



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200

DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 - 2733

27 SEP 2017

CERTIFIED MAIL: RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED (7015 1520 0003 4072 5189)

Mr. Raymond Keen  
Public Works Director  
Village of Taos Ski Valley  
P.O. Box 100  
Taos Ski Valley, NM 87525

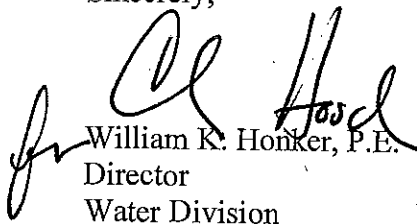
Re: NPDES Permit No. NM0022101

Dear Mr. Keen:

This package constitutes EPA's final permit decision for the above referenced facility. Enclosed are the responses to comments received during the public comment period and the final permit. According to EPA regulations at 40 CFR 124.19, within 30 days after a final permit decision has been issued, any person who filed comments on the draft permit or participated in the public hearing may petition the Environmental Appeals Board to review any condition of the permit decision.

Should you have any questions regarding the final permit, please feel free to contact Jim Afghani of the Permitting Section at the above address or by telephone: (214) 665-6615, by fax: (214) 665-2191, or by E-mail: [afghani.jim@epa.gov](mailto:afghani.jim@epa.gov). Should you have any questions regarding compliance with the conditions of this permit, please contact the Water Enforcement Branch at the above address or by telephone: (214) 665-6468.

Sincerely,

  
William K. Honker, P.E.  
Director  
Water Division

Enclosures

cc w/enclosures:

Sarah Holcomb, NMED

**NPDES PERMIT NO. NM0022101**  
**RESPONSE TO COMMENTS**

RECEIVED ON THE SUBJECT DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE  
ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS  
LISTED AT 40 CFR 124.17

APPLICANT: Village of Taos Ski Valley  
38 Ocean Boulevard  
Taos Ski Valley, NM 87525

ISSUING OFFICE: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

PREPARED BY: Jim Afghani  
Environmental Engineer  
NPDES Permits & TMDLS Branch (6WQ-P)  
Water Division  
VOICE: 214-665-6615  
FAX: 214-665-2191  
EMAIL: afghani.jim@epa.gov

PERMIT ACTION: Final permit decision and response to comments received on the proposed  
NPDES permit publicly noticed on April 27, 2017.

DATE PREPARED: June 28, 2017

Unless otherwise stated, citations to 40 CFR refer to promulgated regulations listed at Title 40,  
Code of Federal Regulations, revised as of June 23, 2017.

**SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES FROM DRAFT PERMIT**

1. Ammonia-Nitrogen, Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorous sample types have been changed from 6-hour composite to 24-hour composite per request.

**STATE CERTIFICATION**

In a letter from Shelly Lemon, Bureau Chief, SWQB, to William K. Honker, P.E., Director, Water Division (EPA) dated June 23, 2017, the NMED certified that the discharge will comply with the applicable provisions of Section 208(e), 301, 302, 303, 306 and 307 of the Clean Water Act and with appropriate requirements of State law.

The NMED stated that in order to meet the requirements of State law, including water quality standards and appropriate basin plans as may be amended by the water quality management plan, each of the conditions cited in the draft permit and the State certification shall not be made less stringent.

The State also stated that it reserves the right to amend or revoke this certification if such action is necessary to ensure compliance with the State's water quality standards and water quality management plan.

**CONDITIONS OF CERTIFICATION**

There are no conditions of certification.

**COMMENTS THAT ARE NOT CONDITIONS OF CERTIFICATION****NMED Comment No. 1:**

The state suggests a footnote be added to Part I Table A.1 for Total Residual Chlorine that states, "Chlorine monitoring required only when used for effluent disinfection or other treatment processes at the facility." The permittee may report "not in use" for those periods when no chlorine is used.

**Response No. 1:**

A footnote has been added to PART I, Table A.1.

**NMED Comment No. 2:**

The state would support a change in the requirement of composite sampling for those pollutants currently listed as 6-hour composite to 24-hour composite, as requested by the permittee. Those pollutants include Total Ammonia, Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorous.

**Response No. 2:**

Ammonia-Nitrogen, Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorous sample types have been changed from 6-hour composite to 24-hour composite per NMED's recommendation.

**NMED Comment No. 3:**

The state suggests in Part I.C. Monitoring and Reporting - page 4, that the downstream Acequia representatives be contacted in the event of a spill or significant exceedance of effluent limits as noted in the public comment period by Amigos Bravos. Contact information for the Taos Valley Acequia Association is:

Judy Torres  
Taos Valley Acequia Association  
202 Chamisa Rd.  
Taos, NM 87571  
taosacequias@gmail.com

**Response No. 3:**

Contact information for the downstream Acequia representatives have been added in Part I.C., Monitoring and Reporting on page 4.

**NMED Comment No. 4:**

The State suggests the effluent limits for Total Nitrogen Phase III in the previous permit be retained in the renewed permit as written in the public notice proposed by EPA, and published April 28, 2017. These effluent limits are based on information from the 2005 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), records of EPA and the State of New Mexico and records and information provided by the permittee. As described below, though the permittee has reached Phase IV, they are adequately meeting Phase III limits at this time and do not need an increase in limits.

The state recognizes that the development of these effluent limits as found in the Fact Sheet of this and of previous permits, requires some clarification. Therefore, a brief history and explanation is provided below.

The 2005 TMDL approved by EPA on September 14, 2005 established Waste Load Allocations (WLA) for point source contributions and Load Allocations (LA) for nonpoint source contributions of pollutants to the Rio Hondo. The WLA established for the Village of Taos Ski Valley provided a phased approach that would allow conversion of the LA attributed to septic systems to the WLA for the facility, by expanding the collection system and connect homes and businesses with existing septic systems to the facility's treatment plant. The Village identified 77 septic systems that would be connected to the Taos Ski Valley's WWTP collection system. This would remove the contribution to the LA (considered nonpoint potential contributors of pollutants to the receiving water of the Rio Hondo through leakage into hydrologically linked ground water). The TMDL also established seasonal and monthly WLA that varied throughout the year based on temperature and stream flows.

The Fact Sheet for the permit effective August 4, 2011 in part has inaccurate information. The previous permit included Total Nitrogen effluent limits based on statements made to the NMED and EPA by the permittee, that the conversion of septic system added to treatment at the WWTP was at 95% completion, equal to Phase V of the original projection as described in the TMDL. At that time, the permittee indicated that the facility was consistently meeting lower and more stringent effluent limits as established in the TMDL of Phase III. The permittee indicated it was not necessary to increase the load in the permit at that time. Therefore, the effluent limits in the permit were retained at the Phase III level even though the permit stated the facility had achieved phase V status. The mass loading in the permit was based on a flow of 0.095 MGD as found in the Fact Sheet page 13.

The Five Phases in the TMDL:

### Phase I Limits (0% Capture of Septic Systems)

Table found in NPDES Permit NM0022101 issued in 2005 Fact Sheet

Parameter	Time Interval	WLA (lbs/day) 30 Day Avg	WLA (mg/L)	30 Day avg. Concentration	7 Day Avg. Concentrations
Total Nitrogen	November through April	11.1	6.64	6.5	9.5
	May and June	44.0	26.4	26	39
	July and August	21.5	30.1	30	45
	September and October	18.5	55.5	55	82

### Phase II Limits (25 % Capture of Septic Systems)

Table found in NPDES Permit NM0022101 issued in 2005 Fact Sheet

Parameter	Time Interval	WLA (lbs/day) 30 Day Avg	WLA (mg/L)	30 Day avg. Concentration	7 Day Avg. Concentrations
Total Nitrogen	November through April	12.4	7.4	7	10.5
	May and June	45.3	27	27	40.5
	July and August	26.4	32	32	48
	September and October	19.8	59	59	88.5

### Phase III Limits (50% Capture of Septic Systems)

Table found in NPDES Permit NM0022101 issued in 2005 Fact Sheet

Parameter	Time Interval	WLA (lbs/day) 30 Day Avg	WLA (mg/L)	30 Day avg. Concentration	7 Day Avg. Concentrations
Total Nitrogen	November through April	13.7	8.2	8	12
	May and June	46.6	28	28	42
	July and August	27.7	33	33	49.5
	September and October	21.1	63	62	93

### Phase IV Limits (75% Capture of Septic Systems)

Table found in NPDES Permit NM0022101 issued in 2005 Fact Sheet

Parameter	Time Interval	WLA (lbs/day) 30 Day Avg	WLA (mg/L)	30 Day avg. Concentration	7 Day Avg. Concentrations
Total Nitrogen	November through April	15.0	9.0	9.0	13.5
	May and June	47.9	29.0	29.0	43.5
	July and August	29.0	35.0	35	52.5
	September and October	22.4	67.0	67	100.5

**Phase V Limits (100% Capture of Septic Systems)**

Table found in NPDES Permit NM0022101 issued in 2005 Fact Sheet

Parameter	Time Interval	WLA (lbs/day) 30 Day Avg	WLA (mg/L)	30 Day avg. Concentration	7 Day Avg. Concentrations
Total Nitrogen	November through April	16.2	9.7	10	15
	May and June	49.1	29.5	29.5	44.3
	July and August	30.3	36.3	36.3	54.4
	September and October	23.7	71	71	106.5

This permit comment period, the permittee submitted comments to NMED and EPA, including a request for a greater Waste Load Allocation (WLA) for Total Nitrogen based on the 2005 TMDL and the current percentage of septic systems that are now connected to the facility.

