalent method of disinfection may be substituted only with prior approval of the Executive Director.
3. The pH shall not be less than 6.0 standard units nor greater than 9.0 standard units and shall be monitored twice per month by grab sample.
4. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts and no discharge of visible oil.
5. Effluent monitoring samples shall be taken at the following location(s): Following the final treatment unit.
6. The effluent shall contain a minimum dissolved oxygen of 5.0 mg/l and shall be monitored once per week by grab sample.

DEFINITIONS AND STANDARD PERMIT CONDITIONS

As required by Title 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 305, certain regulations appear as standard conditions in waste discharge permits. 30 TAC § 305.121 - 305.129 (relating to Permit Characteristics and Conditions) as promulgated under the Texas Water Code (TWC) §§ 5.103 and 5.105, and the Texas Health and Safety Code (THSC) §§ 361.017 and 361.024(a), establish the characteristics and standards for waste discharge permits, including sewage sludge, and those sections of 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 122 adopted by reference by the Commission. The following text includes these conditions and incorporates them into this permit. All definitions in TWC § 26.001 and 30 TAC Chapter 305 shall apply to this permit and are incorporated by reference. Some specific definitions of words or phrases used in this permit are as follows:

1. Flow Measurements

- a. Annual average flow - the arithmetic average of all daily flow determinations taken within the preceding 12 consecutive calendar months. The annual average flow determination shall consist of daily flow volume determinations made by a totalizing meter, charted on a chart recorder and limited to major domestic wastewater discharge facilities with one million gallons per day or greater permitted flow.
- b. Daily average flow - the arithmetic average of all determinations of the daily flow within a period of one calendar month. The daily average flow determination shall consist of determinations made on at least four separate days. If instantaneous measurements are used to determine the daily flow, the determination shall be the arithmetic average of all instantaneous measurements taken during that month. Daily average flow determination for intermittent discharges shall consist of a minimum of three flow determinations on days of discharge.
- c. Daily maximum flow - the highest total flow for any 24-hour period in a calendar month.
- d. Instantaneous flow - the measured flow during the minimum time required to interpret the flow measuring device.
- e. 2-hour peak flow (domestic wastewater treatment plants) - the maximum flow sustained for a two-hour period during the period of daily discharge. The average of multiple measurements of instantaneous maximum flow within a two-hour period may be used to calculate the 2-hour peak flow.
- f. Maximum 2-hour peak flow (domestic wastewater treatment plants) - the highest 2-hour peak flow for any 24-hour period in a calendar month.

2. Concentration Measurements

- a. Daily average concentration - the arithmetic average of all effluent samples, composite or grab as required by this permit, within a period of one calendar month, consisting of at least four separate representative measurements.
 - i. For domestic wastewater treatment plants - When four samples are not available in a calendar month, the arithmetic average (weighted by flow) of all values in the previous four consecutive month period consisting of at least four measurements shall be utilized as the daily average concentration.

- ii. For all other wastewater treatment plants - When four samples are not available in a calendar month, the arithmetic average (weighted by flow) of all values taken during the month shall be utilized as the daily average concentration.
- b. 7-day average concentration - the arithmetic average of all effluent samples, composite or grab as required by this permit, within a period of one calendar week, Sunday through Saturday.
- c. Daily maximum concentration - the maximum concentration measured on a single day, by the sample type specified in the permit, within a period of one calendar month.
- d. Daily discharge - the discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with limitations expressed in terms of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the sampling day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the sampling day.

The daily discharge determination of concentration made using a composite sample shall be the concentration of the composite sample. When grab samples are used, the daily discharge determination of concentration shall be the arithmetic average (weighted by flow value) of all samples collected during that day.

- e. Bacteria concentration (*E. coli* or Enterococci) - Colony Forming Units (CFU) or Most Probable Number (MPN) of bacteria per 100 milliliters effluent. The daily average bacteria concentration is a geometric mean of the values for the effluent samples collected in a calendar month. The geometric mean shall be determined by calculating the n th root of the product of all measurements made in a calendar month, where n equals the number of measurements made; or, computed as the antilogarithm of the arithmetic mean of the logarithms of all measurements made in a calendar month. For any measurement of bacteria equaling zero, a substituted value of one shall be made for input into either computation method. If specified, the 7-day average for bacteria is the geometric mean of the values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar week.
 - f. Daily average loading (lbs/day) - the arithmetic average of all daily discharge loading calculations during a period of one calendar month. These calculations must be made for each day of the month that a parameter is analyzed. The daily discharge, in terms of mass (lbs/day), is calculated as (Flow, MGD x Concentration, mg/l x 8.34).
 - g. Daily maximum loading (lbs/day) - the highest daily discharge, in terms of mass (lbs/day), within a period of one calendar month.
3. Sample Type
- a. Composite sample - For domestic wastewater, a composite sample is a sample made up of a minimum of three effluent portions collected in a continuous 24-hour period or during the period of daily discharge if less than 24 hours, and combined in volumes proportional to flow, and collected at the intervals required by 30 TAC § 319.9 (a). For industrial wastewater, a composite sample is a sample made up of a minimum of three effluent portions collected in a continuous 24-hour period or during the period of daily discharge if less than 24 hours, and combined in volumes proportional to flow, and collected at the intervals required by 30 TAC § 319.9 (b).

- b. Grab sample - an individual sample collected in less than 15 minutes.
- 4. Treatment Facility (facility) - wastewater facilities used in the conveyance, storage, treatment, recycling, reclamation and/or disposal of domestic sewage, industrial wastes, agricultural wastes, recreational wastes, or other wastes including sludge handling or disposal facilities under the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 5. The term "sewage sludge" is defined as solid, semi-solid, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in 30 TAC Chapter 312. This includes the solids that have not been classified as hazardous waste separated from wastewater by unit processes.
- 6. The term "biosolids" is defined as sewage sludge that has been tested or processed to meet Class A, Class AB, or Class B pathogen standards in 30 TAC Chapter 312 for beneficial use.
- 7. Bypass - the intentional diversion of a waste stream from any portion of a treatment facility.

MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Self-Reporting

Monitoring results shall be provided at the intervals specified in the permit. Unless otherwise specified in this permit or otherwise ordered by the Commission, the permittee shall conduct effluent sampling and reporting in accordance with 30 TAC §§ 319.4 - 319.12. Unless otherwise specified, effluent monitoring data shall be submitted each month, to the Enforcement Division (MC 224), by the 20th day of the following month for each discharge which is described by this permit whether or not a discharge is made for that month. Monitoring results must be submitted online using the NetDMR reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver. Monitoring results must be signed and certified as required by Monitoring and Reporting Requirements No. 10.

