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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

January 6, 2011

Mr. Francisco Castellanos
City of Weslaco
255 South Kansas Avenue
Weslaco, Texas 78596

Re: City of Weslaco, TPDES Permit No. WQ0010619001
(RN101614394; CN600520969)

Dear Mr. Castellanos:

Enclosed is a copy of the above referenced permit for a wastewater treatment facility issued on behalf of the Executive Director pursuant to Chapter 26 of the Texas Water Code.

If you are receiving a Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) discharge permit and your system is a new facility or an existing facility that has been reporting to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), you may comply with self-reporting requirements by submitting discharge monitoring reports (DMR) electronically over the Web through STEERS (see enclosed flyer). Information about the electronic DMR (NetDMR) system is available at www.tceq.state.tx.us/goto/NetDMR. We encourage electronic reporting. Discharge facilities that do not use the NetDMR system will receive paper DMR forms and instructions from the TCEQ Enforcement Division or from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) if the facility has been submitting DMRs to EPA.

If you are receiving a land application (no discharge) permit and are required to report monitoring results, self-reporting forms and instructions will be forwarded to you by the TCEQ Enforcement Division.

Enclosed is a "Notification of Completion of Wastewater Treatment Facilities" form. Use this form when the facility begins to operate or goes into a new phase. The form notifies the agency when the proposed facility is completed or when it is placed in operation. This notification complies with the special provision incorporated into the permit. When the agency receives this form, the appropriate permit requirements will be activated in the compliance system database so that accurate monitoring and reporting can occur.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Julian Centeno Jr., P.E. of the TCEQ's Wastewater Permitting Section at (512) 239-4671 or if by correspondence, include MC 148 in the letterhead address at the bottom of the previous page.

Sincerely,

for

Charles W. Maguire, Director
Water Quality Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

CWM/JC/gv

Enclosures

ccs: TCEQ, Region 15
Mr. Filemon Olvera, CH2M Hill-OMI, 2500 North Texas Boulevard, Weslaco, Texas 78596

TPDES PERMIT NO. WQ0010619001
[For TCEQ office use only - EPA I.D. No. TX0022471]

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

This is a renewal that replaces TPDES Permit No. WQ0010619001 issued June 27, 2005.

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

City of Weslaco

whose mailing address is

255 South Kansas Avenue
Weslaco, Texas 78596

is authorized to treat and discharge wastes from the City of Weslaco Water Treatment Facility, SIC Code 4941

located at the southeast intersection of Farm-to-Market Road 88 and Mile 9 North Road in Hidalgo County, Texas 78596

to an elevated ditch; thence to North Floodway System; thence to Laguna Madre in Segment No. 2491 of the Bays and Estuaries

only according with 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, **July 1, 2015**.

ISSUED DATE: DEC 29 2010

For the Commission

EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Outfall Number 001

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

   The daily average flow of effluent shall not exceed 0.25 million gallons per day (MGD); nor shall the total volume during any 24-hour period exceed 1.5 million gallons.

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations				Minimum Self-Monitoring Requirements	
	Daily Avg	7-day Avg	Daily Max	Single Grab	Report Daily Avg. & Daily Max.	
	mg/l(lbs/day)	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow, MGD	Report	N/A	Report	N/A	Five/week	Instantaneous
Total Suspended Solids	25 (52)	35	45	65	One/week	Composite*

* Composite sample is to consist of at least three portions collected over a period of not less than two hours. In the case of intermittent discharges of less than two hours duration, the composite is to consist of at least three portions collected over the duration of the discharge. This provision supersedes the definitions in standard permit conditions No. 3a on page 4 of this permit.

2. 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.

3. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts and no discharge of visible oil.

4. Effluent monitoring samples shall be taken at the following location(s): At Outfall 001 where the discharge flows beyond the V-notch weir prior to commingling with waters of the State.

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 (Fecal coliform, *E. coli*, or Enterococci) - the number 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 nth 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. 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, a monthly effluent report 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 reported on an approved self-report form that is 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 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. Report of such information shall be provided orally or by facsimile transmission (FAX) to the Regional Office within 24 hours of becoming aware of the noncompliance. A written submission of such information shall also be provided by the permittee to the Regional Office and the Enforcement Division (MC 224) within five working days of becoming aware of the noncompliance. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the potential danger to human health or safety, or the environment; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times; if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance, and to mitigate its adverse effects.

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

      i. Unauthorized discharges as defined in Permit Condition 2(g).
      ii. Any unanticipated bypass 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 Publicly Owned Treatment Works (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;

      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 and the permit number(s);
       ii. the bankruptcy court in which the petition for bankruptcy was filed; and
       iii. 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 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 149) 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 Environmental Cleanup 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 Registration, Review, and Reporting 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.

