

NPDES Permit No. IL0029165

Notice No. CWB:23072601.cwb

Public Notice Beginning Date: August 31, 2023

Public Notice Ending Date: October 02, 2023

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)  
Permit Program

PUBLIC NOTICE/FACT SHEET  
of  
Draft Modified NPDES Permit to Discharge into Waters of the State

Public Notice/Fact Sheet Issued By:

Illinois EPA  
Division of Water Pollution Control  
Permit Section  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Post Office Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276  
217/782-0610

Name and Address of Permittee:

City of Herrin  
300 North Park Avenue  
Herrin, Illinois 62948

Name and Address of Facility:

City of Herrin-STP  
1221 Weaver Road  
Herrin, Illinois 62948  
(Williamson County)

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has made a tentative determination to issue a NPDES Permit to discharge into the waters of the state and has prepared a draft Permit and associated fact sheet for the above named Permittee. The Public Notice period will begin and end on the dates indicated in the heading of this Public Notice/Fact Sheet. All comments on the draft Permit and requests for hearing must be received by the IEPA by U.S. Mail, carrier mail or hand delivered by the Public Notice Ending Date. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the draft Permit to the IEPA at the above address. Commentors shall provide his or her name and address and the nature of the issues proposed to be raised and the evidence proposed to be presented with regards to those issues. Commentors may include a request for public hearing. Persons submitting comments and/or requests for public hearing shall also send a copy of such comments or requests to the Permit applicant. The NPDES Permit and notice numbers must appear on each comment page.

The application, engineer's review notes including load limit calculations, Public Notice/Fact Sheet, draft Permit, comments received, and other documents are available for inspection and may be copied at the IEPA between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday when scheduled by the interested person.

If written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in the draft Permit, the permitting authority may, at its discretion, hold a public hearing. Public notice will be given 45 days before any public hearing. Response to comments will be provided when the final Permit is issued. For further information, please call Corey Branson at 217/782-0610.

The following water quality and effluent standards and limitations were applied to the discharge:

Title 35: Environmental Protection, Subtitle C: Water Pollution, Chapter I: Pollution Control Board and the Clean Water Act were applied in determining the applicable standards, limitations and conditions contained in the draft Permit.

The applicant is engaged in treating domestic wastewater for the City of Herrin.

The length of the Permit is approximately 5 years.

The main discharge number is 001. The seven day once in ten year low flow (7Q10) of the receiving stream, Big Muddy River is 37.15 cfs.

The design average flow (DAF) for the facility is 1.813 million gallons per day (MGD) and the design maximum flow (DMF) for the facility is 4.64 MGD. Treatment consists of screening, grit removal, equalization, primary sedimentation (settling or clarifiers), trickling filtration, final sedimentation (settling), disinfection (chlorine), and discharge to surface water.

This modified Permit does not increase the facility's DAF, DMF, concentration limits, and/or load limits.

The IEPA will accept comments on the following draft modifications to the Permit:

Special Condition 18, Item A has been extended by 1 year to December 31, 2024 to correspond with the current Nutrient Assessment Reduction Plan (NARP) due date of a collaborative group representing the POTWs in the Big Muddy River watershed (HUC 8 – 07140106). The NARP shall be developed and submitted to the Agency by December 31, 2024.

Application is made for the existing discharge which is located in Williamson County, Illinois. The following information identifies the discharge point, receiving stream and stream classifications:

<u>Discharge Number</u>	<u>Receiving Stream</u>	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>	<u>Stream Classification</u>	<u>Integrity Rating</u>
001	Big Muddy River	37° 50' 6" North	89° 3' 40" West	General Use	Not Rated

To assist you further in identifying the location of the discharge(s) please see the attached map.

The stream segment, N-17, receiving the discharge from outfall 001 is on the Draft 2016 303(d) list of impaired waters.

#### **Uses Impaired**

Big Muddy River (Segment N-17)(19.89 mi.)

aquatic life use

fish consumption

Big Muddy River (Segment N-16) (8.9 mi.)

aquatic life use

fish consumption

Big Muddy River (Segment N-12) (15.19 mi.)

aquatic life use

fish consumption

Big Muddy River (Segment N-99) (29.22 mi.)

aquatic life use

fish consumption

#### **Potential Causes**

dissolved oxygen (non-pollutant) and sedimentation/siltation  
mercury

dissolved oxygen (non-pollutant) and sedimentation/siltation  
mercury

dissolved oxygen and total suspended solids  
mercury

dissolved oxygen, phosphorus and total suspended solids  
mercury

The Herrin effluent travels a total of 76.09 miles in the Big Muddy River before it joins the Mississippi River. The dissolved oxygen causes of impairment for the Big Muddy segments is not caused by excessive algal or plant growth, but rather is due to the sluggish nature of the Big Muddy and the reaeration difficulties that brings. There is no downstream impairment regarding algae or plant growth of low dissolved oxygen due to nutrients in Illinois below this facility.