As provided by state law, the permittee is subject to administrative, civil and criminal penalties, as applicable, for negligently or knowingly violating the Clean Water Act (CWA); TWC §§ 26, 27, and 28; and THSC § 361, including but not limited to knowingly making any false statement, representation, or certification on any report, record, or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance, or falsifying, tampering with or knowingly rendering inaccurate any monitoring device or method required by this permit or violating any other requirement imposed by state or federal regulations.

2. Test Procedures

- a. Unless otherwise specified in this permit, test procedures for the analysis of pollutants shall comply with procedures specified in 30 TAC §§ 319.11 - 319.12. Measurements, tests, and calculations shall be accurately accomplished in a representative manner.
- b. All laboratory tests submitted to demonstrate compliance with this permit must meet the requirements of 30 TAC § 25, Environmental Testing Laboratory Accreditation and Certification.

3. Records of Results

- a. Monitoring samples and measurements shall be taken at times and in a manner so as to

be representative of the monitored activity.

- b. Except for records of monitoring information required by this permit related to the permittee's sewage sludge use or biosolids and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years (or longer as required by 40 CFR Part 503), monitoring and reporting records, including strip charts and records of calibration and maintenance, copies of all records required by this permit, records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, and the certification required by 40 CFR § 264.73(b)(9) shall be retained at the facility site, or shall be readily available for review by a TCEQ representative for a period of three years from the date of the record or sample, measurement, report, application or certification. This period shall be extended at the request of the Executive Director.
- c. Records of monitoring activities shall include the following:
 - i. date, time and place of sample or measurement;
 - ii. identity of individual who collected the sample or made the measurement.
 - iii. date and time of analysis;
 - iv. identity of the individual and laboratory who performed the analysis;
 - v. the technique or method of analysis; and
 - vi. the results of the analysis or measurement and quality assurance/quality control records.

The period during which records are required to be kept shall be automatically extended to the date of the final disposition of any administrative or judicial enforcement action that may be instituted against the permittee.

4. Additional Monitoring by Permittee

If the permittee monitors any pollutant at the location(s) designated herein more frequently than required by this permit using approved analytical methods as specified above, all results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the values submitted on the approved self-report form. Increased frequency of sampling shall be indicated on the self-report form.

5. Calibration of Instruments

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

6. Compliance Schedule Reports

Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of the permit shall be submitted no later

than 14 days following each schedule date to the Regional Office and the 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. For Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs), effective December 21, 2025, the permittee must submit the written report for unauthorized discharges and unanticipated bypasses that exceed any effluent limit in the permit using the online electronic reporting system available through the TCEQ website unless the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the potential danger to human health or safety, or the environment; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times; if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance, and to mitigate its adverse effects.
 - b. The following violations shall be reported under Monitoring and Reporting Requirement 7.a.:
 - i. Unauthorized discharges as defined in Permit Condition 2(g).
 - ii. Any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit.
 - iii. Violation of a permitted maximum daily discharge limitation for pollutants listed specifically in the Other Requirements section of an Industrial TPDES permit.
 - c. In addition to the above, any effluent violation which deviates from the permitted effluent limitation by more than 40% shall be reported by the permittee in writing to the Regional Office and the 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. For effluent limitation violations, noncompliances shall be reported on the approved self-report form.
8. In accordance with the procedures described in 30 TAC §§ 35.301 - 35.303 (relating to Water Quality Emergency and Temporary Orders) if the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice by applying for such authorization.
9. Changes in Discharges of Toxic Substances

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

- a. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant listed at 40 CFR Part 122, Appendix D, Tables II and III (excluding Total Phenols) which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following “notification levels”:
 - i. One hundred micrograms per liter (100 µg/L);
 - ii. Two hundred micrograms per liter (200 µg/L) for acrolein and acrylonitrile; five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L) for 2,4-dinitrophenol and for 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
 - iii. Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or
 - iv. The level established by the TCEQ.
- b. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in any discharge, on a nonroutine or infrequent basis, of a toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following “notification levels”:
 - i. Five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L);
 - ii. One milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
 - iii. Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or
 - iv. The level established by the TCEQ.

10. Signatories to Reports

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

11. All POTWs must provide adequate notice to the Executive Director of the following:

- a. Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger which would be subject to CWA § 301 or § 306 if it were directly discharging those pollutants;
- b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that POTW by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW at the time of issuance of the permit; and
- c. For the purpose of this paragraph, adequate notice shall include information on:
 - i. The quality and quantity of effluent introduced into the POTW; and
 - ii. Any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.

PERMIT CONDITIONS**1. General**

- a. When the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in an application or in any report to the Executive Director, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.
- b. This permit is granted on the basis of the information supplied and representations made by the permittee during action on an application, and relying upon the accuracy and completeness of that information and those representations. After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this permit may be modified, suspended, or revoked, in whole or in part, in accordance with 30 TAC Chapter 305, Subchapter D, during its term for good cause including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. Violation of any terms or conditions of this permit;
 - ii. Obtaining this permit by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts; or
 - iii. A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge.
- c. The permittee shall furnish to the Executive Director, upon request and within a reasonable time, any information to determine whether cause exists for amending, revoking, suspending or terminating the permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the Executive Director, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by the permit.

2. Compliance

- a. Acceptance of the permit by the person to whom it is issued constitutes acknowledgment and agreement that such person will comply with all the terms and conditions embodied in the permit, and the rules and other orders of the Commission.
- b. The permittee has a duty to comply with all conditions of the permit. Failure to comply with any permit condition constitutes a violation of the permit and the Texas Water Code or the Texas Health and Safety Code, and is grounds for enforcement action, for permit amendment, revocation, or suspension, or for denial of a permit renewal application or an application for a permit for another facility.
- c. It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of the permit.
- d. The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal or other permit violation that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.
- e. Authorization from the Commission is required before beginning any change in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with any permit requirements.
- f. A permit may be amended, suspended and reissued, or revoked for cause in accordance

with 30 TAC §§ 305.62 and 305.66 and TWC§ 7.302. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit amendment, suspension and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition.

- g. There shall be no unauthorized discharge of wastewater or any other waste. For the purpose of this permit, an unauthorized discharge is considered to be any discharge of wastewater into or adjacent to water in the state at any location not permitted as an outfall or otherwise defined in the Other Requirements section of this permit.
- h. In accordance with 30 TAC § 305.535(a), the permittee may allow any bypass to occur from a TPDES permitted facility which does not cause permitted effluent limitations to be exceeded or an unauthorized discharge to occur, but only if the bypass is also for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation.
- i. The permittee is subject to administrative, civil, and criminal penalties, as applicable, under TWC §§ 7.051 - 7.075 (relating to Administrative Penalties), 7.101 - 7.111 (relating to Civil Penalties), and 7.141 - 7.202 (relating to Criminal Offenses and Penalties) for violations including, but not limited to, negligently or knowingly violating the federal CWA §§ 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405, or any condition or limitation implementing any sections in a permit issued under the CWA § 402, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under the CWA §§ 402 (a)(3) or 402 (b)(8).