WATER TREATMENT SLUDGE PROVISIONS

The permittee is authorized to dispose of water treatment sludge only at a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) registered or permitted land application site, commercial land application site or co-disposal landfill authorized to accept water treatment plant sludge.

The disposal of water treatment sludge 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 permitted or registered with the TCEQ. This provision does not authorize Distribution and Marketing of sludge.

SECTION I. REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO ALL WATER TREATMENT SLUDGE LAND APPLICATION

A. General Requirements

1. The permittee shall handle and dispose of water treatment sludge in accordance with 30 TAC Chapter 312 Subchapter F 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 water treatment sludge meets the requirements in 40 CFR Part 257 concerning the quality of water treatment sludge disposed of by land application.

2. The permittee shall provide necessary information to the parties who receive the water treatment sludge to assure compliance with these regulations.

3. The permittee shall give 180 days prior notice to the Executive Director in care of the Wastewater Permits Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division of any change planned in the water treatment sludge disposal practice.

B. Operation Requirements and Regulated Management Conditions for Water Treatment Sludge

The operation and maintenance of a water treatment sludge disposal site must be in accordance with 30 TAC Chapter 312 Subchapter F and 40 CFR Part 257 as it relates to solid waste disposal. Specifically, land application of water treatment sludge shall meet the following requirements.

1. Land application of water treatment sludge shall not cause or contribute to the harm of a threatened or endangered species of plant, fish, or wildlife or result in the destruction or adverse modification of the critical habitat of a threatened or endangered species after application to agricultural land.

2. Land application of water treatment sludge shall not restrict the flow of the base flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the flood plain, or result in washout of solid waste.

3. Land application of water treatment sludge shall be disposed of by a method and under conditions that prevents runoff beyond the active application area and protects the quality of the surface water.

4. Land application of water treatment sludge disposal shall not contaminate an underground drinking water source beyond the site boundary, as specified in 40 CFR 257.3-4.

5. Land application of water treatment sludge disposal practices shall not allow uncontrolled public access so as to expose the public to potential health and safety hazards at the disposal site.

C. Testing Requirements

1. Water treatment sludge shall be tested prior to sludge disposal 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, which receives the prior approval of the TCEQ for the contaminants listed in Table 1 of 40 CFR Section 261.24. Water treatment sludge 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 water treatment sludge 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 sludge 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, Review and Reporting Division (MC 129) and the Regional Director **(MC Region 15)** 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, Registration, Review, and Reporting 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 reporting period is from July 31 of the previous year to August 1 of the current year. This annual report shall be submitted to the TCEQ Regional Office **(MC Region 15)** and the Municipal Wastewater Permits Team (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division by September 30 of each year.

2. Water treatment sludge shall be tested as needed, in accordance with the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 312. The following pollutant limits shall apply to disposal of water treatment sludge on land used for the production of food chain crops.

   a. Cadmium - Disposal of water treatment sludge on a site within three feet of the surface of land used for the production of food chain crops shall not exist or occur, unless in compliance with all requirements of the following paragraphs (i) or (ii).

      i. (A) The pH of the water treatment sludge and soil mixture must be 6.5 or greater at the time of each application of sludge, except for water treatment sludge containing cadmium concentrations of 2 mg/kg (dry weight) or less.

         (B) The annual application rate for cadmium in sludge shall not exceed 0.5 kilograms per hectare.

         (C) The maximum cumulative application rate of cadmium, in kg/ha based on background soil pH, from sludge does not exceed the following levels:

Background Soil pH	Soil Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC), meq/100 g of soil		
	0 - 5	5 - 15	>15
pH < 6.5	5	5	5
pH > 6.5	5	10	20

         (D) The maximum cumulative application rate of cadmium from sludge on soils with a background pH of less than 6.5 shall not exceed the values listed in the table below, provided that the pH of the **sludge and soil mixture** is adjusted to and maintained at 6.5 or greater whenever food chain crops are grown.

	Soil Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC), meq/100 g of soil		
	0 - 5	5 - 15	> 15
Cadmium, kg/ha	5	10	20

ii. (A) The only food chain crop produced is animal feed.

(B) The pH of the sludge and soil mixture is 6.5 or greater at the time of sludge application or at the time the crop is planted, whichever occurs later, and this pH level is maintained whenever food chain crops are grown.

(C) A facility operating plan which demonstrates how the animal feed will be distributed to preclude ingestion by humans and describes the measures to be taken to safeguard against possible health hazards from cadmium entering the food chain, which may result from alternative land uses must be developed.

(D) Future property owners are notified by a stipulation in the land record or property deed which states that the property has received sludge at high cadmium application rates and that food chain crops should not be grown, due to a possible health hazard.

b. Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) - Water treatment sludge containing concentrations of PCBs equal to or greater than 10 mg/kg (dry weight) is incorporated into the soil when applied to land used for producing animal feed, including pasture crops for animals raised for milk. Incorporation of the solid waste into the soil is not required if it is assured that the PCBs content is less than 0.2 mg/kg (actual weight) in animal feed or less than 1.5 mg/kg (fat basis) in milk.