The request by the permittee in part states:

*Using a phased approach, the objective of the project was to convert ground water loads from these on-site septic systems to loads treated by the VTSV WWTF. According to the TMDL, as the septic systems are converted, the portion of the TN load allocation associated with the septic systems (i.e. 5.17 lbs N/day) will be added to the WWTF waste load allocation. As of June 2017, only 14 homes (ATTACHMENT 1) and both hotels remain on septic systems. Using the calculations included in section 3.2.2 of the TMDL (p. 22), the TN load currently being captured by the WWTF is:*

$$(0.0644 \text{ lbs N/day} * 63) = 4.06 \text{ lbs N/day}$$

*This is 78.5% capture of the original total 5.17 lbs N/day, which means that the VTSV is fulfilling Phase IV capture criteria of 75%.*

The Fact Sheet for the 2005 NPDES permit states:

*"77 septic systems with Liquid Waste Disposal Permits are located in the Village of Taos Ski Valley. Those systems are permitted for 2,000 gallons per day. Two hotels located in Taos Ski Valley hold NMED issued Ground Water Discharge Permits for larger systems, with a design capacity of 2,600 and 4,000 gallons per day. The total design flow attributed to septic systems is 160,600 gallons per day. NMED calculated loading from septic systems based on permitted capacity and estimated loading of Total Nitrogen to be 23.5 pounds per year from each small system and 47 and 30.6 pounds per year from the two larger systems. The combined load of Total Nitrogen, which the TMDL attributed to the septic systems, was 5.17 pounds per day."*

Effluent data reported by the permittee on Discharge Monitoring Reports and in the Net-DMR system for the previous year shows the loading and concentrations for Total Nitrogen are below the Phase III levels as required in the current permit. Although the facility is requesting an increase in the loading of pounds per day in the permit, the monitoring data does not show a present need for this increase in the allowable load. Below are tables showing the effluent reporting and the permit requirements for the previous year:

## 00600 Nitrogen, total [as N] / Location 1 / Season 0 / Base

Limit Start Date	Limit End Date	Sample Type	Frequency of Analysis
10/1/11	9/30/16	COMP-6	Weekly

Limit				
Limit Unit Desc	Pounds per Day	Pounds per Day	Milligrams per Liter	Milligrams per Liter
Statistical Base	30DA AVG	7 DA AVG	30DA AVG	7 DA AVG
Limit Value	13.65	20.5	8.2	12.3
DMR Values				
11/30/16	.34	.55	1.51	1.89
12/31/16	.57	1.05	1.85	2.5
1/31/17	1.57	2.41	3.19	4.81
2/28/17	1.22	2.12	2.29	3.44
3/31/17	.88	1.09	1.69	2.04
4/30/17	.47	.67	1.23	2.05

## 00600 Nitrogen, total [as N] / Location 1 / Season 1 / Base

Limit Start Date	Limit End Date	Sample Type	Frequency of Analysis
10/1/11	9/30/16	COMP-6	Monthly

Limit				
Limit Unit Desc	Pounds per Day	Pounds per Day	Milligrams per Liter	Milligrams per Liter
Statistical Base	30DA AVG	7 DA AVG	30DA AVG	7 DA AVG
Limit Value	46.55	68.8	27.9	41.2
DMR Values				
6/30/16	.85	1.52	1.49	2.24
5/31/17	.12	.23	.8	.87

## 00600 Nitrogen, total [as N] / Location 1 / Season 2 / Base

Limit Start Date	Limit End Date	Sample Type	Frequency of Analysis
10/1/11	9/30/16	COMP-6	Monthly

Limit				
Limit Unit Desc	Pounds per Day	Pounds per Day	Milligrams per Liter	Milligrams per Liter
Statistical Base	30DA AVG	7 DA AVG	30DA AVG	7 DA AVG
Limit Value	27.7	41.6	16.6	24.9
DMR Values				
7/31/16	.63	1.13	1.53	2.99
8/31/16	.48	.52	1.37	1.46

## 00600 Nitrogen, total [as N] / Location 1 / Season 3 / Base

Limit Start Date	Limit End Date	Sample Type	Frequency of Analysis
10/1/11	9/30/16	COMP-6	Monthly

Limit				
Limit Unit Desc	Pounds per Day	Pounds per Day	Milligrams per Liter	Milligrams per Liter
Statistical Base	30DA AVG	7 DA AVG	30DA AVG	7 DA AVG
Limit Value	21.1	31.7	12.7	19
DMR Values				
9/30/16	.45	.83	1.39	2.16
10/31/16	.6	.8	1.86	2.59

**Response No. 4:**

Based on the State's recommendation and our review of data submitted by the Permittee, Phase III effluent limits for Total Nitrogen in the previous permit be retained in the renewed permit.

**NMED Comments No. 5:**

The Village of Taos Ski Valley has contracted with an engineering firm to design a new WWTP and proposes to increase the volume of treated effluent discharged to the Rio Hondo as the Village and the ski area expands. Design has begun for the new facility. In accordance with these changes, NMED expects to conduct a full Anti-degradation review in the next permit cycle in 2022 of all potential pollutants including Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorous, Ammonia, BOD, TSS, and E. coli. The 2005 TMDL does factor in future growth and will be considered. NMED is also considering updates to the TMDL to incorporate clarifications before the next permit cycle.

**Response No. 5:**

Comments noted.

**Amigos Bravos Comment No. 1:**

Amigos Bravos is pleased to see that the new permit keeps all the previous loading and concentration effluent limits the same as in the previous permit that was issued on August 4, 2011. At numerous public and stakeholder meetings Village of Taos Ski Valley representatives have publically communicated the Village's intention of not raising loading limits in this permit, or in any subsequent permit for discharges from any new upgraded wastewater treatment facility. Amigos Bravos appreciates this commitment.

**Response No. 1:**

Comment noted.

**Amigos Bravos Comment No. 2:**

Amigos Bravos is concerned about the non-compliance status of the facility as reported on EPA's Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) site. At the detailed facility report page for the Taos Ski Valley (<https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facilityreport?fid=110002047197>) it lists the facility as having a "significant violation" for 5 out the last 8 quarters. In addition, when digging deeper into ECHO, we found a spreadsheet (<https://echo.epa.gov/effluent-charts#NM0022101> - click "download summary data") that lists almost all parameters from BOD to E. coli as having a max violation status of "in violation" during the period between 1/1/14 and 6/2/17. While it is our understanding from conversations with NMED staff and from our conversation with Village of Taos Ski Valley staff at public meetings that there haven't been any significant effluent concentration violations at the facility in recent years, we have not been able to find Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) for the facility online to review to confirm this. We also understand that a facility can show up on ECHO as being out of compliance for administrative reasons that are not necessarily related to exceedances of effluent concentrations. Amigos Bravos requests further clarification on the reoccurring "significant violation" and "in violation" status of the facility as reported on ECHO. If the violations are not administratively related and are indeed related to substantial violations of effluent quality, or to related monitoring requirements, we request that appropriate changes to the permit be made or that enforcement actions be taken to ensure that these violations do not occur again. Even if the violations are administrative in nature, and are due to something as simple as a report being a day late, we request that steps be taken to ensure that these types of administrative issues do not continue to be a problem.

**Response No. 2:**

We have visited the address at <https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facilityreport?fid=110002047197> referenced in your comment. Unfortunately, this page cannot be found. For your information, attached is an Excel report consisting of Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) data from 10/1/2012 to 6/30/2017. This report shows there has been one exceedance each of 7-day average in 2011 and 2012, and one exceedance of 30-day average of Ammonia-Nitrogen limitations of the permit in 2013.

**Amigos Bravos Comment No. 3:**

Amigos Bravos urges EPA and NMED to include a requirement in the permit to notify downstream Acequia representatives in the event of a spill or significant effluent exceedance. Amigos Bravos suggests that you contact downstream Acequia Commissions to determine the best names and contact information to include in the permit. The Taos Valley Acequia Association would be a good place to start to discuss how to contact the Rio Hondo Acequia Commissions. Contact information for Taos Valley Acequia Association:

Judy Torres  
Taos Valley Acequia Association  
202 Chamisa Rd, Taos, NM 87571  
(575) 758-9461 [taosacequias@gmail.com](mailto:taosacequias@gmail.com)

**Response No. 3:**

Added downstream Acequia representatives' information as requested.

**Village of Taos Ski Valley Comment No. 1:**

The total nitrogen (TN) limits shown on page 10 of the draft Fact Sheet and on page 2 of Part I of the draft permit are Phase III permit levels for total nitrogen. The VTSV requests that these permit levels be modified to reflect Phase IV effluent limits.

The 2005 Rio Hondo TMDL references 77 home and 2 hotel septic systems with liquid waste disposal permits located in the Village of Taos Ski Valley that were identified for a community-wide sewer line extension project.

Using a phased approach, the objective of the project was to convert ground water loads from these on-site septic systems to loads treated by the VTSV WWTF. According to the TMDL, as the septic systems are converted, the portion of the TN load allocation associated with the septic systems (i.e. 5.17 lbs N/day) will be added to the WWTF waste load allocation. As of June 2017, only 14 homes (ATTACHMENT 1) and both hotels remain on septic systems. Using the calculations included in section 3.2.2 of the TMDL (p. 22), the TN load currently being captured by the WWTF is:

$$(0.0644 \text{ lbs N/day} * 63 \text{ units}) = 4.06 \text{ lbs N/day}$$

This is 78.5% capture of the original total 5.17 lbs N/day, which means that the VTSV is fulfilling Phase IV capture criteria of 75%. The total nitrogen effluent limits included in the draft 2017 permit (page 2 of Part I) and the Fact Sheet (page 10) are Phase III (50% capture) effluent limits:

Table 1 – Current TN limits included in draft permit and Fact Sheet. These match the Phase III effluent limits included in the TMDL.

<b>Total Nitrogen</b>	<b>30 Day Avg (lbs/day)</b>	<b>7 Day Avg (lbs/day)<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>30 Day Avg</b>	<b>7 Day Avg (mg/L)</b>
Nov through April	13.65	20.5	8.2	12.3
May and June	46.55	68.8	27.9	41.2
July and August	27.7	41.6	16.6	24.9
September and Oct	21.1	31.7	12.7	19.0

The VTSV requests that Phase IV effluent limits be incorporated into the permit based on its achievement of 75 % capture:

Table 2 – Phase IV TN effluent limits requested for the 2017 permit.

<b>Total Nitrogen</b>	<b>30 Day Avg (lbs/day)</b>	<b>7 Day Avg (lbs/day)<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>30 Day Avg</b>	<b>7 Day Avg (mg/L)<sup>2</sup></b>
Nov through April	15.0	22.5	9	13.5
May and June	47.9	72.6	29	43.5
July and August	29.0	43.8	17.5	26.25
September and Oct	22.4	33.5	13.4	20.1

a. The allowable 7-Day average limits are calculated as 1.5 times the allowable 30-day average as stated in Table 7-1 of the TMDL.

### **Response No. 1:**

See response to NMED comment No. 4.

### **Village of Taos Ski Valley Comment No. 2:**

The VTSV requests a correction to the Fact Sheet narrative text. The text states that TN effluent limits are associated with Phase V; however, the VTSV requests that TN limits associated with Phase IV be incorporated into the permit as described above.

Page 10 of the 2017 draft Fact Sheet states:

*“According to information provided by the facility, a sufficient number of septic systems have been captured by permittee to allow for the use of Phase V total nitrogen limits established by the current permit. The proposed permit will continue to utilize the Phase V seasonal total nitrogen limits established by the current permit.”*

As detailed in the previous comment, the VTSV demonstrates that a 78% capture of the TN load allocation has been attained as outlined in the TMDL. The permit text should be corrected to show that Phase IV seasonal total nitrogen limits are established in the 2017 permit.

### **Response No. 2:**

Comment noted for the record.

### **Village of Taos Ski Valley Comment No. 3:**

The VTSV requests removal of the daily maximum total residual chlorine (TRC) effluent limit from the permit, or a reduced monitoring frequency.

According to the EPA's "NMIP" document *"Procedures for Implementing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits in New Mexico (2009)"*, a TRC effluent limit must be included in the permit "[i]n instances where a facility uses chlorine for disinfection of the wastewater or is used as an emergency back-up to a system using another bacteria control technology such as ultraviolet light, or is used to remove filamentaceous algae, or when chlorine is used to disinfect process equipment used at the facility..." (p. 29)

Based on the NMIP document, it appears that the VTSV WWTF discharge permit should not include a TRC limit. For 30 years, the VTSV has used UV for disinfection. Chlorine is not used by the facility as a back-up to the UV system, or for filament control, or for disinfection of equipment, or for any other purpose associated with operation of the WWTF. Further, the facility does not sample or analyze effluent for TRC because this is only required by the permit during periods of chlorine use (See 2017 draft discharge permit, p. 2 of PART footnote \*4) and the facility never uses chlorine. For the reasons stated, and because there is no expected threat to aquatic life or wildlife associated with TRC in the effluent discharge, the VTSV requests removal of the TRC permit limit, or at a minimum, a reduction of monitoring frequency.