3. Inspections and Entry

- a. Inspection and entry shall be allowed as prescribed in the TWC Chapters 26, 27, and 28, and THSC § 361.
- b. The members of the Commission and employees and agents of the Commission are entitled to enter any public or private property at any reasonable time for the purpose of inspecting and investigating conditions relating to the quality of water in the state or the compliance with any rule, regulation, permit or other order of the Commission. Members, employees, or agents of the Commission and Commission contractors are entitled to enter public or private property at any reasonable time to investigate or monitor or, if the responsible party is not responsive or there is an immediate danger to public health or the environment, to remove or remediate a condition related to the quality of water in the state. Members, employees, Commission contractors, or agents acting under this authority who enter private property shall observe the establishment's rules and regulations concerning safety, internal security, and fire protection, and if the property has management in residence, shall notify management or the person then in charge of his presence and shall exhibit proper credentials. If any member, employee, Commission contractor, or agent is refused the right to enter in or on public or private property under this authority, the Executive Director may invoke the remedies authorized in TWC § 7.002. The statement above, that Commission entry shall occur in accordance with an establishment's rules and regulations concerning safety, internal security, and fire protection, is not grounds for denial or restriction of entry to any part of the facility, but merely describes the Commission's duty to observe appropriate rules and regulations during an inspection.

4. Permit Amendment and/or Renewal

- a. The permittee shall give notice to the Executive Director as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility if such alterations or additions would require a permit amendment or result in a violation of permit requirements. Notice shall also be required under this paragraph when:
 - i. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in accordance with 30 TAC § 305.534 (relating to New Sources and New Dischargers); or
 - ii. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants that are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements in Monitoring and Reporting Requirements No. 9; or
 - iii. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan.
- b. Prior to any facility modifications, additions, or expansions that will increase the plant capacity beyond the permitted flow, the permittee must apply for and obtain proper authorization from the Commission before commencing construction.
- c. The permittee must apply for an amendment or renewal at least 180 days prior to expiration of the existing permit in order to continue a permitted activity after the expiration date of the permit. If an application is submitted prior to the expiration date of the permit, the existing permit shall remain in effect until the application is approved, denied, or returned. If the application is returned or denied, authorization to continue such activity shall terminate upon the effective date of the action. If an application is not submitted prior to the expiration date of the permit, the permit shall expire and authorization to continue such activity shall terminate.
- d. Prior to accepting or generating wastes which are not described in the permit application or which would result in a significant change in the quantity or quality of the existing discharge, the permittee must report the proposed changes to the Commission. The permittee must apply for a permit amendment reflecting any necessary changes in permit conditions, including effluent limitations for pollutants not identified and limited by this permit.
- e. In accordance with the TWC § 26.029(b), after a public hearing, notice of which shall be given to the permittee, the Commission may require the permittee, from time to time, for good cause, in accordance with applicable laws, to conform to new or additional conditions.
- f. If any toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is promulgated under CWA § 307(a) for a toxic pollutant which is present in the discharge and that standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation on the pollutant in this permit, this permit shall be modified or revoked and reissued to conform to the toxic effluent standard or

prohibition. The permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under CWA § 307(a) for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that established those standards or prohibitions, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.

5. Permit Transfer

- a. Prior to any transfer of this permit, Commission approval must be obtained. The Commission shall be notified in writing of any change in control or ownership of facilities authorized by this permit. Such notification should be sent to the Applications Review and Processing Team (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division.
- b. A permit may be transferred only according to the provisions of 30 TAC § 305.64 (relating to Transfer of Permits) and 30 TAC § 50.133 (relating to Executive Director Action on Application or WQMP update).

6. Relationship to Hazardous Waste Activities

This permit does not authorize any activity of hazardous waste storage, processing, or disposal that requires a permit or other authorization pursuant to the Texas Health and Safety Code.

7. Relationship to Water Rights

Disposal of treated effluent by any means other than discharge directly to water in the state must be specifically authorized in this permit and may require a permit pursuant to TWC Chapter 11.

8. Property Rights

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

9. Permit Enforceability

The conditions of this permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit, or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstances, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit, shall not be affected thereby.

10. Relationship to Permit Application

The application pursuant to which the permit has been issued is incorporated herein; provided, however, that in the event of a conflict between the provisions of this permit and the application, the provisions of the permit shall control.

11. Notice of Bankruptcy

- a. Each permittee shall notify the Executive Director, in writing, immediately following the filing of a voluntary or involuntary petition for bankruptcy under any chapter of Title 11 (Bankruptcy) of the United States Code (11 USC) by or against:
 - i. the permittee;
 - ii. an entity (as that term is defined in 11 USC, § 101(14)) controlling the permittee or listing the permit or permittee as property of the estate; or

- iii. an affiliate (as that term is defined in 11 USC, § 101(2)) of the permittee.
- b. This notification must indicate:
 - i. the name of the permittee;
 - ii. the permit number(s);
 - iii. the bankruptcy court in which the petition for bankruptcy was filed; and
 - iv. the date of filing of the petition.

OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. The permittee shall at all times ensure that the facility and all of its systems of collection, treatment, and disposal are properly operated and maintained. This includes, but is not limited to, the regular, periodic examination of wastewater solids within the treatment plant by the operator in order to maintain an appropriate quantity and quality of solids inventory as described in the various operator training manuals and according to accepted industry standards for process control. Process control, maintenance, and operations records shall be retained at the facility site, or shall be readily available for review by a TCEQ representative, for a period of three years.
2. Upon request by the Executive Director, the permittee shall take appropriate samples and provide proper analysis in order to demonstrate compliance with Commission rules. Unless otherwise specified in this permit or otherwise ordered by the Commission, the permittee shall comply with all applicable provisions of 30 TAC Chapter 312 concerning sewage sludge or biosolids use and disposal and 30 TAC §§ 319.21 - 319.29 concerning the discharge of certain hazardous metals.
3. Domestic wastewater treatment facilities shall comply with the following provisions:
 - a. The permittee shall notify the Municipal Permits Team, Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division, in writing, of any facility expansion at least 90 days prior to conducting such activity.
 - b. The permittee shall submit a closure plan for review and approval to the Municipal Permits Team, Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division, for any closure activity at least 90 days prior to conducting such activity. Closure is the act of permanently taking a waste management unit or treatment facility out of service and includes the permanent removal from service of any pit, tank, pond, lagoon, surface impoundment and/or other treatment unit regulated by this permit.
4. The permittee is responsible for installing prior to plant start-up, and subsequently maintaining, adequate safeguards to prevent the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated wastes during electrical power failures by means of alternate power sources, standby generators, and/or retention of inadequately treated wastewater.
5. Unless otherwise specified, the permittee shall provide a readily accessible sampling point and, where applicable, an effluent flow measuring device or other acceptable means by which effluent flow may be determined.