D. Record Keeping Requirements

The permittee, pursuant to 30 TAC Section 312 Subchapter F shall retain a record of all water treatment sludge testing performed and the concentration of Cadmium and PCBs and shall retain the information for a minimum of five (5) years. Records shall be readily available for review or submittal to the Executive Director upon request.

E. Reporting Requirements

The permittee shall report the following information annually to the TCEQ Municipal Wastewater Permits Team (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division and the Regional Office **(MC Region 15)** by September 30 of each year. The reporting period is from July 31 of previous year to August 1 of the current year.

1. Annual sludge production in dry tons/year.
2. Amount of sludge disposed of in dry tons/year.
3. Identity of hauler and TCEQ transporter registration number.
4. Owner and location of the disposal site(s).
5. Certification that the water treatment sludge meets the requirements of 40 CFR Part 257 concerning the quality of the sludge being land applied.
6. The TCEQ Registration or Permit Number for the disposal site(s).
7. Toxicity Characteristic Leach Procedure (TCLP) results.

The above records shall be maintained on-site on a monthly basis, for a period of at least five (5) years and shall be made available to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality upon request.

SECTION II. REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO ALL WATER TREATMENT SLUDGE DISPOSED OF IN A MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL

A. The permittee shall handle and dispose of water treatment sludge in accordance with 30 TAC Chapter 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 water treatment sludge meets the requirements in 30 TAC Chapter 330 concerning the quality of the sludge disposed of in a Municipal Solid Waste Landfill (MSWL).

B. The permittee shall ensure that the water treatment sludge meets the requirements in 40 CFR Part 258 concerning the quality of the sludge disposed of in a MSWL.

C. If the permittee generates water treatment sludge and supplies that sludge to the owner or operator of a MSWL for disposal, the permittee shall provide to the owner or operator of the MSWL appropriate information needed to be in compliance with the provisions of this permit.

D. The permittee shall give 180 days prior notice to the Executive Director in care of the Wastewater Permits Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division of any change planned in the water treatment sludge disposal practice.

E. Water treatment sludge shall be tested prior to sludge disposal in accordance with the method in both 40 CFR Part 261, Appendix II and 40 CFR Part 268, Appendix I [Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP)] or other method, which receives the prior approval of the TCEQ for the contaminants listed in Table 1 of 40 CFR Section 261.24. Water treatment sludge 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 water treatment sludge 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 that the water treatment sludge 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, Review, and Reporting Division (MC 129) and the Regional Director **(MC Region 15)** 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, Registration, Review, and Reporting 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 reporting period is from July 31 of the previous year to August 1 of the current year. This annual report shall be submitted to the TCEQ Regional Office **(MC Region 15)** and the Municipal Wastewater Permits Team (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division by September 30 of each year.

F. Water treatment sludge shall be tested as needed, in accordance with the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 330.

G. 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.

H. Reporting Requirements

The permittee shall report the following information annually to the TCEQ Municipal Wastewater Permits Team (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division and the Regional Office **(MC Region 15)** by September 30 of each year. The reporting period is from July 31 of previous year to August 1 of the current year.

1. Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) results.
2. Annual sludge production in dry tons/year.
3. Amount of sludge disposed of in a municipal solid waste landfill in dry tons/year.
4. Amount of sludge transported interstate in dry tons/year.
5. A certification that the water treatment sludge meets the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 330 concerning the quality of the sludge disposed of in a municipal solid waste landfill.
6. Identity of hauler(s) and transporter registration number.
7. Owner of disposal site(s).
8. Location of disposal site(s).
9. Date(s) of disposal.

The above records shall be maintained on-site on a monthly basis, for a period of at least five (5) years and shall be made available to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality upon request.

III. REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO ALL WATER TREATMENT SLUDGE STORED IN A WATER TREATMENT SLUDGE LAGOON

The final disposal of water treatment sludge at the plant site is a violation of this permit. Water treatment sludge placed in water treatment sludge lagoon(s) is for temporary storage only. Water treatment sludge will ultimately be disposed of in accordance with the closure plan as required in item (B).

A. The permittee shall maintain a minimum of two feet of freeboard in the water treatment sludge lagoon(s).

B. The permittee shall submit a closure plan for the water treatment sludge lagoon(s) at least 180 days prior to planed closure to the Executive Director in care of the Municipal Wastewater Permits Team (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division for approval.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. These water treatment facilities shall be operated at all times under the direct supervision of a water works operator who holds an applicable, valid license issued by the TCEQ executive director.

2. The permittee shall operate and maintain these facilities in accordance with accepted practices.

3. The permittee shall monitor and report data on the effluent discharge.