**Response No. 3:**

Footnote has No. 4 has been expanded to state that chlorine monitoring required only when used for effluent disinfection or other treatment processes at the facility. The permittee may report "not in use" for those periods when no chlorine is used.

**Village of Taos Ski Valley Comment No. 4:**

The VTSV requests that the 6-hour composite sample requirement for ammonia, total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorus (TP), biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), and total suspended solids (TSS) be changed to a more representative 24-hour composite sample requirement.

The VTSV believes that a 24-hour composite sample better represents VTSV's effluent pollutant concentrations than a 6-hour composite sample based on facility operations. The VTSV uses equalization basins to temper flows and loading experienced by the WWTF throughout the year. The equalization basins allow the WWTF to optimize its treatment process by spreading the influence of peak flows and loads over time. Flow equalization prevents process upsets that occur during spikes to inflows and loading, and helps the facility address problems associated with highly variable flows that occur due to infiltration and tourism. In addition, allowing 24-hour composite samples would resolve issues with getting the samples to the contract laboratories for analysis within sample holding times. Therefore, the VTSV requests that the 2017 draft permit be modified to require 24-hour composite samples for ammonia, TN, TP, BOD, and TSS.

**Response No. 4:**

Ammonia-Nitrogen, Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorous sample types have been changed from 6-hour composite to 24-hour composite.

**Village of Taos Ski Valley Comment No. 5:**

VTSV requests that the BOD and TSS minimum percent removal value be moved from the "Storet Code" column to the "30-Day AVG" column in the "Limitations and Monitoring Requirements" table found on p. 1 of PART I of the 2017 draft permit.

**Response No. 5:**

Table A.1 in PART A has been updated.

**Private Citizen Comment No. 1:**

Thank you for taking comments on the above-referenced permit.

Our home, including well and irrigation ditch, is in the Rio Hondo watershed, downstream from the Taos Ski Valley. We will be directly impacted by the above-referenced proposed water waste treatment plant.

We are very worried that our water will be adversely impacted by this plant. In the event that it is approved, it is imperative that all measures be taken by Taos Ski Valley to ensure the health, safety and welfare of our only water source for us, our family and visitors.

We use this water for, among other things, irrigation, wildlife habitat, fishing, livestock watering, and also make personal contact with it while maintaining our ditch and property. Our neighbors do, too.

This water source cannot be compromised in any way and we respectfully ask that you deny any permit that adversely impacts our water source.

Please feel free to contact us if you would like to discuss this matter further. Thank you very much for your consideration and courtesies. Our and our community's health, safety and welfare rests upon the EPA's decision.

Sincerely yours,  
William S. Macdonald  
Lenore L. Macdonald  
5 Mel & Stella Lane  
PO Box 732  
Arroyo Seco, NM 87514  
575.776.1357

**Response No. 1:**

Comment noted, however, this is renewal of an existing permit with limitations protective of State water quality standards. Upgrades to existing treatment will improve treatment capability, not create a new discharge.



REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

NPDES Permit No NM0022101

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## AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq; the "Act"),

Village of Taos Ski Valley  
38 Ocean Blvd.  
Taos Ski Valley, NM 87525

is authorized to discharge to receiving waters named Rio Hondo, of the Rio Grande Basin in the Waterbody Segment Code No. 20.6.4.129, from a facility located at 38 Ocean Blvd., Taos Ski Valley in Taos County, New Mexico.

The discharge is located on that water at the following coordinates:

Outfall 001: Latitude 36° 35' 46" North and Longitude 105° 27' 38" West

in accordance with this cover page and the effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in Part I, Part II, Part III, and Part IV hereof.

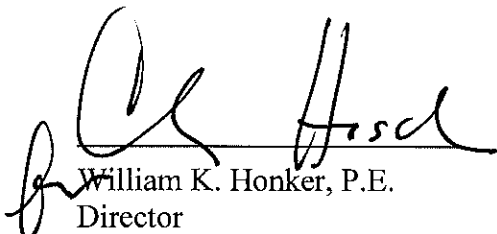
This permit supersedes and replaces NPDES Permit No. NM0022101 issued August 4, 2011.


This permit shall become effective on *NOVEMBER 1, 2017*

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, *OCTOBER 31, 2022*

Issued on *27 SEP 2017*

Prepared by

  
William K. Honker, P.E.  
Director  
Water Division (6WQ)

  
Jim Afghani  
Environmental Engineer  
Permitting Section (6WQ-PP)

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*[Faint handwritten signature or initials]*

**PART I – REQUIREMENTS FOR NPDES PERMITS****A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS****1. Effluent Limits – 0.167 MGD Design Flow**

Beginning the effective date of the permit and lasting through the expiration date of the permit (unless otherwise noted), the permittee is authorized to discharge treated municipal wastewater to the Rio Hondo, in Segment Number 20.6.4.129, from Outfall 001. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
		Standard Units			
POLLUTANT	STORET CODE	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
pH	00400	6.6	8.8	Five/week	Grab

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS							
		lbs/day, unless noted			mg/L, unless noted (*1)			MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
POLLUTANT	STORET CODE	30-DAY AVG	DAILY MAX	7-DAY AVG	30-DAY AVG	DAILY MAX	7-DAY AVG	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
Flow	50050	Report MGD	Report MGD	Report MGD	N/A	N/A	N/A	Daily	Totalizing Meter
Biochemical Oxygen Demand, 5-day	00310								
November 1- April 30		23.8	N/A	35.7	30	N/A	45	Twice/Month (*2)	Grab
May 1 - October 31		23.8	N/A	35.7	30	N/A	45	Once/Month	Grab
Total Suspended Solids	00530								
November 1- April 30		23.8	N/A	35.7	30	N/A	45	Twice/Month (*2)	Grab
May 1 - October 31		23.8	N/A	35.7	30	N/A	45	Once/Month	Grab
Biochemical Oxygen Demand, 5-day, minimum % removal	NA	≥85%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Once/Month	Calculation (*8)
Total Suspended Solids minimum % removal	NA	≥85%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Once/Month	Calculation (*8)
<i>E. coli</i> Bacteria	51040	N/A	N/A	N/A	126 (*3)	235 (*3)	N/A	Twice/Month (*2)	Grab

Fecal Coliform Bacteria	74055	N/A	N/A	N/A	200 (*3)	400 (*3)	N/A	Twice/Month (*2)	Grab
Total Residual Chlorine	50060	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	19 µg/l	N/A	Five/Week	Instantaneous Grab (*4)
Ammonia-Nitrogen	00610	5.34	N/A	5.34	3.2	N/A	3.2	Twice/Month (*2)	24-Hour Composite
November 1- April 30		5.34	N/A	5.34	3.2	N/A	3.2	Once/Month	24-Hour Composite
May 1 - October 31									
Total Nitrogen (*5)	00600	13.65	N/A	20.5	8.2	N/A	12.3	Once/Week	24-Hour Composite
November 1- April 30		46.55	N/A	68.8	27.9	N/A	41.2	Once/Month	24-Hour Composite
May 1 - June 30		27.7	N/A	41.6	16.6	N/A	24.9	Once/Month	24-Hour Composite
July 1 - August 31		21.1	N/A	31.7	12.7	N/A	19	Once/Month	24-Hour Composite
September 1 - October 31									
Total Phosphorus	00665	0.8	N/A	1.2	0.5	N/A	0.75	Twice/Month (*2)	24-Hour Composite
November 1- April 30		1.6	N/A	2.4	1.0	N/A	1.5	Once/Month	24-Hour Composite
May 1 - June 30		1.2	N/A	1.8	1.5	N/A	2.25	Once/Month	24-Hour Composite
July 1 - August 31		0.8	N/A	1.2	2.5	N/A	3.75	Once/Month	24-Hour Composite
September 1 - October 31									

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS	DISCHARGE MONITORING		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING (*6) (48-Hour Static Renewal)	30-DAY AVG MINIMUM	48-HR MINIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
<i>Daphnia pulex</i>	Report	Report	1/12 months (*7)	24-Hr Composite
<i>Pimephales promelas</i>	Report	Report	1/12 months (*7)	24-Hr Composite

**Footnotes:**

- \*1 See **Appendix A of Part II** of the permit for the required Minimum Quantification Level (MQL).
- \*2 Sampling at least ten days apart.
- \*3 Colony forming units (cfu) per 100 ml or most probable number (MPN).
- \*4 Chlorine monitoring required only when used for effluent disinfection or other treatment processes at the facility. The permittee may report "not in use" for those periods when no chlorine is used. The effluent limitation for TRC is the instantaneous maximum grab sample taken during periods of chlorine use and cannot be averaged for reporting purposes. Instantaneous maximum is defined in 40 CFR Part 136 as being measured within 15 minutes of sampling.
- \*5 Total Nitrogen is defined as the sum of Total Kjeldhal Nitrogen (as N) and Nitrate-Nitrate (as N). See EPA Methods 351 and 353.
- \*6 Monitoring and reporting requirements begin on the effective date of this permit. See PART II, Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements for additional WET monitoring and reporting conditions.
- \*7 The discharge shall be tested between November 1 and April 30.
- \*8 Percent removal is calculated using the following equation:  

$$[\text{average monthly influent concentration (mg/l)} - \text{average monthly effluent concentration (mg/l)}] \div [\text{average monthly influent concentration (mg/l)}] \times 100.$$

**FLOATING SOLIDS, VISIBLE FOAM AND/OR OILS**

There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts. There shall be no discharge of visible films of oil, globules of oil, grease or solids in or on the water, or coatings on stream banks. Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the discharge from the final treatment unit prior to the receiving stream.

**B. SCHEDULE OF COMPLIANCE**

None.

**C. MONITORING AND REPORTING (MAJOR DISCHARGERS)**

Monitoring information shall be on Discharge Monitoring Report Form(s) EPA 3320-1 as specified in Part III.D.4 of this permit and shall be submitted monthly.