6. The permittee shall remit an annual water quality fee to the Commission as required by 30 TAC Chapter 21. Failure to pay the fee may result in revocation of this permit under TWC § 7.302(b)(6).

7. Documentation

For all written notifications to the Commission required of the permittee by this permit, the permittee shall keep and make available a copy of each such notification under the same conditions as self-monitoring data are required to be kept and made available. Except for information required for TPDES permit applications, effluent data, including effluent data in permits, draft permits and permit applications, and other information specified as not confidential in 30 TAC §§ 1.5(d), any information submitted pursuant to this permit may be claimed as confidential by the submitter. Any such claim must be asserted in the manner prescribed in the application form or by stamping the words confidential business information on each page containing such information. If no claim is made at the time of submission, information may be made available to the public without further notice. If the Commission or Executive Director agrees with the designation of confidentiality, the TCEQ will not provide the information for public inspection unless required by the Texas Attorney General or a court pursuant to an open records request. If the Executive Director does not agree with the designation of confidentiality, the person submitting the information will be notified.

8. Facilities that generate domestic wastewater shall comply with the following provisions; domestic wastewater treatment facilities at permitted industrial sites are excluded.
 - a. Whenever flow measurements for any domestic sewage treatment facility reach 75% of the permitted daily average or annual average flow for three consecutive months, the permittee must initiate engineering and financial planning for expansion and/or upgrading of the domestic wastewater treatment and/or collection facilities. Whenever the flow reaches 90% of the permitted daily average or annual average flow for three consecutive months, the permittee shall obtain necessary authorization from the Commission to commence construction of the necessary additional treatment and/or collection facilities. In the case of a domestic wastewater treatment facility which reaches 75% of the permitted daily average or annual average flow for three consecutive months, and the planned population to be served or the quantity of waste produced is not expected to exceed the design limitations of the treatment facility, the permittee shall submit an engineering report supporting this claim to the Executive Director of the Commission.

If in the judgment of the Executive Director the population to be served will not cause permit noncompliance, then the requirement of this section may be waived. To be effective, any waiver must be in writing and signed by the Director of the Enforcement Division (MC 219) of the Commission, and such waiver of these requirements will be reviewed upon expiration of the existing permit; however, any such waiver shall not be interpreted as condoning or excusing any violation of any permit parameter.

- b. The plans and specifications for domestic sewage collection and treatment works associated with any domestic permit must be approved by the Commission and failure to secure approval before commencing construction of such works or making a discharge is a violation of this permit and each day is an additional violation until approval has been

secured.

- c. Permits for domestic wastewater treatment plants are granted subject to the policy of the Commission to encourage the development of area-wide waste collection, treatment, and disposal systems. The Commission reserves the right to amend any domestic wastewater permit in accordance with applicable procedural requirements to require the system covered by this permit to be integrated into an area-wide system, should such be developed; to require the delivery of the wastes authorized to be collected in, treated by or discharged from said system, to such area-wide system; or to amend this permit in any other particular to effectuate the Commission's policy. Such amendments may be made when the changes required are advisable for water quality control purposes and are feasible on the basis of waste treatment technology, engineering, financial, and related considerations existing at the time the changes are required, exclusive of the loss of investment in or revenues from any then existing or proposed waste collection, treatment or disposal system.
9. Domestic wastewater treatment plants shall be operated and maintained by sewage plant operators holding a valid certificate of competency at the required level as defined in 30 TAC Chapter 30.
10. For Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs), the 30-day average (or monthly average) percent removal for BOD and TSS shall not be less than 85%, unless otherwise authorized by this permit.
11. Facilities that generate industrial solid waste as defined in 30 TAC § 335.1 shall comply with these provisions:
 - a. Any solid waste, as defined in 30 TAC § 335.1 (including but not limited to such wastes as garbage, refuse, sludge from a waste treatment, water supply treatment plant or air pollution control facility, discarded materials, discarded materials to be recycled, whether the waste is solid, liquid, or semisolid), generated by the permittee during the management and treatment of wastewater, must be managed in accordance with all applicable provisions of 30 TAC Chapter 335, relating to Industrial Solid Waste Management.
 - b. Industrial wastewater that is being collected, accumulated, stored, or processed before discharge through any final discharge outfall, specified by this permit, is considered to be industrial solid waste until the wastewater passes through the actual point source discharge and must be managed in accordance with all applicable provisions of 30 TAC Chapter 335.
 - c. The permittee shall provide written notification, pursuant to the requirements of 30 TAC § 335.8(b)(1), to the Corrective Action Section (MC 127) of the Remediation Division informing the Commission of any closure activity involving an Industrial Solid Waste Management Unit, at least 90 days prior to conducting such an activity.
 - d. Construction of any industrial solid waste management unit requires the prior written notification of the proposed activity to the Registration and Reporting Section (MC 129) of the Permitting and Registration Support Division. No person shall dispose of industrial solid waste, including sludge or other solids from wastewater treatment processes, prior to fulfilling the deed recordation requirements of 30 TAC § 335.5.

- e. The term “industrial solid waste management unit” means a landfill, surface impoundment, waste-pile, industrial furnace, incinerator, cement kiln, injection well, container, drum, salt dome waste containment cavern, or any other structure vessel, appurtenance, or other improvement on land used to manage industrial solid waste.
- f. The permittee shall keep management records for all sludge (or other waste) removed from any wastewater treatment process. These records shall fulfill all applicable requirements of 30 TAC § 335 and must include the following, as it pertains to wastewater treatment and discharge:
 - i. Volume of waste and date(s) generated from treatment process;
 - ii. Volume of waste disposed of on-site or shipped off-site;
 - iii. Date(s) of disposal;
 - iv. Identity of hauler or transporter;
 - v. Location of disposal site; and
 - vi. Method of final disposal.

The above records shall be maintained on a monthly basis. The records shall be retained at the facility site, or shall be readily available for review by authorized representatives of the TCEQ for at least five years.