The next downstream segments are on the Mississippi River. All Illinois segments of the Mississippi River are fully supportive of aquatic life and aesthetic quality uses.

A waterbody or segment is at risk of eutrophication if there is available information that plant, algal or cyanobacterial growth is causing or will cause violation of a water quality standard. The Agency has determined that the Permittee's treatment plant effluent is located upstream of a waterbody or stream segment that has been determined to be at risk of eutrophication. This determination was made upon reviewing available information concerning the characteristics of the relevant waterbody/segment and the relevant facility (such as quantity of discharge flow and nutrient load relative to the stream flow).

The downstream median sestonic chlorophyll a concentration is 32.4 ug/L; the daily maximum pH is less than 9.0; and there are 0 days where the daily maximum pH has been greater than 8.35 and the daily maximum dissolved oxygen saturation is greater than 110%, based on previous Agency water quality stream monitoring.

The discharge(s) from the facility is (are) proposed to be monitored and limited at all times as follows:

Discharge Number(s) and Name(s): STP Outfall 001

Load limits computed based on a design average flow (DAF) of 1.813 MGD (design maximum flow (DMF) of 4.64 MGD).

The effluent of the above discharge(s) shall be monitored and limited at all times as follows:

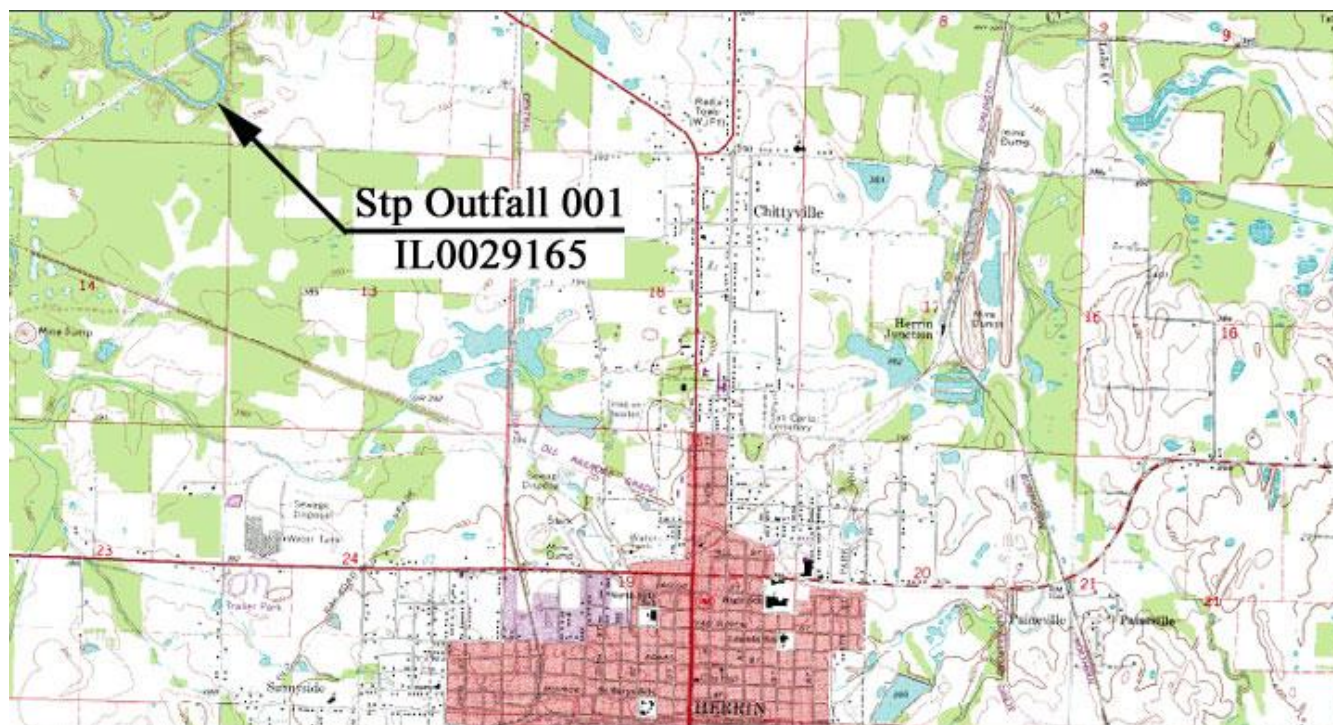
<u>Parameter</u>	<u>LOAD LIMITS lbs/day</u> <u>DAF (DMF)*</u>			<u>CONCENTRATION</u> <u>LIMITS mg/L</u>			<u>Regulation</u>
	<u>Monthly</u> <u>Average</u>	<u>Weekly</u> <u>Average</u>	<u>Daily</u> <u>Maximum</u>	<u>Monthly</u> <u>Average</u>	<u>Weekly</u> <u>Average</u>	<u>Daily</u> <u>Maximum</u>	
CBOD <sub>5</sub> **	302 (774)	605 (1,548)		20	40		35 IAC 304.120 40 CFR 133.102
Suspended Solids**	378 (967)	680 (1,741)		25	45		35 IAC 304.120 40 CFR 133.102
pH	Shall be in the range of 6 to 9 Standard Units						35 IAC 304.125
Fecal Coliform	Daily Maximum shall not exceed 400 per 100 mL						35 IAC 304.121
Chlorine Residual				0.2		0.4	35 IAC 302.208
Ammonia Nitrogen (as N):							
Mar-May, Sept, Oct	192 (491)		225 (577)	12.7	NA	14.9	35 IAC 355 and
June-August	112 (286)		201 (515)	7.4	NA	13.3	35 IAC 302
November-February			119 (306)	NA	NA	7.9	
Total Phosphorus (as P)	Monitor Only						35 IAC 309.146
Total Nitrogen (as N)	Monitor Only						35 IAC 309.146
				Monthly Avg. not less than	Weekly Avg. not less than	Daily Minimum	
Dissolved Oxygen							
March-July				NA	6.0	5.0	35 IAC 302.206
August-February				5.5	4.0	3.5	