1. The permittee shall effectively monitor the operations and efficiency of all treatment and control facilities and the quantity and quality of the treated discharge.
2. Monitoring information shall be submitted electronically. To submit electronically, access the NetDMR website at [www.epa.gov/netdmr](http://www.epa.gov/netdmr) and contact the [R6NetDMR.epa.gov](mailto:R6NetDMR.epa.gov) in-box for further instructions. See Part III, D.4 of the permit.
  - a. Reporting periods shall end on the last day of the month.
  - b. The permittee is required to submit regular monthly reports as described above postmarked no later than the 15th day of the month following each reporting period.
  - c. The annual sludge report required in Part IV of the permit is due on February 19 of each year and covers the previous calendar year from January 1- December 31.
3. If any 30-day average, monthly average or daily maximum value exceeds the effluent limitations specified in Part I.A, the permittee shall report the excursion in accordance with the requirements of Part III.D.
4. Any 30-day average, monthly average, or daily maximum value reported in the required DMR which is in excess of the effluent limitation specified in Part I.A shall constitute evidence of violation of such effluent limitation and of this permit.
5. Other measurements of oxygen demand (e.g., TOC and COD) may be substituted for five-day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>) or for five-day Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD<sub>5</sub>), as applicable, where the permittee can demonstrate long-term correlation of the method with BOD<sub>5</sub> or CBOD<sub>5</sub> values, as applicable. Details of the correlation procedures used must be submitted and prior approval granted by the permitting authority for this procedure to be acceptable. Data reported must also include evidence to show that the proper correlation continues to exist after approval.

6. The permittee shall report all overflows with the DMR submittal. These reports shall be summarized and reported in tabular format. The summaries shall include: the date, time, duration, location, estimated volume, and cause of the overflow; observed environmental impacts from the overflow; actions taken to address the overflow; and ultimate discharge location if not contained (e.g., storm sewer system, ditch, tributary).

Any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment shall also be orally reported to the following entities as soon as possible, but within 12 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance: Pueblo of Taos at (575) 751-4601, New Mexico Environment Department at (505) 827-0187, Acequia de la Plaza at (505) 776-1333, Acequia de Atalaya at (505) 753-4504, Acequia de los Prandos at (505) (505) 660-2272, Acequia de San Antonio at (505) 466-3646, Acequia Madre del Llano at (505) 613-0555, Cononcito North & South at (505) 776-8445, Des Montes/Acequia del Llano Mariposa at (505) 776-2950 and Rebalse Ditch at (505) 776-2796.

A written report of overflows which endanger health or the environment shall be provided to EPA, Pueblo of Taos, and New Mexico Environment Department within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance.

7. The permittee shall submit a copy of an annual summary of the data that results from whole effluent toxicity testing to each of the following entities:

Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office  
2105 Osuna NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113

EPA  
Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division  
Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-W)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Program Manager, Surface Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
P.O. Box 5469, 1190 Saint Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469

Pueblo of Taos  
Environmental Office Program Manager  
P.O. Box 1846, Taos, NM 87571

#### **D. OVERFLOW REPORTING**

The permittee shall report all overflows with the DMR submittal. These reports shall be summarized and reported in tabular format. The summaries shall include: date, time, duration, location, estimated volume, and cause of the overflow. They shall also include observed

environmental impacts from the overflow; actions taken to address the overflow; and, the ultimate discharge location if not contained (e.g., storm sewer system, ditch, and tributary).

Overflows that endanger health or the environment shall be orally reported to EPA at (214) 665-6595, Pueblo of Taos at (575) 751-4601 and NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau at (505) 827-0187, within 12 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance. A written report of overflows that endanger health or the environment shall be provided to EPA, Pueblo of Taos, and NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance.

#### **E. POLLUTION PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS**

The permittee shall institute a program within 12 months of the effective date of the permit (or continue an existing one) directed towards optimizing the efficiency and extending the useful life of the facility. The permittee shall consider the following items in the program:

- a. The influent loadings, flow and design capacity;
- b. The effluent quality and plant performance;
- c. The age and expected life of the wastewater treatment facility's equipment;
- d. Bypasses and overflows of the tributary sewerage system and treatment works;
- e. New developments at the facility;
- f. Operator certification and training plans and status;
- g. The financial status of the facility;
- h. Preventative maintenance programs and equipment conditions and;
- i. An overall evaluation of conditions at the facility.

## PART II - OTHER CONDITIONS

### A. MINIMUM QUANTIFICATION LEVEL (MQL)

The permittee shall use sufficiently sensitive EPA-approved analytical methods (under 40 CFR part 136 or required under 40 CFR chapter I, subchapters N or O) when quantifying the presence of pollutants in a discharge for analyses of pollutants or pollutant parameters under the permit. In case the approved methods are not sufficiently sensitive to the limits, the most sufficiently sensitive methods (lowest minimum levels) must be used as defined under 40 CFR 122.44(i)(1)(iv)(A). The following pollutants may not have EPA approved methods with a published ML at or below the effluent limit, if specified:

POLLUTANT	CAS Number	STORET Code
Total Residual Chlorine	7782-50-5	50060
Cadmium	7440-43-9	01027
Silver	7440-22-4	01077
Thallium	7440-28-0	01059
Cyanide	57-12-5	78248
Dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD)	1764-01-6	34675
4, 6-Dinitro-0-Cresol	534-52-1	34657
Pentachlorophenol	87-86-5	39032
Benzidine	92-87-5	39120
Chrysene	218-01-9	34320
Hexachlorobenzene	118-74-1	39700
N-Nitrosodimethylamine	62-75-9	34438
Aldrin	309-00-2	39330
Chlordane	57-74-9	39350
Dieldrin	60-57-1	39380
Heptachlor	76-44-8	39410
Heptachlor epoxide	1024-57-3	39420
Toxaphene	8001-35-2	39400

For pollutants listed on Appendix A of Part II with MQL's, analyses *may* be performed to the listed MQL. If any individual analytical test result is less than the MQL listed, a value of zero (0) may be used for that pollutant result for the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) reporting requirements.

In addition, any additional pollutant sampling for purposes of this permit, including renewal applications or any other reporting, may be tested to the MQL, permit limit(s) or the state WQS. Results of analyses that are less than the listed MQL, permit limit(s) or the state WQS may be reported as "non-detect."

Upon written approval by the EPA Region 6 NPDES Permits Branch (6WQ-P), the effluent specific MQL may be utilized by the permittee for all future DMR reporting requirements until/or unless changes are required for adoption of a lower MQL.

### B. 24-HOUR ORAL REPORTING: DAILY MAXIMUM LIMITATION VIOLATIONS

Under the provisions of Part III.D.7.b.(3) of this permit, violations of daily maximum limitations for the following pollutants shall be reported orally to EPA Region 6, Compliance and Assurance Division, Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-W), Dallas, Texas, and concurrently to NMED and Pueblo of Taos within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the violation followed by a written report in five days.

*E. coli* Bacteria, Fecal Coliform Bacteria and TRC**C. PERMIT MODIFICATION AND REOPENER**

In accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.44(d), the permit may be reopened and modified during the life of the permit if relevant portions of the Pueblo of Taos and/or New Mexico's Water Quality Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Streams are revised, or new Pueblo of Taos and/or State of New Mexico water quality standards are established and/or remanded.

In accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.62(s)(2), the permit may be reopened and modified if new information is received that was not available at the time of permit issuance that would have justified the application of different permit conditions at the time of permit issuance. Permit modifications shall reflect the results of any of these actions and shall follow regulations listed at 40 CFR Part 124.5.

**D. CONTRIBUTING INDUSTRIES AND PRETREATMENT REQUIREMENTS**

- a. The following pollutants may not be introduced into the treatment facility:
  1. Pollutants which create a fire or explosion hazard in the publicly owned treatment works (POTW), including, but not limited to, waste streams with a closed cup flashpoint of less than 140 degrees Fahrenheit or 60 degrees Centigrade using the test methods specified in 40 CFR 261.21;
  2. Pollutants which will cause corrosive structural damage to the POTW, but in no case discharges with pH lower than 5.0, unless the works are specifically designed to accommodate such discharges;
  3. Solid or viscous pollutants in amounts which will cause obstruction to the flow in the POTW, resulting in Interference;
  4. Any pollutant, including oxygen demanding pollutants (e.g., BOD), released in a discharge at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which will cause Interference with the POTW;
  5. Heat in amounts which will inhibit biological activity in the POTW resulting in interference but in no case heat in such quantities that the temperature at the POTW treatment plant exceeds 40 degrees Centigrade (104 degrees Fahrenheit) unless the Approval Authority, upon request of the POTW, approves alternate temperature limits;
  6. Petroleum oil, non-biodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral oil origin in amounts that will cause interference or pass through;
  7. Pollutants which result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors, or fumes within the POTW in a quantity that may cause acute worker health and safety problems; and
  8. Any trucked or hauled pollutants, except at discharge points designated by the POTW.
- b. The permittee shall require any indirect discharger to the treatment works to comply with the reporting requirements of Sections 204(b), 307, and 308 of the Act, including any requirements established under 40 CFR Part 403.

- c. The permittee shall provide adequate notice of the following:
- i. Any new introduction of pollutants into the treatment works from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Sections 301 and 306 of the Act if it were directly discharging those pollutants; and
  - ii. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the treatment works by a source introducing pollutants into the treatment works at the time of issuance of the permit.

Any notice shall include information on (i) the quality and quantity of effluent to be introduced into the treatment works, and (ii) any anticipated impact of the change on the quality or quantity of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.

#### **E. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING (48-HOUR ACUTE NOEC FRESHWATER)**

*It is unlawful and a violation of this permit for a permittee or his designated agent, to manipulate test samples in any manner, to delay sample shipment, or to terminate or to cause to terminate a toxicity test. Once initiated, all toxicity tests must be completed unless specific authority has been granted by EPA Region 6 or the State NPDES permitting authority.*

##### **1. SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY**

- a. The permittee shall test the effluent for toxicity in accordance with the provisions in this section.

APPLICABLE TO FINAL OUTFALL(S):	001
REPORTED AS FINAL OUTFALL:	001
CRITICAL DILUTION (%):	44%
EFFLUENT DILUTION SERIES (%):	19%, 25%, 33%, 44%, 59%.
COMPOSITE SAMPLE TYPE:	Defined at PART I
TEST SPECIES/METHODS:	40 CFR Part 136

Daphnia pulex acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using EPA 821 R 02 012, or the latest update thereof. A minimum of five (5) replicates with eight (8) organisms per replicate must be used in the control and in each effluent dilution of this test.

Pimephales promelas (Fathead minnow) acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using EPA 821 R 02 012, or the latest update thereof. A minimum of five (5) replicates with eight (8) organisms per replicate must be used in the control and in each effluent dilution of this test.

- b. The NOEC (No Observed Lethal Effect Concentration) is defined as the greatest effluent dilution at and below which lethality that is statistically different from the control (0% effluent) at the 95% confidence level does not occur. Acute test failure is defined as a demonstration of a statistically significant lethal effect at test completion to a test species at or below the critical dilution.
- c. This permit may be reopened to require whole effluent toxicity limits, chemical specific effluent limits, additional testing, and/or other appropriate actions to address toxicity.

- d. Test failure is defined as a demonstration of statistically significant lethal effects to a test species at or below the effluent critical dilution.
- e. This permit does not establish requirements to automatically increase the WET testing frequency after a test failure, or to begin a toxicity reduction evaluation (TRE) in the event of multiple test failures. However, upon failure of any WET test, the permittee must report the test results to NMED, Surface Water Quality Bureau, in writing, within 5 business days of notification of the test failure. NMED will review the test results and determine the appropriate action necessary, if any.

