

June 27, 2023

Ashley Faulkner, Chairman
Hartshorne Public Works Authority
1101 Pennsylvania Avenue
Hartshorne, Oklahoma 74547-3833

Re: Notice of Violation No. S-20633-20-1 – Closure
Hartshorne Public Works Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant
Facility No. S-20633
OPDES Permit No. OK0022861

Dear Ms. Faulkner:

On December 17, 2020, the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) issued the Hartshorne Public Works Authority (Authority) Notice of Violation (NOV) No. S-20633-20-1 for exceeding OPDES Permit (Permit) limits of *E. coli* as reported on the Permit-required electronic discharge monitoring reports for the monitoring periods of August and September 2020.

On January 15, 2021, DEQ received a letter in response to the NOV. The NOV response stated that the permit limit violations were due to the operator having trouble with the wastewater treatment plant's (WWTP) ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system. The response further stated that new bulbs had been ordered and that the operator will replace the existing bulbs once they are delivered.

On October 3, 2022, Monica Ha, E.I., District Representative for DEQ, spoke to Wes Miller, Wastewater Supervisor for the Authority, and discussed the recent May and July 2022 *E. coli* Permit limit exceedances. During the phone discussion, Mr. Miller stated he would send an additional letter explaining the recent exceedances. On October 5, 2022, DEQ received the follow up letter from the Authority. The letter stated that during the first of May, the WWTP had experienced high flows due to rain, which caused the UV bulbs and sleeves to break. The response further stated that after repairs had been made, a bad connection had been made with the UV box, which resulted in only a few UV bulbs coming on line. The letter further noted that over the next month or so, the UV bulbs and ballasts in the entire UV system had been replaced.

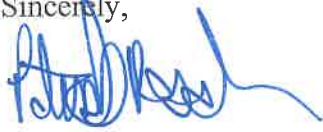
On January 4, 2023, Monica Ha, E.I., District Representative and Myles Mungle, P.E., Engineering Manager, both representatives of DEQ, met with Wes Miller, Wastewater Supervisor for the Authority, to perform an inspection of the WWTP and a portion of the wastewater collection system. During the inspection, Mr. Miller reiterated that the Permit limit violations were due to broken UV bulbs and sleeves caused by the rain event, and that UV replacement parts had been installed. On April 20, 2023, DEQ issued the inspection summary report to the Authority.

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Based upon a review of DEQ records, the corrective actions taken by the City appear to have resolved the violations cited in the NOV. Therefore, DEQ is closing NOV No. S-20633-20-1.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Monica Ha, E.I., District Representative, Municipal Wastewater Enforcement Section, Water Quality Division, DEQ at 405-702-8236 or write to Ms. Ha at the letterhead address.

Sincerely,



Patrick Rosch, P.E., Engineering Manager
Municipal Wastewater Group
Water Quality Division
Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

PR/MH/MM/hb

rh/WM

cc: Wes Miller, WWTP Supervisor, Hartshorne Public Works Authority
Jonathan Schulz, ECLS, McAlester DEQ Office
Jeff Brents, Regional Manager, ECLS, DEQ