- 12. For industrial facilities to which the requirements of 30 TAC § 335 do not apply, sludge and solid wastes, including tank cleaning and contaminated solids for disposal, shall be disposed of in accordance with THSC § 361.

TCEQ Revision 06/2020

SLUDGE PROVISIONS

The permittee is authorized to dispose of sludge 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 supplies the sewage sludge to another person for land application use or to the owner or lease holder of the land, the permit holder shall provide necessary information to the parties who receive the sludge to assure compliance with these regulations.
3. The land application of processed or unprocessed chemical toilet waste, grease trap waste, grit trap waste, milk solids, or similar non-hazardous municipal or industrial solid wastes, or any of the wastes listed in this provision combined with biosolids, WTP residuals or domestic septage is prohibited unless the grease trap waste is added at a fats, oil and grease (FOG) receiving facility as part of an anaerobic digestion process.

B. Testing Requirements

1. Sewage sludge or biosolids shall be tested 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 11) 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. The permittee must submit this annual report by September 30th of each year, using the online electronic reporting system available through TCEQ's website. If the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver, the annual report can be submitted in hard copy to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 11) and the Enforcement Division (MC 224).

2. Biosolids shall not be applied to the land if the concentration of the pollutants exceeds the pollutant concentration criteria in Table 1. The frequency of testing for pollutants in Table 1 is found in Section I.C. of this permit.

TABLE 1

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

* Dry weight basis

3. Pathogen Control

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

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

Alternative 1 - The temperature of the sewage sludge that is used or disposed shall be maintained at or above a specific value for a period of time. See 30 TAC § 312.82(a)(2)(A) for specific information;

Alternative 5 (PFRP) - Sewage sludge that is used or disposed of must be treated in one of the Processes to Further Reduce Pathogens (PFRP) described in 40 CFR Part 503, Appendix B. PFRP include composting, heat drying, heat treatment, and thermophilic aerobic digestion; or

Alternative 6 (PFRP Equivalent) - Sewage sludge that is used or disposed of must be treated in a process that has been approved by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency as being equivalent to those in Alternative 5.

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

Alternative 2 - The pH of the sewage sludge that is used or disposed shall be raised to above 12 std. units and shall remain above 12 std. units for 72 hours.

The temperature of the sewage sludge shall be above 52° Celsius for 12 hours or longer during the period that the pH of the sewage sludge is above 12 std. units.

At the end of the 72-hour period during which the pH of the sewage sludge is above 12 std. units, the sewage sludge shall be air dried to achieve a percent solids in the sewage sludge greater than 50%; or

Alternative 3 - The sewage sludge shall be analyzed for enteric viruses prior to pathogen treatment. The limit for enteric viruses is less than one Plaque-forming Unit per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) either before or following pathogen treatment. See 30 TAC § 312.82(a)(2)(C)(i-iii) for specific information. The sewage sludge shall be analyzed for viable helminth ova prior to pathogen treatment. The limit for viable helminth ova is less than one per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) either before or following pathogen treatment. See 30 TAC § 312.82(a)(2)(C)(iv-vi) for specific information; or

Alternative 4 - The density of enteric viruses in the sewage sludge shall be less than one Plaque-forming Unit per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed. The density of viable helminth ova in the sewage sludge shall be less than one per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed.

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

criteria.

Alternative 1

- i. A minimum of seven random samples of the sewage sludge shall be collected within 48 hours of the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed of during each monitoring episode for the sewage sludge.
- ii. The geometric mean of the density of fecal coliform in the samples collected shall be less than either 2,000,000 MPN per gram of total solids (dry weight basis) or 2,000,000 Colony Forming Units per gram of total solids (dry weight basis).

Alternative 2 - Sewage sludge that is used or disposed of shall be treated in one of the Processes to Significantly Reduce Pathogens (PSRP) described in 40 CFR Part 503, Appendix B, so long as all of the following requirements are met by the generator of the sewage sludge.

- i. Prior to use or disposal, all the sewage sludge must have been generated from a single location, except as provided in paragraph v. below;
- ii. An independent Texas Licensed Professional Engineer must make a certification to the generator of a sewage sludge that the wastewater treatment facility generating the sewage sludge is designed to achieve one of the PSRP at the permitted design loading of the facility. The certification need only be repeated if the design loading of the facility is increased. The certification shall include a statement indicating the design meets all the applicable standards specified in Appendix B of 40 CFR Part 503;
- iii. Prior to any off-site transportation or on-site use or disposal of any sewage sludge generated at a wastewater treatment facility, the chief certified operator of the wastewater treatment facility or other responsible official who manages the processes to significantly reduce pathogens at the wastewater treatment facility for the permittee, shall certify that the sewage sludge underwent at least the minimum operational requirements necessary in order to meet one of the PSRP. The acceptable processes and the minimum operational and record keeping requirements shall be in accordance with established U.S. Environmental Protection Agency final guidance;
- iv. All certification records and operational records describing how the requirements of this paragraph were met shall be kept by the generator for a minimum of three years and be available for inspection by commission staff for review; and
- v. If the sewage sludge is generated from a mixture of sources, resulting from a person who prepares sewage sludge from more than one wastewater treatment facility, the resulting derived product shall meet one of the PSRP, and shall meet the certification, operation, and record keeping requirements of this paragraph.

Alternative 3 - Sewage sludge shall be treated in an equivalent process that has been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, so long as all of the following requirements are met by the generator of the sewage sludge.

- i. Prior to use or disposal, all the sewage sludge must have been generated from a

single location, except as provided in paragraph v. below;

- ii. Prior to any off-site transportation or on-site use or disposal of any sewage sludge generated at a wastewater treatment facility, the chief certified operator of the wastewater treatment facility or other responsible official who manages the processes to significantly reduce pathogens at the wastewater treatment facility for the permittee, shall certify that the sewage sludge underwent at least the minimum operational requirements necessary in order to meet one of the PSRP. The acceptable processes and the minimum operational and record keeping requirements shall be in accordance with established U.S. Environmental Protection Agency final guidance;
- iii. All certification records and operational records describing how the requirements of this paragraph were met shall be kept by the generator for a minimum of three years and be available for inspection by commission staff for review;
- iv. The Executive Director will accept from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency a finding of equivalency to the defined PSRP; and
- v. If the sewage sludge is generated from a mixture of sources resulting from a person who prepares sewage sludge from more than one wastewater treatment facility, the resulting derived product shall meet one of the Processes to Significantly Reduce Pathogens, and shall meet the certification, operation, and record keeping requirements of this paragraph.