## 2. REQUIRED TOXICITY TESTING CONDITIONS

### a. Test Acceptance

The permittee shall repeat a test, including the control and all effluent dilutions, if the procedures and quality assurance requirements defined in the test methods or in this permit are not satisfied, including the following additional criteria:

- i. Each toxicity test control (0% effluent) must have a survival equal to or greater than 90%.
- ii. The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the control (0% effluent) for: *Daphnia pulex* survival test; and Fathead minnow survival test.
- iii. The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the critical dilution, unless significant lethal effects are exhibited for: *Daphnia pulex* survival test; and Fathead minnow survival test. Test failure may not be construed or reported as invalid due to a coefficient of variation value of greater than 40%. A repeat test shall be conducted within the required reporting period of any test determined to be invalid.

### b. Statistical Interpretation

For the *Daphnia pulex* survival test and the Fathead minnow survival test, the statistical analyses used to determine if there is a statistically significant difference between the control and the critical dilution shall be in accordance with the methods for determining the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) as described in EPA 821 R 02 012 or the most recent update thereof.

If the conditions of Test Acceptability are met in Item 2.a above and the percent survival of the test organism is equal to or greater than 90% in the critical dilution concentration and all lower dilution concentrations, the test shall be considered to be a passing test, and the permittee shall report an NOEC of not less than the critical dilution for the reporting requirements found in Item 3 below.

### c. Dilution Water

- i. Dilution water used in the toxicity tests will be receiving water collected as close to the point of discharge as possible but unaffected by the discharge. The permittee shall substitute synthetic dilution water of similar pH, hardness, and alkalinity to the closest downstream perennial water for;

A. toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges to receiving water classified as intermittent streams; and

B. toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges where no receiving water is available due to zero flow conditions.

- ii. If the receiving water is unsatisfactory as a result of instream toxicity (fails to fulfill the test acceptance criteria of Item 3.a), the permittee may substitute synthetic dilution water for the

receiving water in all subsequent tests provided the unacceptable receiving water test met the following stipulations:

- A. a synthetic dilution water control which fulfills the test acceptance requirements of Item 3. was run concurrently with the receiving water control;
- B. the test indicating receiving water toxicity has been carried out to completion (i.e., 48 hours);
- C. the permittee includes all test results indicating receiving water toxicity with the full report and information required by Item 4 below; and
- D. the synthetic dilution water shall have a pH, hardness, and alkalinity similar to that of the receiving water or closest downstream perennial water not adversely affected by the discharge, provided the magnitude of these parameters will not cause toxicity in the synthetic dilution water.

d. Samples and Composites

- i. The permittee shall collect two flow weighted composite samples from the outfall(s) listed at item 1a above.
- ii. The permittee shall collect a second composite sample for use during the 24 hour renewal of each dilution concentration for both tests. The permittee must collect the composite samples so that the maximum holding time for any effluent sample shall not exceed 36 hours. The permittee must have initiated the toxicity test within 36 hours after the collection of the last portion of the first composite sample. Samples shall be chilled to 6 degrees Centigrade during collection, shipping, and/or storage.
- iii. The permittee must collect the composite samples such that the effluent samples are representative of any periodic episode of chlorination, biocide usage or other potentially toxic substance discharged on an intermittent basis.
- iv. If the flow from the outfall(s) being tested ceases during the collection of effluent samples, the requirements for the minimum number of effluent samples, the minimum number of effluent portions and the sample holding time are waived during that sampling period. However, the permittee must collect an effluent composite sample volume during the period of discharge that is sufficient to complete the required toxicity tests with daily renewal of effluent. When possible, the effluent samples used for the toxicity tests shall be collected on separate days. The effluent composite sample collection duration and the static renewal protocol associated with the abbreviated sample collection must be documented in the full report required in Item 3 of this section.

3. REPORTING

- a. The permittee shall prepare a full report of the results of all tests conducted pursuant to this Part in accordance with the Report Preparation Section of EPA 821 R 02 012, for every valid or invalid toxicity test initiated, whether carried to completion or not. The permittee shall retain each full report pursuant to the provisions of PART III.C.3 of this permit. The permittee shall submit full reports upon the specific request of the Agency. For any test which fails, is considered invalid or which is terminated early for any reason, the full report must be submitted for agency review.
- b. A valid test for each species must be reported during each reporting period specified in PART I of this permit unless the permittee is performing a TRE which may increase the frequency of testing and

reporting. Only ONE set of biomonitoring data for each species is to be recorded for each reporting period. The data submitted should reflect the LOWEST Survival results for each species during the reporting period. All invalid tests, repeat tests (for invalid tests), and retests (for tests previously failed) performed during the reporting period must be attached for EPA review.

- c. The permittee shall report the following results of each valid toxicity test. Submit retest information, if required, clearly marked as such. Only results of valid tests are to be reported.

i. Pimephales promelas (Fathead minnow)

A. If the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) for survival is less than the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TEM6C.

B. Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOM6C.

C. Report the highest (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQM6C.

ii. Daphnia pulex

A. If the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TEM3D.

B. Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOM3D.

C. Report the highest (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQM3D.

- d. If retests are required by NMED, enter the following codes:

i. For retest number 1, Parameter 22415, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."

ii. For retest number 2, Parameter 22416, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."

## APPENDIX A of PART II

The following Minimum Quantification Levels (MQL's) are to be used for reporting pollutant data for NPDES permit applications and/or compliance reporting.

POLLUTANTS	MQL µg/l	POLLUTANTS	MQL µg/l
<b>METALS, RADIOACTIVITY, CYANIDE and CHLORINE</b>			
Aluminum	2.5	Molybdenum	10
Antimony	60	Nickel	0.5
Arsenic	0.5	Selenium	5
Barium	100	Silver	0.5
Beryllium	0.5	Thallium	0.5
Boron	100	Uranium	0.1
Cadmium	1	Vanadium	50
Chromium	10	Zinc	20
Cobalt	50	Cyanide	10
Copper	0.5	Cyanide, weak acid dissociable	10
Lead	0.5	Total Residual Chlorine	33
Mercury *1	0.0005		
	0.005		
<b>DIOXIN</b>			
2,3,7,8-TCDD	0.00001		
<b>VOLATILE COMPOUNDS</b>			
Acrolein	50	1,3-Dichloropropylene	10
Acrylonitrile	20	Ethylbenzene	10
Benzene	10	Methyl Bromide	50
Bromoform	10	Methylene Chloride	20
Carbon Tetrachloride	2	1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	10
Chlorobenzene	10	Tetrachloroethylene	10
Chlorodibromomethane	10	Toluene	10
Chloroform	50	1,2-trans-Dichloroethylene	10
Dichlorobromomethane	10	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	10
1,2-Dichloroethane	10	Trichloroethylene	10
1,1-Dichloroethylene	10	Vinyl Chloride	10
1,2-Dichloropropane	10		
<b>ACID COMPOUNDS</b>			
2-Chlorophenol	10	2,4-Dinitrophenol	50
2,4-Dichlorophenol	10	Pentachlorophenol	5
2,4-Dimethylphenol	10	Phenol	10
4,6-Dinitro-o-Cresol	50	2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	10

<b>POLLUTANTS</b>	<b>MLQ µg/l</b>	<b>POLLUTANTS</b>	<b>MLQ µg/l</b>
<b>BASE/NEUTRAL</b>			
Acenaphthene	10	Dimethyl Phthalate	10
Anthracene	10	Di-n-Butyl Phthalate	10
Ben-zidine	50	2,4-Dinitrotoluene	10
Benzo(a)anthracene	5	1,2-Diphenylhydrazine	20
Benzo(a)pyrene	5	Fluoranthene	10
3,4-Benzofluoranthene	10	Fluorene	10
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	5	Hexachlorobenzene	5
Bis(2-chloroethyl)Ether	10	Hexachlorobutadiene	10
Bis(2-chloroisopropyl)Ether	10	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	10
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)Phthalate	10	Hexachloroethane	20
Butyl Benzyl Phthalate	10	Indeno(1,2,3-cd)Pyrene	5
2-Chloronaphthalene	10	Isophorone	10
Chrysene	5	Nitrobenzene	10
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	5	n-Nitrosodimethylamine	50
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	10	n-Nitrosodi-n-Propylamine	20
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	10	n-Nitrosodiphenylamine	20
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	10	Pyrene	10
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine	5	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	10
Diethyl Phthalate	10		
<b>PESTICIDES AND PCBS</b>			
Aldrin	0.01	Beta-Endosulfan	0.02
Alpha-BHC	0.05	Endosulfan sulfate	0.02
Beta-BHC	0.05	Endrin	0.02
Gamma-BHC	0.05	Endrin Aldehyde	0.1
Chlordane	0.2	Heptachlor	0.01
4,4'-DDT and derivatives	0.02	Heptachlor Epoxide	0.01
Dieldrin	0.02	PCBs	0.2
Alpha-Endosulfan	0.01	Toxaphene	0.3

(MLQ's Revised November 1, 2007)

## Footnotes:

- \*1 Default MLQ for Mercury is 0.005 unless Part I of your permit requires the more sensitive Method 1631 (Oxidation / Purge and Trap / Cold vapor Atomic Fluorescence Spectrometry), then the MLQ shall be 0.0005.

**PART III - STANDARD CONDITIONS FOR NPDES PERMITS****A. GENERAL CONDITIONS****1. INTRODUCTION**

In accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Part 122.41, et. seq., this permit incorporates by reference ALL conditions and requirements applicable to NPDES Permits set forth in the Clean Water Act, as amended, (hereinafter known as the "Act") as well as ALL applicable regulations.

**2. DUTY TO COMPLY**

The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Act and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or for denial of a permit renewal application.

**3. TOXIC POLLUTANTS**

a. Notwithstanding Part III.A.5, if any toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is promulgated under Section 307(a) of the Act 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.

b. The permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the Act 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.

**4. DUTY TO REAPPLY**

If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit. The application shall be submitted at least 180 days before the expiration date of this permit. The Director may grant permission to submit an application less than 180 days in advance but no later than the permit expiration date. Continuation of expiring permits shall be governed by regulations promulgated at 40 CFR Part 122.6 and any subsequent amendments.

**5. PERMIT FLEXIBILITY**

This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause in accordance with 40 CFR 122.62-64. The filing of a request for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition.

**6. PROPERTY RIGHTS**

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

**7. DUTY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION**

The permittee shall furnish to the Director, within a reasonable time, any information which the Director may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit, or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the Director, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

**8. CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LIABILITY**

Except as provided in permit conditions on "Bypassing" and "Upsets", nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance. Any false or materially misleading representation or concealment of information required to be reported by the provisions of the permit, the Act, or applicable regulations, which avoids or effectively defeats the regulatory purpose of the Permit may subject the Permittee to criminal enforcement pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1001.

**9. OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE LIABILITY**

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under Section 311 of the Act.

**10. STATE LAWS**

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable State law or regulation under authority preserved by Section 510 of the Act.