\*Load Limits are calculated by using the formula:  $8.34 \times (\text{Design Average and/or Maximum Flow in MGD}) \times (\text{Applicable Concentration in mg/L})$ .

\*\*BOD<sub>5</sub> and Suspended Solids (85% removal required): In accordance with 40 CFR 133, the 30-day average percent removal shall not be less than 85 percent.

This draft Permit also contains the following requirements as special conditions:

1. Reopening of this Permit to include different final effluent limitations.
2. Operation of the facility by or under the supervision of a certified operator.
3. Submission of the operational data in a specified form and at a required frequency at any time during the effective term of this Permit.
4. More frequent monitoring requirement without Public Notice in the event of operational, maintenance or other problems resulting in possible effluent deterioration.
5. Prohibition against causing or contributing to violations of water quality standards.
6. Recording the monitoring results on Discharge Monitoring Report Forms using one such form for each outfall each month and submitting the forms to IEPA each month.
7. Provisions of 40 CFR Section 122.41 (m) & (n).
8. Reopening of this Permit to include revised effluent limitations based on a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) or other water quality study.
9. Effluent sampling point location.
10. Controlling the sources of infiltration and inflow into the sewer system.
11. Submission of annual fiscal data.
12. Burden reduction.
13. Monitoring for arsenic, barium, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, total chromium, copper, weak acid dissociable cyanide, total cyanide, fluoride, dissolved iron, total iron, lead, manganese, mercury, nickel, oil, phenols, selenium, silver and zinc is required to be conducted semi & annually beginning 3 months from the effective date.
14. The Permittee is required to perform biomonitoring tests in the 18th, 15th, 12th and 9th months prior to the expiration date of the permit, and to submit the results of such tests to the IEPA within one week of receiving the results from the laboratory.
15. Submission of semi annual reports indicating the quantities of sludge generated and disposed.
16. Prepare a phosphorus removal feasibility study.
17. Development of a phosphorus discharge optimization plan.
18. NARP - Risk of Eutrophication.
19. Requirement to meet 0.5 mg/l Total Phosphorus by 2030.



NPDES Permit No. IL0029165

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Division of Water Pollution Control

1021 North Grand Avenue East

Post Office Box 19276

Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

Modified (NPDES) Permit

Expiration Date: January 31, 2025

Issue Date: January 10, 2020  
Effective Date: February 1, 2020  
Modification Date:

Name and Address of Permittee:

City of Herrin  
300 North Park Avenue  
Herrin, Illinois 62948

Facility Name and Address:

City of Herrin-STP  
1221 Weaver Road  
Herrin, Illinois 62948  
(Williamson County)

Receiving Waters: Big Muddy River

In compliance with the provisions of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, Title 35 of the Ill. Adm. Code, Subtitle C, Chapter I, and the Clean Water Act (CWA), the above-named Permittee is hereby authorized to discharge at the above location to the above-named receiving stream in accordance with the Effluent Limitations, Monitoring and Reporting requirements; Special Conditions and Attachment H Standard Conditions and attachments herein.

Permittee is not authorized to discharge after the above expiration date. In order to receive authorization to discharge beyond the expiration date, the Permittee shall submit the proper application as required by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) not later than 180 days prior to the expiration date.

Darin E. LeCrone, P.E.  
Manager, Permit Section  
Division of Water Pollution Control

BDF:CWB:23072601.cwb

## NPDES Permit No. IL0029165

Effluent Limitations, Monitoring, and Reporting

## FINAL

Discharge Number(s) and Name(s): STP Outfall 001

Load limits computed based on a design average flow (DAF) of 1.813 MGD (design maximum flow (DMF) of 4.64 MGD).