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

- i. Food crops with harvested parts that touch the biosolids /soil mixture and are totally above the land surface shall not be harvested for 14 months after application of biosolids.
- ii. Food crops with harvested parts below the surface of the land shall not be harvested for 20 months after application of biosolids when the biosolids remain on the land surface for 4 months or longer prior to incorporation into the soil.
- iii. Food crops with harvested parts below the surface of the land shall not be harvested for 38 months after application of biosolids when the biosolids remain on the land surface for less than 4 months prior to incorporation into the soil.
- iv. Food crops, feed crops, and fiber crops shall not be harvested for 30 days after application of biosolids.
- v. Domestic livestock shall not be allowed to graze on the land for 30 days after application of biosolids.
- vi. Turf grown on land where biosolids are applied shall not be harvested for 1 year after application of the biosolids when the harvested turf is placed on either land with a high potential for public exposure or a lawn.
- vii. Public access to land with a high potential for public exposure shall be restricted for 1 year after application of biosolids.

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

ix. Land application of biosolids shall be in accordance with the buffer zone requirements found in 30 TAC § 312.44.

4. Vector Attraction Reduction Requirements

All bulk sewage sludge that is applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, or a reclamation site shall be treated by one of the following Alternatives 1 through 10 for vector attraction reduction.

Alternative 1 - The mass of volatile solids in the sewage sludge shall be reduced by a minimum of 38%.

Alternative 2 - If Alternative 1 cannot be met for an anaerobically digested sludge, demonstration can be made by digesting a portion of the previously digested sludge anaerobically in the laboratory in a bench-scale unit for 40 additional days at a temperature between 30° and 37° Celsius. Volatile solids must be reduced by less than 17% to demonstrate compliance.

Alternative 3 - If Alternative 1 cannot be met for an aerobically digested sludge, demonstration can be made by digesting a portion of the previously digested sludge with percent solids of two percent or less aerobically in the laboratory in a bench-scale unit for 30 additional days at 20° Celsius. Volatile solids must be reduced by less than 15% to demonstrate compliance.

Alternative 4 - The specific oxygen uptake rate (SOUR) for sewage sludge treated in an aerobic process shall be equal to or less than 1.5 milligrams of oxygen per hour per gram of total solids (dry weight basis) at a temperature of 20° Celsius.

Alternative 5 - Sewage sludge shall be treated in an aerobic process for 14 days or longer. During that time, the temperature of the sewage sludge shall be higher than 40° Celsius and the average temperature of the sewage sludge shall be higher than 45° Celsius.

Alternative 6 - The pH of sewage sludge shall be raised to 12 or higher by alkali addition and, without the addition of more alkali shall remain at 12 or higher for two hours and then remain at a pH of 11.5 or higher for an additional 22 hours at the time the sewage sludge is prepared for sale or given away in a bag or other container.

Alternative 7 - The percent solids of sewage sludge that does not contain unstabilized solids generated in a primary wastewater treatment process shall be equal to or greater than 75% based on the moisture content and total solids prior to mixing with other materials. Unstabilized solids are defined as organic materials in sewage sludge that have not been treated in either an aerobic or anaerobic treatment process.

Alternative 8 - The percent solids of sewage sludge that contains unstabilized solids generated in a primary wastewater treatment process shall be equal to or greater than 90% based on the moisture content and total solids prior to mixing with other materials at the time the sludge is used. Unstabilized solids are defined as organic materials in sewage sludge that have not been treated in either an aerobic or anaerobic treatment process.

Alternative 9 -

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

Alternative 10 -

- i. Biosolids applied to the land surface or placed on a surface disposal site shall be incorporated into the soil within six hours after application to or placement on the land.
- ii. When biosolids that is incorporated into the soil is Class A or Class AB with respect to pathogens, the biosolids shall be applied to or placed on the land within eight hours after being discharged from the pathogen treatment process.

C. Monitoring Requirements

Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) Test	- 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):

<u>Amount of biosolids (*) metric tons per 365-day period</u>	<u>Monitoring Frequency</u>
0 to less than 290	Once/Year
290 to less than 1,500	Once/Quarter
1,500 to less than 15,000	Once/Two Months
15,000 or greater	Once/Month

(*) *The amount of bulk biosolids applied to the land (dry wt. basis).*

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

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

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

Identify the nature of material generated by the facility (such as a biosolid for beneficial use or land-farming, or sewage sludge or biosolids for disposal at a landfill) 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

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

Table 3

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Monthly Average Concentration (milligrams per kilogram)*</u>
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 biosolids enters a wetland or other waters in the State.
2. Bulk biosolids 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 biosolids to the land is prohibited except in accordance with the instruction on the label or information sheet.
 - c. The annual whole sludge application rate for the biosolids application rate for the biosolids that does not cause any of the cumulative pollutant loading rates in Table 2 above to be exceeded, unless the pollutant concentrations in Table 3 found in Section II above are met.

D. Notification Requirements

1. If bulk 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 treatment activities.
 - b. The location, by street address, and specific latitude and longitude, of each site on which biosolids is applied.
 - c. The number of acres in each site on which bulk biosolids are applied.
 - d. The date and time biosolids are applied to each site.
 - e. The cumulative amount of each pollutant in pounds/acre listed in Table 2 applied to each site.
 - f. The total amount of biosolids applied to each site in dry tons.

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

F. Reporting Requirements

The permittee must submit this annual report by September 30th of each year, using the online electronic reporting system available through TCEQ's website. If the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver, the annual report can be submitted in hard copy to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 11) and the Enforcement Division ((MC 224).

1. Identify in the following categories (as applicable) the sewage sludge or biosolids treatment process or processes at the facility: preliminary operations (e.g., sludge or biosolids grinding and degritting), thickening (concentration), stabilization, anaerobic digestion, aerobic digestion, composting, conditioning, disinfection (e.g., beta ray irradiation, gamma ray irradiation, pasteurization), dewatering (e.g., centrifugation, sludge drying beds, sludge lagoons), heat drying, thermal reduction, and methane or biogas capture and recovery.
2. Identify the nature of material generated by the facility (such as a biosolid for beneficial use or land-farming, or sewage sludge for disposal at a monofill) and whether the material is ultimately conveyed off-site in bulk or in bags.
3. Results of tests performed for pollutants found in either Table 2 or 3 as appropriate for the permittee's land application practices.
4. The frequency of monitoring listed in Section I.C. that applies to the permittee.
5. Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) results.
6. PCB concentration in sludge or biosolids in mg/kg.
7. Identity of hauler(s) and TCEQ transporter number.
8. Date(s) of transport.
9. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality registration number, if applicable.
10. Amount of sludge or biosolids disposal dry weight (lbs/acre) at each disposal site.
11. The concentration (mg/kg) in the sludge of each pollutant listed in Table 1 (defined as a monthly average) as well as the applicable pollutant concentration criteria (mg/kg) listed in Table 3 above, or the applicable pollutant loading rate limit (lbs/acre) listed in Table 2 above if it exceeds 90% of the limit.
12. Level of pathogen reduction achieved (Class A, Class AB or Class B).
13. Alternative used as listed in Section I.B.3.(a. or b.). Alternatives describe how the pathogen reduction requirements are met. If Class B biosolids, include information on how site restrictions were met.
14. Identify each of the analytic methods used by the facility to analyze enteric viruses, fecal coliforms, helminth ova, *Salmonella* sp., and other regulated parameters.
15. Vector attraction reduction alternative used as listed in Section I.B.4.
16. Amount of sludge or biosolids transported in dry tons/year.