#### 11. SEVERABILITY

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

### B. PROPER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

#### 1. NEED TO HALT OR REDUCE NOT A DEFENSE

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 this permit. The permittee is responsible for maintaining adequate safeguards to prevent the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated wastes during electrical power failure either by means of alternate power sources, standby generators or retention of inadequately treated effluent.

#### 2. DUTY TO MITIGATE

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

#### 3. PROPER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

a. The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by permittee as efficiently as possible and in a manner which will minimize upsets and discharges of excessive pollutants and will achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which are installed by a permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit.

b. The permittee shall provide an adequate operating staff which is duly qualified to carry out operation, maintenance and testing functions required to insure compliance with the conditions of this permit.

#### 4. BYPASS OF TREATMENT FACILITIES

##### a. BYPASS NOT EXCEEDING LIMITATIONS

The permittee may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions of Parts III.B.4.b. and 4.c.

##### b. NOTICE

###### (1) ANTICIPATED BYPASS

If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice, if possible at least ten days before the date of the bypass.

###### (2) UNANTICIPATED BYPASS

The permittee shall, within 24 hours, submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in Part III.D.7.

##### c. PROHIBITION OF BYPASS

(1) Bypass is prohibited, and the Director may take enforcement action against a permittee for bypass, unless:

(a) Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;

(b) There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and,

(c) The permittee submitted notices as required by Part III.B.4.b.

(2) The Director may allow an anticipated bypass after considering its adverse effects, if the Director determines that it will meet the three conditions listed at Part III.B.4.c(1).

## 5. UPSET CONDITIONS

### a. EFFECT OF AN UPSET

An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology-based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of Part III.B.5.b. are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review.

### b. CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR A DEMONSTRATION OF UPSET

A permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:

- (1) An upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset;
- (2) The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated;
- (3) The permittee submitted notice of the upset as required by Part III.D.7; and,
- (4) The permittee complied with any remedial measures required by Part III.B.2.

### c. BURDEN OF PROOF

In any enforcement proceeding, the permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

## 6. REMOVED SUBSTANCES

Unless otherwise authorized, solids, sewage sludges, filter backwash, or other pollutants removed in the course of treatment or wastewater control shall be disposed of in a manner such as to prevent any pollutant from such materials from entering navigable waters.

## 7. PERCENT REMOVAL (PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS)

For publicly owned treatment works, the 30-day average (or Monthly Average) percent removal for Biochemical Oxygen Demand and Total Suspended Solids shall not be less than 85 percent unless otherwise authorized by the permitting authority in accordance with 40 CFR 133.103.

## C. MONITORING AND RECORDS

### 1. INSPECTION AND ENTRY

The permittee shall allow the Director, or an authorized representative, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by the law to:

- a. Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- c. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices or operations regulated or required under this permit; and
- d. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

### 2. REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLING

Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.

### 3. RETENTION OF RECORDS

The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report, or application. This period may be extended by request of the Director at any time.

### 4. RECORD CONTENTS

Records of monitoring information shall include:

- a. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;

- b. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
- c. The date(s) and time(s) analyses were performed;
- d. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
- e. The analytical techniques or methods used; and
- f. The results of such analyses.

#### 5. MONITORING PROCEDURES

- a. Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136, unless other test procedures have been specified in this permit or approved by the Regional Administrator.
- b. The permittee shall calibrate and perform maintenance procedures on all monitoring and analytical instruments at intervals frequent enough to insure accuracy of measurements and shall maintain appropriate records of such activities.
- c. An adequate analytical quality control program, including the analyses of sufficient standards, spikes, and duplicate samples to insure the accuracy of all required analytical results shall be maintained by the permittee or designated commercial laboratory.

#### 6. FLOW MEASUREMENTS

Appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. The devices shall be installed, calibrated, and maintained to insure that the accuracy of the measurements is consistent with the accepted capability of that type of device. Devices selected shall be capable of measuring flows with a maximum deviation of less than 10% from true discharge rates throughout the range of expected discharge volumes.

### D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

#### 1. PLANNED CHANGES

##### a. INDUSTRIAL PERMITS

The permittee shall give notice to the Director as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required only when:

- (1) The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR Part 122.29(b); or,
- (2) The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements listed at Part III.D.10.a.

##### b. MUNICIPAL PERMITS

Any change in the facility discharge (including the introduction of any new source or significant discharge or significant changes in the quantity or quality of existing discharges of pollutants) must be reported to the permitting authority. In no case are any new connections, increased flows, or significant changes in influent quality permitted that will cause violation of the effluent limitations specified herein.

#### 2. ANTICIPATED NONCOMPLIANCE

The permittee shall give advance notice to the Director of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.

#### 3. TRANSFERS

This permit is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Director. The Director may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the permit to change the name of the permittee and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the Act.

#### 4. DISCHARGE MONITORING REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS

Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) results shall be electronically reported to EPA per 40 CFR 127.16. To submit electronically, access the NetDMR website at <https://netdmr.epa.gov>. Until approved for Net DMR, the permittee shall request temporary or emergency waivers from electronic reporting. To obtain the waiver, please contact: U.S. EPA - Region 6, Water

Enforcement Branch, New Mexico State Coordinator (6EN-WC), (214) 665-6468. If paper reporting is granted temporarily, the permittee shall submit the original DMR signed and certified as required by Part III.D.11 and all other reports required by Part III.D. to the EPA and copies to NMED as required. Duplicate copies of all other reports shall be submitted to NMED at the following address(es):

EPA:

Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division  
Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-W)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

New Mexico:

Program Manager  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
P.O. Box 5469  
1190 Saint Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469

5. ADDITIONAL MONITORING BY THE PERMITTEE

If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this permit, using test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or as specified in this permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR). Such increased monitoring frequency shall also be indicated on the DMR.

6. AVERAGING OF MEASUREMENTS

Calculations for all limitations which require averaging of measurements shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified by the Director in the permit.

7. TWENTY-FOUR HOUR REPORTING

- a. The permittee shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Notification shall be made to the EPA at the following e-mail address: R6\_NPDES\_Reporting@epa.gov, as soon as possible, but within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance. Oral notification shall also be to the New Mexico Environment Department at (505) 827-0187 as soon as possible, but within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstance. A written submission shall be provided within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The report shall contain the following information:

- (1) A description of the noncompliance and its cause;
- (2) The period of noncompliance including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and,
- (3) Steps being taken to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncomplying discharge.

- b. The following shall be included as information which must be reported within 24 hours:

- (1) Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit;
- (2) Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit; and,
- (3) Violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the Director in Part II (industrial permits only) of the permit to be reported within 24 hours.

- c. The Director may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.

8. OTHER NONCOMPLIANCE

The permittee shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under Parts III.D.4 and D.7 and Part I.B (for industrial permits only) at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed at Part III.D.7.

9. OTHER INFORMATION

Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Director, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

10. CHANGES IN DISCHARGES OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES

All existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural permittees shall notify the Director as soon as it knows or has 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":
- (1) One hundred micrograms per liter (100 µg/L);
  - (2) Two hundred micrograms per liter (200 µg/L) for acrolein and acrylonitrile; five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L) for 2, 4-dinitro-phenol and for 2-methyl-4, 6-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
  - (3) Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or
  - (4) The level established by the Director.
- 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":
- (1) Five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L);
  - (2) One milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
  - (3) Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or
  - (4) The level established by the Director.

#### 11. SIGNATORY REQUIREMENTS

All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Director shall be signed and certified.

- a. ALL PERMIT APPLICATIONS shall be signed as follows:

- (1) FOR A CORPORATION - by a responsible corporate officer. For the purpose of this section, a responsible corporate officer means:

(a) A president, secretary, treasurer, or vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy or decision making functions for the corporation; or,

(b) The manager of one or more manufacturing, production, or operating facilities, provided, the manager is authorized to make management decisions which govern the operation of the regulated facility including having the explicit or implicit duty of making major capital investment recommendations, and initiating and directing other comprehensive measures to assure long term environmental compliance with environmental laws and regulations; the manager can ensure that the necessary systems are established or actions taken to gather complete and accurate information for permit application requirements; and where authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures.

- (2) FOR A PARTNERSHIP OR SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP - by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively.

- (3) FOR A MUNICIPALITY, STATE, FEDERAL, OR OTHER PUBLIC AGENCY - by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official. For purposes of this section, a principal executive officer of a Federal agency includes:

(a) The chief executive officer of the agency, or

(b) A senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a principal geographic unit of the agency.

- b. ALL REPORTS required by the permit and other information requested by the Director shall be signed by a person described above or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:

- (1) The authorization is made in writing by a person described above;
- (2) The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, or position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental

matters for the company. A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or an individual occupying a named position; and,

(3) The written authorization is submitted to the Director.

c. CERTIFICATION

Any person signing a document under this section shall make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I have no personal knowledge that the information submitted is other than true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations"

12. AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS

Except for applications, effluent data permits, and other data specified in 40 CFR 122.7, any information submitted pursuant to this permit may be claimed as confidential by the submitter. If no claim is made at the time of submission, information may be made available to the public without further notice.

E. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF PERMIT CONDITIONS

1. CRIMINAL

a. NEGLIGENT VIOLATIONS

The Act provides that any person who negligently violates permit conditions implementing Section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to a fine of not less than \$2,500 nor more than \$25,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a negligent violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 2 years, or both.

b. KNOWING VIOLATIONS

The Act provides that any person who knowingly violates permit conditions implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$100,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than 6 years, or both.

c. KNOWING ENDANGERMENT

The Act provides that any person who knowingly violates permit conditions implementing Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act and who knows at that time that he is placing another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury is subject to a fine of not more than \$250,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 15 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing endangerment violation, a person shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500,000 or by imprisonment of not more than 30 years, or both. An organization, as defined in section 309(c)(3)(B)(iii) of the CWA, shall, upon conviction of violating the imminent danger provision, be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000,000 and can be fined up to \$2,000,000 for second or subsequent convictions.

d. FALSE STATEMENTS

The Act provides that any person who knowingly makes any false material statement, representation, or certification in any application, record, report, plan, or other document filed or required to be maintained under the Act or who knowingly falsifies, tampers with, or renders inaccurate, any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under the Act, shall upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 2 years, or by both. If a conviction of a person is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such person under this paragraph, punishment shall be by a fine of not more than \$20,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 4 years, or by both. (See Section 309.c.4 of the Clean Water Act)

2. CIVIL PENALTIES

The Act provides that any person who violates a permit condition implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$37,500 per day for each violation.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES

The Act provides that any person who violates a permit condition implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to an administrative penalty, as follows:

a. CLASS I PENALTY

Not to exceed \$16,000 per violation nor shall the maximum amount exceed \$37,500.

b. CLASS II PENALTY

Not to exceed \$16,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues nor shall the maximum amount exceed \$177,500.