From the modification date of this Permit until the expiration date, the effluent of the above discharge(s) shall be monitored and limited at all times as follows:

Parameter	LOAD LIMITS lbs/day			CONCENTRATION			Sample Frequency	Sample Type
	<u>Monthly Average</u>	<u>Weekly Average</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>	<u>Monthly Average</u>	<u>Weekly Average</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>		
Flow (MGD)							Continuous	
CBOD <sub>5</sub> <sup>2,3</sup>	302 (774)	605 (1,548)		20	40		3 Days/Week	Composite
Suspended Solids <sup>3</sup>	378 (967)	680 (1,741)		25	45		3 Days/Week	Composite
pH	Shall be in the range of 6 to 9 Standard Units						3 Days/Week	Grab
Fecal Coliform	Daily Maximum shall not exceed 400 per 100 mL						3 Days/Week	Grab
Chlorine Residual				0.2		0.4	3 Days/Week	Grab
Ammonia Nitrogen: (as N)								
Mar-May, Sept, Oct	192 (491)		225 (577)	12.7	NA	14.9	3 Days/Week	Composite
June-August	112 (286)		201 (515)	7.4	NA	13.3	3 Days/Week	Composite
November-February			119 (306)	NA	NA	7.9	3 Days/Week	Composite
Total Phosphorus (as P)	Monitor Only						1 Day/Month	Composite
Total Nitrogen (as N)	Monitor Only						1 Day/Month	Composite
				Monthly Average not less than	Weekly Average not less than	Daily Minimum		
Dissolved Oxygen								
March-July				NA	6.0	5.0	3 Days/Week	Grab
August-February				5.5	4.0	3.5	3 Days/Week	Grab

<sup>1</sup>Load limits based on design maximum flow shall apply only when flow exceeds design average flow.<sup>2</sup>Carbonaceous BOD<sub>5</sub> (CBOD<sub>5</sub>) testing shall be in accordance with 40 CFR 136.<sup>3</sup>BOD<sub>5</sub> and Suspended Solids (85% removal required) For Discharge No. 001: In accordance with 40 CFR 133, the 30-day average percent removal shall not be less than 85 percent. The percent removal need not be reported to the IEPA on DMRs but influent and effluent data must be available, as required elsewhere in this Permit, for IEPA inspection and review. For measuring compliance with this requirement, 5 mg/L shall be added to the effluent CBOD<sub>5</sub> concentration to determine the effluent BOD<sub>5</sub> concentration.

Percent removal is a percentage expression of the removal efficiency across a treatment plant for a given pollutant parameter, as determined from the 30-day average values of the raw wastewater influent concentrations to the facility and the 30-day average values of the effluent pollutant concentrations for a given time period.

Flow shall be reported on the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) as monthly average and daily maximum.

Fecal Coliform shall be reported on the DMR as a daily maximum value.

pH shall be reported on the DMR as minimum and maximum value.

Chlorine Residual shall be reported on the DMR as daily maximum value.

Dissolved oxygen shall be reported on the DMR as a minimum value.

Phosphorus shall be reported on the DMR as a daily maximum value.

Total Nitrogen shall be reported on the DMR as a daily maximum value. Total Nitrogen is the sum total of Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Nitrate and Nitrite.

## NPDES Permit No. IL0029165

Influent Monitoring, and Reporting

The influent to the plant shall be monitored as follows:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Sample Frequency</u>	<u>Sample Type</u>
Flow (MGD)	Continuous	
BOD <sub>5</sub>	3 Days/Week	Composite
Suspended Solids	3 Days/Week	Composite

Influent samples shall be taken at a point representative of the influent.

Flow (MGD) shall be reported on the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) as monthly average and daily maximum.

BOD<sub>5</sub> and Suspended Solids shall be reported on the DMR as a monthly average concentration.



Special Conditions

SPECIAL CONDITION 1: This Permit may be modified to include different final effluent limitations or requirements which are consistent with applicable laws and regulations. The IEPA will public notice the permit modification.

SPECIAL CONDITION 2: The use or operation of this facility shall be by or under the supervision of a Certified Class 1 operator.

SPECIAL CONDITION 3: The IEPA may request in writing submittal of operational information in a specified form and at a required frequency at any time during the effective period of this Permit.

SPECIAL CONDITION 4: The IEPA may request more frequent monitoring by permit modification pursuant to 40 CFR § 122.63 and Without Public Notice.

SPECIAL CONDITION 5: The effluent, alone or in combination with other sources, shall not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standard outlined in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302 and 303.

SPECIAL CONDITION 6: The Permittee shall record monitoring results on Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) electronic forms using one such form for each outfall each month.

In the event that an outfall does not discharge during a monthly reporting period, the DMR Form shall be submitted with no discharge indicated.

The Permittee is required to submit electronic DMRs (NetDMRs) instead of mailing paper DMRs to the IEPA unless a waiver has been granted by the Agency. More information, including registration information for the NetDMR program, can be obtained on the IEPA website, <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/surface-water/netdmr/pages/quick-answer-guide.aspx>.

The completed Discharge Monitoring Report forms shall be submitted to IEPA no later than the 25th day of the following month, unless otherwise specified by the permitting authority.