17. The certification statement listed in either 30 TAC § 312.47(a)(4)(A)(ii) or 30 TAC § 312.47(a)(5)(A)(ii) as applicable to the permittee's sludge or biosolids treatment activities, shall be attached to the annual reporting form.
18. When the amount of any pollutant applied to the land exceeds 90% of the cumulative pollutant loading rate for that pollutant, as described in Table 2, the permittee shall report the following information as an attachment to the annual reporting form.
 - a. The location, by street address, and specific latitude and longitude.
 - b. The number of acres in each site on which bulk biosolids are applied.
 - c. The date and time bulk biosolids are applied to each site.
 - d. The cumulative amount of each pollutant (i.e., pounds/acre) listed in Table 2 in the bulk biosolids applied to each site.
 - e. The amount of biosolids (i.e., dry tons) applied to each site.

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

SECTION III. REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO ALL SEWAGE SLUDGE OR BIOSOLIDS DISPOSED IN A MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL

- A. The permittee shall handle and dispose of sewage sludge or biosolids in accordance with 30 TAC § 330 and all other applicable state and federal regulations to protect public health and the environment from any reasonably anticipated adverse effects due to any toxic pollutants that may be present. The permittee shall ensure that the sewage sludge or biosolids meets 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 11) 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 11) and the Enforcement Division (MC 224) of the by September 30th 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 submit the following information in an annual report to the TCEQ by September 30th of each year. The permittee must submit this annual report using the online electronic reporting system available through TCEQ's website. If the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver, the annual report can be submitted in hard copy to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 11) and the Enforcement Division (MC 224).

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 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 submit the following information in an annual report to the TCEQ by September 30th of each year. The permittee must submit this annual report using the online electronic reporting system available through TCEQ's website. If the permittee requests and obtains an electronic reporting waiver, the annual report can be submitted in hard copy to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 11) and the Enforcement Division (MC 224).

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.

TCEQ Revision 06/2020

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. The permittee shall employ or contract with one or more licensed wastewater treatment facility operators or wastewater system operations companies holding a valid license or registration according to the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 30, Occupational Licenses and Registrations, and in particular 30 TAC Chapter 30, Subchapter J, Wastewater Operators and Operations Companies.

This Category C facility must be operated by a chief operator or an operator holding a Class C license or higher. The facility must be operated a minimum of five days per week by the licensed chief operator or an operator holding the required level of license or higher. The licensed chief operator or operator holding the required level of license or higher must be available by telephone or pager seven days per week. Where shift operation of the wastewater treatment facility is necessary, each shift that does not have the on-site supervision of the licensed chief operator must be supervised by an operator in charge who is licensed not less than one level below the category for the facility.

2. The facility is not located in the Coastal Management Program boundary.
3. 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).
4. The permittee shall provide facilities for the protection of its wastewater treatment facility from a 100-year flood.
5. In accordance with 30 TAC § 319.9, a permittee that has at least twelve months of uninterrupted compliance with its bacteria limit may notify the commission in writing of its compliance and request a less frequent measurement schedule. To request a less frequent schedule, the permittee shall submit a written request to the TCEQ Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) for each phase that includes a different monitoring frequency. The request must contain all of the reported bacteria values (Daily Avg. and Daily Max/Single Grab) for the twelve consecutive months immediately prior to the request. If the Executive Director finds that a less frequent measurement schedule is protective of human health and the environment, the permittee may be given a less frequent measurement schedule. For this permit, one/month may be reduced to one/quarter in the Interim I, Interim II, and Final phases. **A violation of any bacteria limit by a facility that has been granted a less frequent measurement schedule will require the permittee to return to the standard frequency schedule and submit written notice to the TCEQ Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148).** The permittee may not apply for another reduction in measurement frequency for at least 24 months from the date of the last violation. The Executive Director may establish a more frequent measurement schedule if necessary to protect human health or the environment.
6. Prior to construction of the Interim I (0.10 MGD), Interim II (0.30 MGD), and Final (0.50MGD) treatment plants, the permittee shall submit to the TCEQ Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) a summary transmittal letter in accordance with the requirements in 30 TAC § 217.6(d). If requested by the Wastewater Permitting Section, the permittee shall submit plans and specifications and a final engineering design report which comply with 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, 2a, and 2b of this permit. A copy of the summary transmittal letter shall be available at the plant site for inspection by authorized representatives of the TCEQ.

7. 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 from the facility described by this permit, whichever occurs first. The permittee shall provide written notice to the TCEQ Regional Office (MC Region 11) and the Applications Review and Processing Team (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division, in writing at least forty-five days prior to plant startup or anticipated discharge, whichever occurs first, and prior to completion of each additional phase on Notification of Completion Form 20007.

**STATEMENT OF BASIS/TECHNICAL SUMMARY
AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PRELIMINARY DECISION**

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION

Applicant:	Sigman Grafted LLC; Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0016494001, EPA I.D. No. TX0145700
Regulated Activity:	Domestic Wastewater Permit
Type of Application:	New Permit
Request:	New Permit
Authority:	Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) § 402; Texas Water Code § 26.027; 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapters 30, 305, 307, 309, 312, and 319; Commission policies; and United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines.

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**.

REASON FOR PROJECT PROPOSED

The applicant has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a new permit to authorize the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 0.10 million gallons per day (MGD) in the Interim I phase, a daily average flow not to exceed 0.30 MGD in the Interim II phase, and a daily average flow not to exceed 0.50 MGD in the Final phase. The proposed facility will serve a residential subdivision approximately 594 acres being developed near the City of Martindale, Caldwell County, Texas.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The Martindale Tract Wastewater Treatment Plant is an activated sludge process plant operated in the extended aeration mode. Treatment units in the Interim I Phase include a bar screen, an aeration basin, a final clarifier, a chlorine contact chamber, and an aerobic digester. Treatment units in the Interim II Phase include a bar screen, two aeration basins, two final clarifiers, two chlorine contact chambers, and two aerobic digesters. Treatment units in the Final Phase include a bar screen, three aeration basins, three final clarifiers, three chlorine contact chambers, three aerobic digesters, and a Dechlorination Basin. The facility has not been constructed.