F. DEFINITIONS

All definitions contained in Section 502 of the Act shall apply to this permit and are incorporated herein by reference. Unless otherwise specified in this permit, additional definitions of words or phrases used in this permit are as follows:

1. ACT means the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq.), as amended.
2. ADMINISTRATOR means the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
3. APPLICABLE EFFLUENT STANDARDS AND LIMITATIONS means all state and Federal effluent standards and limitations to which a discharge is subject under the Act, including, but not limited to, effluent limitations, standards or performance, toxic effluent standards and prohibitions, and pretreatment standards.
4. APPLICABLE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS means all water quality standards to which a discharge is subject under the Act.
5. BYPASS means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.
6. DAILY DISCHARGE means 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. "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 arithmetic average (weighted by flow value) of all samples collected during that sampling day.
7. DAILY MAXIMUM discharge limitation means the highest allowable "daily discharge" during the calendar month.
8. DIRECTOR means the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator or an authorized representative.
9. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY means the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
10. GRAB SAMPLE means an individual sample collected in less than 15 minutes.
11. INDUSTRIAL USER means a non-domestic discharger, as identified in 40 CFR 403, introducing pollutants to a publicly owned treatment works.
12. MONTHLY AVERAGE (also known as DAILY AVERAGE) discharge limitations means the highest allowable average of "daily discharge(s)" over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all "daily discharge(s)" measured during a calendar month divided by the number of "daily discharge(s)" measured during that month. When the permit establishes daily average concentration effluent limitations or conditions, the daily average concentration means the arithmetic average (weighted by flow) of all "daily discharge(s)" of concentration determined during the calendar month where C = daily concentration, F = daily flow, and n = number of daily samples; daily average discharge =

$$\frac{C_1F_1 + C_2F_2 + \dots + C_nF_n}{F_1 + F_2 + \dots + F_n}$$

13. NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM means the national program for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements, under Sections 307, 318, 402, and 405 of the Act.

14. SEVERE PROPERTY DAMAGE means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production.
15. SEWAGE SLUDGE means the solids, residues, and precipitates separated from or created in sewage by the unit processes of a publicly owned treatment works. Sewage as used in this definition means any wastes, including wastes from humans, households, commercial establishments, industries, and storm water runoff that are discharged to or otherwise enter a publicly owned treatment works.
16. TREATMENT WORKS means any devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling and reclamation of municipal sewage and industrial wastes of a liquid nature to implement Section 201 of the Act, or necessary to recycle or reuse water at the most economical cost over the estimated life of the works, including intercepting sewers, sewage collection systems, pumping, power and other equipment, and their appurtenances, extension, improvement, remodeling, additions, and alterations thereof.
17. UPSET means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology-based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation.
18. FOR FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA, a sample consists of one effluent grab portion collected during a 24-hour period at peak loads.
19. The term "MGD" shall mean million gallons per day.
20. The term "mg/L" shall mean milligrams per liter or parts per million (ppm).
21. The term "µg/L" shall mean micrograms per liter or parts per billion (ppb).
22. MUNICIPAL TERMS
  - a. 7-DAY AVERAGE or WEEKLY AVERAGE, other than for fecal coliform bacteria, is the arithmetic mean of the daily values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar week, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week. The 7-day average for fecal coliform bacteria is the geometric mean of the values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar week.
  - b. 30-DAY AVERAGE or MONTHLY AVERAGE, other than for fecal coliform bacteria, is the arithmetic mean of the daily values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month. The 30-day average for fecal coliform bacteria is the geometric mean of the values for all effluent samples collected during a calendar month.
  - c. 24-HOUR COMPOSITE SAMPLE consists of a minimum of 12 effluent portions collected at equal time intervals over the 24-hour period and combined proportional to flow or a sample collected at frequent intervals proportional to flow over the 24-hour period.
  - d. 12-HOUR COMPOSITE SAMPLE consists of 12 effluent portions collected no closer together than one hour and composited according to flow. The daily sampling intervals shall include the highest flow periods.
  - e. 6-HOUR COMPOSITE SAMPLE consists of six effluent portions collected no closer together than one hour (with the first portion collected no earlier than 10:00 a.m.) and composited according to flow.
  - f. 3-HOUR COMPOSITE SAMPLE consists of three effluent portions collected no closer together than one hour (with the first portion collected no earlier than 10:00 a.m.) and composited according to flow.

## MAJOR - SEWAGE SLUDGE REQUIREMENTS

### INSTRUCTIONS TO PERMITTEES

Select only those Elements and Sections which apply to your sludge reuse or disposal practice.

If your facility utilizes more than one type of disposal or reuse method (for example, Element I and Element II apply) or the quality of your sludge varies (for example, Section II and Section III of Element I apply) use a separate Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) for each Section that is applicable.

The sludge DMRs shall be due by February 19th of each year and shall cover the previous January through December time period. (The sludge DMRs for permits in Texas shall be due by September 1 of each year, with the reporting period of August 1 to July 31)

**The sludge conditions do not apply to wastewater treatment lagoons where sludge is not wasted for final reuse/disposal. If the sludge is not removed, the permittee shall indicate on the DMR "No Discharge".**

#### **ELEMENT 1 - LAND APPLICATION**

SECTION I: Page 2 - Requirements Applying to All Sewage Sludge Land Application

SECTION II: Page 6 - Requirements Specific to Bulk Sewage Sludge for Application to the Land Meeting Class A or B Pathogen Reduction and the Cumulative Loading Rates in

Table 2, or Class B Pathogen Reduction and the Pollutant Concentrations in Table 3

SECTION III: Page 10 - Requirements Specific to Bulk Sewage Sludge Meeting Pollutant Concentrations in Table 3 and Class A Pathogen Reduction Requirements

SECTION IV: Page 12 - Requirements Specific to Sludge Sold or Given Away in a Bag or Other Container for Application to the Land that does not meet the Pollutant Concentrations in Table 3

#### **ELEMENT 2 - SURFACE DISPOSAL**

SECTION I: Page 14 - Requirements Applying to All Sewage Sludge Surface Disposal

SECTION II: Page 19 - Requirements Specific to Surface Disposal Sites Without a Liner and Leachate Collection System

SECTION III: Page 20 - Requirements Specific to Surface Disposal Sites With a Liner and Leachate Collection System

#### **ELEMENT 3 - MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL DISPOSAL**

SECTION I: Page 22 - Requirements Applying to All Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Disposal Activities

## **ELEMENT 1 - LAND APPLICATION**

### **SECTION I. REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO ALL SEWAGE SLUDGE LAND APPLICATION**

#### **A. General Requirements**

1. The permittee shall handle and dispose of sewage sludge in accordance with Section 405 of the Clean Water Act and all other applicable Federal regulations to protect public health and the environment from any reasonably anticipated adverse effects due to any toxic pollutants which may be present in the sludge.
2. If requirements for sludge management practices or pollutant criteria become more stringent than the sludge pollutant limits or acceptable management practices in this permit, or control a pollutant not listed in this permit, this permit may be modified or revoked and reissued to conform to the requirements promulgated at Section 405(d)(2) of the Clean Water Act. If new limits for Molybdenum are promulgated prior to permit expiration, then those limits shall become directly enforceable.
3. In all cases, if the person (permit holder) who prepares the sewage sludge supplies the sewage sludge to another person for land application use or to the owner or lease holder of the land, the permit holder shall provide necessary information to the parties who receive the sludge to assure compliance with these regulations.
4. The permittee shall give prior notice to EPA (Chief, Permits Branch, Water Management Division, Mail Code 6WQ-P, EPA Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202) of any planned changes in the sewage sludge disposal practice, in accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.41(l)(1)(iii). These changes may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit. Change in the sludge use or disposal practice may be cause for modification of the permit in accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.62(a)(1).

#### **B. Testing Requirements**

1. Sewage sludge shall be tested once during the life of the permit within one year from the effective date of the permit in accordance with the method specified at 40 CFR 268, Appendix I (Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP)) or other approved methods. Sludge shall be tested after final treatment prior to leaving the POTW site. Sewage sludge determined to be a hazardous waste in accordance with 40 CFR Part 261, shall be handled according to RCRA standards for the disposal of hazardous waste in accordance with 40 CFR Part 262. The disposal of sewage sludge determined to be a hazardous waste, in other than a certified hazardous waste disposal facility shall be prohibited. The Information Management Section, telephone no. (214) 665-6750, and the appropriate state agency shall be notified of test failure within 24 hours. A written report shall be provided to this office within 7 days after failing the TCLP. The report will contain test results, certification that unauthorized disposal has not occurred and a summary of alternative disposal plans that comply with RCRA standards for the disposal of hazardous waste. The report shall be addressed to: Director, Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division, EPA Region 6, Mail Code 6PD, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202. A copy of this report shall be sent to the Chief, Water Enforcement Branch, Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, Mail Code 6 EN-W, at the same street address.

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

**Table 1**

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

\* Dry weight basis

### 3. Pathogen Control

All sewage sludge that is applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, or a reclamation site shall be treated by either the Class A or Class B pathogen requirements. Sewage sludge that is applied to a lawn or home garden shall be treated by the Class A pathogen requirements. Sewage sludge that is sold or given away in a bag shall be treated by Class A pathogen requirements.

a. Six alternatives are available to demonstrate compliance with Class A sewage sludge. All 6 options require either the density of fecal coliform in the sewage sludge be less than 1000 Most Probable Number (MPN) per gram of total solids (dry weight basis), or the density of Salmonella sp. bacteria in the sewage sludge be less than three MPN per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed; at the time the sewage sludge is prepared for sale or given away in a bag or other container for application to the land. Below are the additional requirements necessary to meet the definition of a Class A sludge. Alternatives 5 and 6 are not authorized to demonstrate compliance with Class A sewage sludge in Texas permits.

Alternative 1 - The temperature of the sewage sludge that is used or disposed shall be maintained at a specific value for a period of time. See 503.32(a)(3)(ii) for specific information.

Alternative 2 - The pH of the sewage sludge that is used or disposed shall be raised to above 12 and shall remain above 12 for 72 hours. The pH shall be defined as the logarithm of the reciprocal of the hydrogen ion concentration measured at 25 degrees Celsius or measured at another temperature and then converted to an equivalent value at 25 degrees Celsius.

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

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

Alternative 3 - The sewage sludge shall be analyzed for enteric viruses prior to pathogen treatment. The limit for enteric viruses is one Plaque-forming Unit per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) either before or following pathogen treatment. See 503.32(a)(5)(ii) for specific information. The sewage sludge shall be analyzed for viable helminth ova prior to pathogen treatment. The limit for viable helminth ova is less than one per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) either before or following pathogen treatment. See 503.32(a)(5)(iii) for specific information.

Alternative 4 - The density of enteric viruses in the sewage sludge shall be less than one Plaque-forming Unit per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed or at the time the sludge is prepared for sale or give away in a bag or other container for application to the land.

The density of viable helminth ova in the sewage sludge shall be less than one per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed or at the time the sewage sludge is prepared for sale or give away in a bag or other container for application to the land.

Alternative 5 - Sewage sludge shall be treated by one of the Processes to Further Reduce Pathogens (PFRP) described in 503 Appendix B. PFRPs include composting, heat drying, heat treatment, and thermophilic aerobic digestion.