Permittees that have been granted a waiver shall mail Discharge Monitoring Reports with an original signature to the IEPA at the following address:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Division of Water Pollution Control  
Attention: Compliance Assurance Section, Mail Code # 19  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Post Office Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

SPECIAL CONDITION 7: The provisions of 40 CFR Section 122.41(m) & (n) are incorporated herein by reference.

SPECIAL CONDITION 8: This Permit may be modified to include alternative or additional final effluent limitations pursuant to an approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Study or upon completion of an alternate Water Quality Study.

SPECIAL CONDITION 9: Samples taken in compliance with the effluent monitoring requirements shall be taken at a point representative of the discharge, but prior to entry into the receiving stream.

SPECIAL CONDITION 10: Consistent with permit modification procedures in 40 CFR 122.62 and 63, this Permit may be modified to include requirements for the Permittee on a continuing basis to evaluate and detail its efforts to effectively control sources of infiltration and inflow into the sewer system and to submit reports to the IEPA if necessary.

SPECIAL CONDITION 11: During January of each year the Permittee shall submit annual fiscal data regarding sewerage system operations to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency/Division of Water Pollution Control/Compliance Assurance Section. The Permittee may use any fiscal year period provided the period ends within twelve (12) months of the submission date.

Submission shall be on forms provided by IEPA titled "Fiscal Report Form For NPDES Permittees".

SPECIAL CONDITION 12: The Permittee has undergone a Monitoring Reduction review and the influent and effluent sample frequency has been reduced for parameters due to sustained compliance. The IEPA may require that the influent and effluent sampling frequency for these parameters be increased without Public Notice. This provision does not limit EPA's authority to require additional monitoring, information or studies pursuant to Section 308 of the CWA.

Special Conditions

**SPECIAL CONDITION 13:** The Permittee shall conduct semi-annual monitoring of the effluent and report concentrations (in mg/L) of the following listed parameters. Monitoring shall begin three (3) months from the effective date of this permit. The sample shall be a 24-hour effluent composite except as otherwise specifically provided below and the results shall be submitted on Discharge Monitoring Report Forms to IEPA unless otherwise specified by the IEPA. The parameters to be sampled and the minimum reporting limits to be attained are as follows:

STORET		Minimum
<u>CODE</u>	<u>PARAMETER</u>	<u>reporting limit</u>
01002	Arsenic	0.05 mg/L
01007	Barium	0.5 mg/L
01027	Cadmium	0.001 mg/L
01032	Chromium (hexavalent) (grab)	0.01 mg/L
01034	Chromium (total)	0.05 mg/L
01042	Copper	0.005 mg/L
00720	Cyanide (total) (grab)***	5.0 µg/L
00722	Cyanide (grab) (available**** or amenable to chlorination)***	5.0 µg/L
00951	Fluoride	0.1 mg/L
01045	Iron (total)	0.5 mg/L
01046	Iron (Dissolved)	0.5 mg/L
01051	Lead	0.05 mg/L
01055	Manganese	0.5 mg/L
71900	Mercury (grab)**	1.0 ng/L*
01067	Nickel	0.005 mg/L
00556	Oil (hexane soluble or equivalent) (Grab Sample only)	5.0 mg/L
32730	Phenols (grab)	0.005 mg/L
01147	Selenium	0.005 mg/L
01077	Silver (total)	0.003 mg/L
01092	Zinc	0.025 mg/L

Minimum Reporting Limits are defined as – (1) The minimum value below which data are documented as non-detects. (2) Three to ten times the method detection limit. (3) The minimum value of the calibration range.

All sample containers, preservative, holding times, analyses, method detection limit determinations and quality assurance/quality control requirements shall be in accordance with 40 CFR 136.

Unless otherwise indicated, concentrations refer to the total amount of the constituent present in all phases, whether solid, suspended or dissolved, elemental or combined, including all oxidation states.

\*1.0 ng/L = 1 part per trillion.

\*\*Utilize USEPA Method 1631E and the digestion procedure described in Section 11.1.1.2 of 1631E.

\*\*\*Analysis for cyanide (available or amenable to chlorination) is only required if cyanide (total) is detected at or above the minimum reporting limit.

\*\*\*\*USEPA Method OIA-1677.

The Permittee shall provide a report briefly describing the permittee's pretreatment activities and an updated listing of the Permittee's significant industrial users. The list should specify which categorical pretreatment standards, if any, are applicable to each Industrial User. Permittees who operate multiple plants may provide a single report. Such report shall be submitted within six (6) months of the effective date of this Permit to the following addresses:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 5  
77 West Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
Attention: Water Assurance Branch Enforcement and Compliance

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Division of Water Pollution Control  
Attention: Compliance assurance Section, Mail Code #19  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Post Office Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

**SPECIAL CONDITION 14:** The Permittee shall conduct biomonitoring of the effluent from Discharge Number(s) 001.

Biomonitoring

A. Acute Toxicity - Standard definitive acute toxicity tests shall be run on at least two trophic levels of aquatic species (fish, invertebrate) representative of the aquatic community of the receiving stream. Testing must be consistent with Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms (Fifth Ed.) EPA/821-R-02-012. Unless substitute