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 plant site will be located approximately 0.49 miles northeast of the intersection of San Marcos Highway and West Ridge Road, in Caldwell County, Texas 78655.

Outfall Location

Outfall Number	Latitude	Longitude
001	29.835431 N	97.81128 W

The treated effluent will be discharged to Morrison Creek, thence to Lower San Marcos River in Segment No. 1808 of the Guadalupe River Basin. The unclassified receiving water use is limited aquatic life use for Morrison Creek. The designated uses for Segment No. 1808 are primary contact recreation, public water supply, and high aquatic life use. The effluent limitations in the draft permit will maintain and protect the existing instream uses. In accordance with 30 Texas Administrative Code §307.5 and TCEQ's *Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards* (June 2010), an antidegradation review of the receiving waters was performed. A Tier 1 antidegradation review has preliminarily determined that existing water quality uses will not be impaired by this permit action. Numerical and narrative criteria to protect existing uses will be maintained. This review has preliminarily determined that no water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life uses are present within the stream reach assessed; therefore, no Tier 2 degradation determination is required. No significant degradation of water quality is expected in water bodies with exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life uses downstream, and existing uses will be maintained and protected. The preliminary determination can be reexamined and may be modified if new information is received.

Effluent limitations for the conventional effluent parameters (i.e., Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand or Five-Day Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand, Ammonia Nitrogen, etc.) are based on stream standards and waste load allocations for water-quality limited streams as established in the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (TSWQS) and the State of Texas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP).

In a case such as this, end-of-pipe compliance with pH limits between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units reasonably assures instream compliance with the TSWQS for pH when the discharge authorized is from a minor facility. This technology-based approach reasonably assures instream compliance with TSWQS criteria due to the relatively smaller discharge volumes authorized by these permits. This conservative assumption is based on TCEQ sampling conducted throughout the state which indicates that instream buffering quickly restores pH levels to ambient conditions. Similarly, this approach has been historically applied within EPA issued NPDES general permits where technology-based pH limits were established to be protective of water quality criteria.

The effluent limits recommended above have been reviewed for consistency with the State of Texas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP). The recommended limits are not contained in the approved WQMP. However, these limits will be included in the next WQMP update.

The discharge from this permit action is not expected to have an effect on any federal endangered or threatened aquatic or aquatic dependent species or proposed species or their critical habitat. This determination is based on the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) biological opinion on the State of Texas authorization of the Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES; September 14, 1998; October 21, 1998 update). To make this determination for TPDES permits, TCEQ and EPA only considered aquatic or aquatic dependent species occurring in watersheds of critical concern or high priority as listed in Appendix A of the USFWS biological opinion. Though the Peck's cave amphipod (*Stygobromus pecki*), Barton Springs Salamander (*Eurycea sosorum*), Fountain Darter (*Etheostoma fonticola*), San Marcos Gambusia (*Gambusia georgei*), San Marcos Salamander (*Eurycea nana*), Texas Wild Rice (*Zizania texana*), Texas Blind Salamander (*Eurycea (Typhlomolge) rathbuni*), Comal Springs Riffle Beetle (*Heterelmis comalensis*), and Comal Springs Dryopid Beetle (*Stygoparnus comalensis*) can occur in Hays County, they are not known to be present in the segment for this

discharge. The determination is subject to reevaluation due to subsequent updates or amendments to the biological opinion. The permit does not require EPA review with respect to the presence of endangered or threatened species.

Segment No. 1808 is not currently listed on the State's inventory of impaired and threatened waters, the 2022 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list.

SUMMARY OF EFFLUENT DATA

Self-reporting data is not available since the facility is not in operation.

DRAFT PERMIT CONDITIONS

The draft permit authorizes a discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 0.10 MGD in the Interim I Phase, a daily average flow of 0.30 MGD in the Interim II phase, and a daily average flow of 0.50 MGD in the Final phase.

The effluent limitations in the Interim I, II, and Final phase of the draft permit, based on a 30-day average, are 5 mg/l five-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅), 5 mg/l total suspended solids (TSS), 2 mg/l ammonia-nitrogen (NH₃-N), 126 colony forming units (CFU) or most probable number (MPN) of *E. coli* per 100 ml, and 5.0 mg/l minimum dissolved oxygen (DO). The Total Phosphorus (TP) Limit in the Interim I Phase is 1.0 mg/l and 0.5 mg/l in the Interim II and Final Phases. In the Interim I and Interim II phases, the effluent shall contain a total chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l and shall not exceed a total chlorine residual of 4.0 mg/l after a detention time of at least 20 minutes based on peak flow. In the Final phase, the effluent shall contain a total chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l after a detention time of at least 20 minutes (based on peak flow) and shall be monitored daily by grab sample at each chlorine contact chamber. The permittee shall dechlorinate the chlorinated effluent to less than 0.1 mg/l total chlorine residual and shall monitor total chlorine residual daily by grab sample after the dechlorination process.

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

A 0.5 mg/l limit of TP has been added for the Interim II and Final Phases.

BASIS FOR DRAFT PERMIT

The following items were considered in developing the draft permit:

1. Application received on February 28, 2024, and additional information received on April 9, 2024.
2. The effluent limitations and conditions in the draft permit comply with EPA-approved portions of the 2018 Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (TSWQS), 30 TAC §§ 307.1 - 307.10, effective March 1, 2018; 2014 TSWQS, effective March 6, 2014; 2010 TSWQS, effective July 22, 2010; and

2000 TSWQS, effective July 26, 2000.

3. The effluent limitations in the draft permit meet the requirements for secondary treatment and the requirements for disinfection according to 30 TAC Chapter 309, Subchapter A: Effluent Limitations.
4. Interoffice Memoranda from the Water Quality Assessment Team, Water Quality Assessment & Standards Section, Water Quality Division.
5. Consistency with the Coastal Management Plan: The facility is not located in the Coastal Management Program boundary.
6. *Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards* (IP), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, June 2010, as approved by EPA, and the IP, January 2003, for portions of the 2010 IP not approved by EPA.
7. Texas 2022 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, June 1, 2022; approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on July 7, 2022.
8. Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, Guidance Document for Establishing Monitoring Frequencies for Domestic and Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permits, Document No. 98-001.000-OWR-WQ, May 1998.

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 Brandon Martinez at (512) 239-2019.

Brandon Martinez

Brandon Martinez
Municipal Permits Team
Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148)

July 22, 2025

Date