Special Conditions

tests are pre-approved; the following tests are required:

1. Fish 96-hour static LC<sub>50</sub> Bioassay using fathead minnows (*Pimephales promelas*).
  2. Invertebrate 48-hour static LC<sub>50</sub> Bioassay using *Ceriodaphnia*.
- B. Testing Frequency - The above tests shall be conducted using 24-hour composite samples unless otherwise authorized by the IEPA. Sample collection and testing must be conducted in the 18<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> month prior to the expiration date of this Permit. When possible, bioassay sample collection should coincide with sample collection for metals analysis or other parameters that may contribute to effluent toxicity.
- C. Reporting - Results shall be reported according to EPA/821-R-02-012, Section 12, Report Preparation, and shall be mailed to IEPA, Bureau of Water, Compliance Assurance Section or emailed to [EPA.PrmtSpecCondtns@Illinois.gov](mailto:EPA.PrmtSpecCondtns@Illinois.gov) within one week of receipt from the laboratory. Reports are due to the IEPA no later than the 16<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> month prior to the expiration date of this Permit.
- D. Toxicity – Should a bioassay result in toxicity to >20% of organisms tested in the 100% effluent treatment, the IEPA may require, upon notification, six (6) additional rounds of monthly testing on the affected organism(s) to be initiated within 30 days of the toxic bioassay. Results shall be submitted to IEPA within one (1) week of becoming available to the Permittee. Should any of the additional bioassays result in toxicity to ≥50% of organisms tested in the 100% effluent treatments, the Permittee must contact the IEPA within one (1) day of the results becoming available to the Permittee and begin the toxicity identification and reduction evaluation process as outlined below.
- E. Toxicity Identification and Reduction Evaluation - Should any of the additional bioassays result in toxicity to ≥50% of organisms tested in the 100% effluent treatment, the Permittee must contact the IEPA within one (1) day of the results becoming available to the Permittee and begin the toxicity identification evaluation process in accordance with Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, EPA/600/6-91/003. The IEPA may also require, upon notification, that the Permittee prepare a plan for toxicity reduction evaluation to be developed in accordance with Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Guidance for Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants, EPA/833B-99/002, which shall include an evaluation to determine which chemicals have a potential for being discharged in the plant wastewater, a monitoring program to determine their presence or absence and to identify other compounds which are not being removed by treatment, and other measures as appropriate. The Permittee shall submit to the IEPA its plan for toxicity reduction evaluation within ninety (90) days following notification by the IEPA. The Permittee shall implement the plan within ninety (90) days or other such date as contained in a notification letter received from the IEPA.

The IEPA may modify this Permit during its term to incorporate additional requirements or limitations based on the results of the biomonitoring. In addition, after review of the monitoring results, the IEPA may modify this Permit to include numerical limitations for specific toxic pollutants. Modifications under this condition shall follow public notice and opportunity for hearing.

SPECIAL CONDITION 15: For the duration of this Permit, the Permittee shall determine the quantity of sludge produced by the treatment facility in dry tons or gallons with average percent total solids analysis. The Permittee shall maintain adequate records of the quantities of sludge produced and have said records available for IEPA inspection. The Permittee shall submit to the IEPA, at a minimum, a semi-annual summary report of the quantities of sludge generated and disposed of, in units of dry tons or gallons (average total percent solids) by different disposal methods including but not limited to application on farmland, application on reclamation land, landfilling, public distribution, dedicated land disposal, sod farms, storage lagoons or any other specified disposal method. Said reports shall be submitted to the IEPA by January 31 and July 31 of each year reporting the preceding January thru June and July thru December interval of sludge disposal operations.

**Duty to Mitigate.** The Permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize any sludge use or disposal in violation of this Permit.

Sludge monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR 136 unless otherwise specified in 40 CFR 503, unless other test procedures have been specified in this Permit.

**Planned Changes.** The Permittee shall give notice to the IEPA on the semi-annual report of any changes in sludge use and disposal.

The Permittee shall retain records of all sludge monitoring, and reports required by the Sludge Permit as referenced in Standard Condition 25 for a period of at least five (5) years from the date of this Permit.

If the Permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by the Sludge Permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the reporting of data submitted to the IEPA.

The Permittee shall comply with existing federal regulations governing sewage sludge use or disposal and shall comply with all existing applicable regulations in any jurisdiction in which the sewage sludge is actually used or disposed.

Special Conditions

The Permittee shall comply with standards for sewage sludge use or disposal established under Section 405(d) of the CWA within the time provided in the regulations that establish the standards for sewage sludge use or disposal even if the permit has not been modified to incorporate the requirement.

The Permittee shall ensure that the applicable requirements in 40 CFR Part 503 are met when the sewage sludge is applied to the land, placed on a surface disposal site, or fired in a sewage sludge incinerator.

Monitoring reports for sludge shall be reported on the form titled "Sludge Management Reports" to the following address:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Bureau of Water  
Compliance Assurance Section  
Mail Code #19  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Post Office Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

SPECIAL CONDITION 16. The Permittee shall, within 24 months of the effective date of this permit, prepare and submit to the Agency a feasibility study that identifies the method, timeframe, and costs of reducing phosphorus levels in its discharge to a level consistently meeting a potential future effluent limit of 1.0 mg/l, 0.5 mg/L and 0.1 mg/L. The study shall evaluate the construction and O & M costs of the application of these limits on a monthly, seasonal and annual average basis.

SPECIAL CONDITION 17. The Permittee shall develop and submit to the Agency a Phosphorus Discharge Optimization Plan within 24 months of the effective date of this permit. The plan shall include a schedule for the implementation of these optimization measures. Annual progress reports on the optimization of the existing treatment facilities shall be submitted to the Agency by March 31 of each year beginning 12 months from the effective date of the permit. In developing the plan, the Permittee shall evaluate a range of measures for reducing phosphorus discharges from the treatment plant, including possible source reduction measures, operational improvements, and minor facility modifications that will optimize reductions in phosphorus discharges from the wastewater treatment facility. The Permittee's evaluation shall include, but not be limited to, an evaluation of the following optimization measures:

- A. WWTF influent reduction measures.
  - 1. Evaluate the phosphorus reduction potential of users.
  - 2. Determine which sources have the greatest opportunity for reducing phosphorus (i.e., industrial, commercial, institutional, municipal and others).
    - a. Determine whether known sources (i.e., restaurant and food preparation) can adopt phosphorus minimization and water conservation plans.
    - b. Evaluate implementation of local limits on influent sources of excessive phosphorus.
- B. WWTF effluent reduction measures.
  - 1. Reduce phosphorus discharges by optimizing existing treatment processes.
    - a. Adjust the solids retention time for either nitrification, denitrification, or biological phosphorus removal.
    - b. Adjust aeration rates to reduce dissolved oxygen and promote simultaneous nitrification-denitrification.
    - c. Add baffles to existing units to improve microorganism conditions by creating divided anaerobic, anoxic, and aerobic zones.
    - d. Change aeration settings in plug flow basins by turning off air or mixers at the inlet side of the basin system.
    - e. Minimize impact on recycle streams by improving aeration within holding tanks.
    - f. Reconfigure flow through existing basins to enhance biological nutrient removal.
    - g. Increase volatile fatty acids for biological phosphorus removal.

SPECIAL CONDITION 18. The Agency has determined that the Permittee's treatment plant effluent is located upstream of a waterbody or stream segment that has been determined to be at risk of eutrophication. This determination was made upon reviewing available information concerning the characteristics of the relevant waterbody/segment and the relevant facility (such as quantity of discharge flow and nutrient load relative to the stream flow).

A waterbody or segment is at risk of eutrophication if there is available information that plant, algal or cyanobacterial growth is causing or will cause violation of a water quality standard.

The Permittee shall develop, or be a part of a watershed group that develops, a Nutrient Assessment Reduction Plan (NARP) that will meet the following requirements:

- A. The NARP shall be developed and submitted to the Agency by December 31, 2024. This requirement can be accomplished by the Permittee, by participation in an existing watershed group or by creating a new group. The NARP shall be supported by data and sound scientific rationale.

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- B. The Permittee shall cooperate with and work with other stakeholders in the watershed to determine the most cost-effective means to address the risk of eutrophication. If other stakeholders in the watershed will not cooperate in developing the NARP, the Permittee shall develop its own NARP for submittal to the Agency to comply with this condition.
- C. In determining the target levels of various parameters necessary to address the risk of eutrophication, the NARP shall either utilize the recommendations by the Nutrient Science Advisory Committee or develop its own watershed-specific target levels.
- D. The NARP shall identify phosphorus input reductions from point sources and non-point sources in addition to other measures necessary to remove the risk of eutrophication characteristics that will cause or may cause violation of a water quality standard. The NARP may determine, based on an assessment of relevant data, that the watershed does not have a risk of eutrophication related to phosphorus, in which case phosphorus input reductions or other measures would not be necessary. Alternatively, the NARP could determine that phosphorus input reductions from point sources are not necessary, or that phosphorus input reductions from both point and nonpoint sources are necessary, or that phosphorus input reductions are not necessary and that other measures, besides phosphorus input reductions, are necessary.
- E. The NARP shall include a schedule for the implementation of the phosphorus input reductions and other measures. The NARP schedule shall be implemented as soon as possible and shall identify specific timelines applicable to the permittee.
- F. The NARP can include provisions for water quality trading to address the phosphorus related risk of eutrophication characteristics in the watershed. Phosphorus/Nutrient trading cannot result in violations of water quality standards or applicable antidegradation requirements.
- G. The Permittee shall request modification of the permit within 90 days after the NARP has been completed to include necessary phosphorus input reductions identified within the NARP. The Agency will modify the permit if necessary.
- H. If the Permittee does not develop or assist in developing the NARP and such a NARP is developed for the watershed, the Permittee will become subject to effluent limitations necessary to address the risk of eutrophication. The Agency shall calculate these effluent limits by using the NARP and any applicable data. If no NARP has been developed, the effluent limits shall be determined for the Permittee on a case-by-case basis, so as to ensure that the Permittee's discharge will not cause or contribute to violations of the dissolved oxygen or narrative offensive condition water quality standards.

SPECIAL CONDITION 19. Schedule for Phosphorus Effluent Limits with Timelines and Exceptions:

- A. Subject to paragraph B below, an effluent limit of 0.5 mg/L Total Phosphorus 12 month rolling geometric mean (calculated monthly) basis (hereinafter "Limit"), shall be met by the Permittee by January 1, 2030, unless the Permittee demonstrates that meeting such Limit is not technologically or economically feasible in one of the following manners:
  - 1. the Limit is not technologically feasible through the use of biological phosphorus removal (BPR) process(es) at the treatment facility; or
  - 2. the Limit would result in substantial and widespread economic or social impact. Substantial and widespread economic impacts must be demonstrated using applicable USEPA guidance, including but not limited to any of the following documents:
    - a. Interim Economic Guidance for Water Quality Standards, March 1995, EPA-823-95-002;
    - b. Combined Sewer Overflows – Guidance for Financial Capability Assessment and Schedule Development, February 1997, EPA-832—97-004;
    - c. Financial Capability Assessment Framework for Municipal Clean Water Act Requirements, November 24, 2014; and
    - d. any additional USEPA guidance on affordability issues that revises, supplements or replaces those USEPA guidance documents; or
  - 3. the Limit can only be met by chemical addition for phosphorus removal at the treatment facility in addition to those processes currently contemplated; or
  - 4. the Limit is demonstrated not to be feasible by January 1, 2030, but is feasible within a longer timeline, then the Limit shall be met as soon feasible and approved by the Agency; or
  - 5. the Limit is demonstrated not to be achievable, then an effluent limit that is achievable by the Permittee (along with associated timeline) will apply instead, except that the effluent limit shall not exceed 0.6 mg/L Total Phosphorus 12 month rolling geometric mean (calculated monthly).
- B. The Limit shall be met by the Permittee by January 1, 2030, except in the following circumstances:
  - 1. If the Permittee develops a written plan, preliminary engineering report or facility plan no later than January 1, 2025, to rebuild or replace the secondary treatment process(es) of the treatment facility, the Limit shall be met by December 31, 2035; or
  - 2. If the Permittee decides to construct/operate biological nutrient removal (BNR) process(es), incorporating nitrogen reduction, the Limit shall be met by December 31, 2035; or
  - 3. If the Permittee decides to use chemical addition for phosphorus removal instead of BPR, the Limit and the effluent limit of 1.0 mg/L Total Phosphorus monthly average shall be met by December 31, 2025; or
  - 4. The NARP determines that a limit lower than the Limit is necessary and attainable. The lower limit and timeline identified in the NARP shall apply to the Permittee; or

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5. If the Permittee participates in a watershed group that is developing a NARP for an impairment related to phosphorus or a risk of eutrophication, and IEPA determines that the group has the financial and structural capability to develop the NARP by the deadline specified in the NARP provisions below.
- C. The Permittee shall identify and provide adequate justification of any exception identified in paragraph A or circumstance identified in paragraph B, regarding meeting the Limit. The justification shall be submitted to the Agency at the time of renewal of this permit or by December 31, 2023, whichever date is first. Any justification or demonstration performed by the Permittee pursuant to paragraph A or circumstance pursuant to paragraph B must be reviewed and approved by the Agency. The Agency will renew or modify the NPDES permit as necessary. No date deadline modification or effluent limitation modification for any of the exceptions or circumstances specified in paragraphs (A) or (B) will be effective until it is included in a modified or reissued NPDES Permit.
- D. For purposes of this permit, the following definitions are used:
1. BPR (Biological Phosphorus Removal) is defined herein as treatment processes which do not require use of supplemental treatment processes at the treatment facilities before or after the biological system, such as but not limited to, chemical addition, carbon supplementation, fermentation, or filtration. The use of filtration or additional equipment to meet other effluent limits is not prohibited, but those processes will not be considered part of the BPR process for purposes of this permit; and
  2. BNR (Biological Nutrient Removal) is defined herein as treatment processes used for nitrogen and phosphorus removal from wastewater before it is discharged. BNR treatment processes, as defined herein, do not require use of supplemental treatment processes at the treatment facilities before or after the biological system, such as but not limited to, chemical addition, carbon supplementation, fermentation or filtration. The use of filtration or additional equipment to meet other effluent limits is not prohibited, but those processes will not be considered part of the BNR process for purposes of this permit.
- E. The 0.5 mg/L Total Phosphorus 12 month rolling geometric mean (calculated monthly) effluent limit applies to the effluent from the treatment plant.