Alternative 6 - Sewage sludge shall be treated by a process that is equivalent to a Process to Further Reduce Pathogens, if individually approved by the Pathogen Equivalency Committee representing the EPA.

- b. Three alternatives are available to demonstrate compliance with Class B sewage sludge. Alternatives 2 and 3 are not authorized to demonstrate compliance with Class B sewage sludge in Texas permits.

Alternative 1 - Seven random samples of the sewage sludge shall be collected for one monitoring episode at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed.

The geometric mean of the density of fecal coliform in the samples collected shall be less than either 2,000,000 MPN per gram of total solids (dry weight basis) or 2,000,000 Colony Forming Units per gram of total solids (dry weight basis).

Alternative 2 - Sewage sludge shall be treated in one of the Processes to significantly Reduce Pathogens described in 503 Appendix B.

Alternative 3 - Sewage sludge shall be treated in a process that is equivalent to a PSRP, if individually approved by the Pathogen Equivalency Committee representing the EPA.

In addition, the following site restrictions must be met if Class B sludge is land applied:

- Food crops with harvested parts that touch the sewage sludge /soil mixture and are totally above the land surface shall not be harvested for 14 months after application of sewage sludge.
- Food crops with harvested parts below the surface of the land shall not be harvested for 20 months after application of sewage sludge when the sewage sludge remains on the land surface for 4 months or longer prior to incorporation into the soil.
- Food crops with harvested parts below the surface of the land shall not be harvested for 38 months after application of sewage sludge when the sewage sludge remains on the land surface for less than 4 months prior to incorporation into the soil.
- Food crops, feed crops, and fiber crops shall not be harvested for 30 days after application of sewage sludge.
- Animals shall not be allowed to graze on the land for 30 days after application of sewage sludge.
- Turf grown on land where sewage sludge is applied shall not be harvested for 1 year after application of the sewage sludge when the harvested turf is placed on either land with a high potential for public exposure or a lawn, unless otherwise specified by the permitting authority.
- Public access to land with a high potential for public exposure shall be restricted for 1 year after application of sewage sludge.
- Public access to land with a low potential for public exposure shall be restricted for 30 days after application of sewage sludge.

#### 4. Vector Attraction Reduction Requirements

All bulk sewage sludge that is applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, or a reclamation site shall be treated by one of the following alternatives 1 through 10 for Vector Attraction Reduction. If bulk sewage sludge is applied to a home garden, or bagged sewage sludge is applied to the land, only alternative 1 through alternative 8 shall be used.

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

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

Alternative 3 - If Alternative 1 cannot be met for an aerobically digested sludge, demonstration can be made by digesting a portion of the previously digested sludge with a percent solid of 2% or less aerobically in the laboratory in a bench-scale unit for 30 additional days at 20 degrees Celsius. Volatile solids must be reduced by less than 15% to demonstrate compliance.

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

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

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

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

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

Alternative 9 -

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

Alternative 10 -

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

### C. Monitoring Requirements

Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) Test - Once/Permit Life, performed within one year from the effective date of the permit

PCBs - Once/Year

All other pollutants shall be monitored at the frequency shown below:

Amount of sewage sludge (metric tons per 365 day period)*	Frequency
0 ≤ Sludge < 290	Once/Year
290 ≤ Sludge < 1,500	Once/Quarter
1,500 ≤ Sludge < 15,000	Once/Two Months

15,000 ≤ Sludge

Once/Month

\*Either the amount of bulk sewage sludge applied to the land or the amount of sewage sludge received by a person who prepares sewage sludge that is sold or given away in a bag or other container for application to the land (dry weight basis).

Representative samples of sewage sludge shall be collected and analyzed in accordance with the methods referenced in 40 CFR 503.8(b).

## SECTION II. REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO BULK SEWAGE SLUDGE FOR APPLICATION TO THE LAND MEETING CLASS A or B PATHOGEN REDUCTION AND THE CUMULATIVE LOADING RATES IN TABLE 2, OR CLASS B PATHOGEN REDUCTION AND THE POLLUTANT CONCENTRATIONS IN TABLE 3

For those permittees meeting Class A or B pathogen reduction requirements and that meet the cumulative loading rates in Table 2 below, or the Class B pathogen reduction requirements and contain concentrations of pollutants below those listed in Table 3 found in Element I, Section III, the following conditions apply:

### 1. Pollutant Limits **Table 2**

Pollutant	Cumulative Pollutant Loading Rate (kilograms per hectare)
Arsenic	41
Cadmium	39
Copper	1500
Lead	300
Mercury	17
Molybdenum	Report
Nickel	420
Selenium	100
Zinc	2800

### 2. Pathogen Control

All bulk sewage sludge that is applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, a reclamation site, or lawn or home garden shall be treated by either Class A or Class B pathogen reduction requirements as defined above in Element 1, Section I.B.3.

### 3. Management Practices

- a. Bulk sewage sludge shall not be applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, or a reclamation site that is flooded, frozen, or snow-covered so that the bulk sewage sludge enters a wetland or other waters of the U.S., as defined in 40 CFR 122.2, except as provided in a permit issued pursuant to section 404 of the CWA.
- b. Bulk sewage sludge shall not be applied within 10 meters of a water of the U.S.
- c. Bulk sewage sludge shall be applied at or below the agronomic rate in accordance with recommendations from the following references:

- STANDARDS 1992 , Standards, Engineering Practices and Data, 39th Edition (1992) American Society of Agricultural Engineers, 2950 Niles Road, St. Joseph, MI 490859659.
  - National Engineering Handbook Part 651, Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook (1992), P.O. Box 2890, Washington, D.C. 20013.
  - Recommendations of local extension services or Soil Conservation Services. □ Recommendations of a major University's Agronomic Department.
- d. An information sheet shall be provided to the person who receives bulk sewage sludge sold or given away. The information sheet shall contain the following information:
- The name and address of the person who prepared the sewage sludge that is sold or given away in a bag or other container for application to the land.
  - A statement that application of the sewage sludge to the land is prohibited except in accordance with the instructions on the label or information sheet.
  - The annual whole sludge application rate for the sewage sludge that does not cause any of the cumulative pollutant loading rates in Table 2 above to be exceeded, unless the pollutant concentrations in Table 3 found in Element I, Section III below are met.

#### 4. Notification requirements

- a. If bulk sewage sludge is applied to land in a State other than the State in which the sludge is prepared, written notice shall be provided prior to the initial land application to the permitting authority for the State in which the bulk sewage sludge is proposed to be applied. The notice shall include:
- The location, by either street address or latitude and longitude, of each land application site.
  - The approximate time period bulk sewage sludge will be applied to the site.
  - The name, address, telephone number, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit number (if appropriate) for the person who prepares the bulk sewage sludge.
  - The name, address, telephone number, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit number (if appropriate) for the person who will apply the bulk sewage sludge.
- b. The permittee shall give 60 days prior notice to the Director of any change planned in the sewage sludge practice. Any change shall include any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted treatment works, changes in the permittee's sludge use or disposal practice, and also alterations, additions, or deletions of disposal sites. These changes may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or absent in the existing permit. Change in the sludge use or disposal practice may be because for modification of the permit in accordance with 40 CFR 122.62(a)(1).

- c. The permittee shall provide the location of all existing sludge disposal/use sites to the State Historical Commission within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. In addition, the permittee shall provide the location of any new disposal/use site to the State Historical Commission prior to use of the site.
  - d. The permittee shall within 30 days after notification by the State Historical Commission that a specific sludge disposal/use area will adversely affect a National Historic Site, cease use of such area.
5. Recordkeeping Requirements - The sludge documents will be retained on site at the same location as other NPDES records.

The person who prepares bulk sewage sludge or a sewage sludge material shall develop the following information and shall retain the information for five years. If the permittee supplies the sludge to another person who land applies the sludge, the permittee shall notify the land applier of the requirements for recordkeeping found in 40 CFR 503.17 for persons who land apply.

- a. The concentration (mg/Kg) in the sludge of each pollutant listed in Table 3 found in Element I, Section III and the applicable pollutant concentration criteria (mg/Kg), or the applicable cumulative pollutant loading rate and the applicable cumulative pollutant loading rate limit (kg/ha) listed in Table 2 above.
- b. A description of how the pathogen reduction requirements are met (including site restrictions for Class B sludge, if applicable).
- c. A description of how the vector attraction reduction requirements are met.
- d. A description of how the management practices listed above in Section II.3 are being met.
- e. The recommended agronomic loading rate from the references listed in Section II.3.c. above, as well as the actual agronomic loading rate shall be retained.
- f. A description of how the site restrictions in 40 CFR Part 503.32(b)(5) are met for each site on which Class B bulk sewage sludge is applied.
- g. The following certification statement:  
"I certify, under penalty of law, that the management practices in §503.14 have been met for each site on which bulk sewage sludge is applied. This determination has been made under my direction and supervision in accordance with the system designed to ensure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information used to determine that the management practices have been met. I am aware that there are significant penalties for false certification including fine and imprisonment."
- h. A certification statement that all applicable requirements (specifically listed) have been met, and that the permittee understands that there are significant penalties for false certification including fine and imprisonment. See 40 CFR 503.17(a)(4)(i)(B) or 40 CFR Part 503.17(a)(5)(i)(B) as applicable to the permittees sludge treatment activities.
- i. The permittee shall maintain information that describes future geographical areas where sludge may be land applied.
- j. The permittee shall maintain information identifying site selection criteria regarding land application sites not identified at the time of permit application submission.
- k. The permittee shall maintain information regarding how future land application sites will be managed.

The person who prepares bulk sewage sludge or a sewage sludge material shall develop the following information and shall retain the information indefinitely. If the permittee supplies the sludge to another person who land applies the sludge, the permittee shall notify the land applier of the requirements for recordkeeping found i n 40 CFR 503 .17 for persons who land apply.

- a. The location, by either street address or latitude and longitude, of each site on which sludge is applied.
- b. The number of hectares in each site on which bulk sludge is applied.
- c. The date and time sludge is applied to each site.
- d. The cumulative amount of each pollutant in kilograms/hectare listed in Table 2 applied to each site.
- e. The total amount of sludge applied to each site in metric tons.
- f. The following certification statement:

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the requirements to obtain information in §503.12(e)(2) have been met for each site on which bulk sewage sludge is applied. This determination has been made under my direction and supervision in accordance with the system designed to ensure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information used to determine that the requirements to obtain information have been met. I am aware that there are significant penalties for false certification including fine and imprisonment."

- g. A description of how the requirements to obtain information in §503.12(e)(2) are met.

6. Reporting Requirements - The permittee shall report annually on the DMR the following information:

- a. Pollutant Table (2 or 3) appropriate for permittee's land application practices.
- b. The frequency of monitoring listed in Element 1, Section I.C. which applies to the permittee.
- c. Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) results (Pass/Fail).
- d. The concentration (mg/Kg) in the sludge of each pollutant listed in Table 1 (defined as a monthly average) as well as the applicable pollutant concentration criteria (mg/Kg) listed in Table 3 found in Element 1, Section III, or the applicable pollutant loading rate limit (kg/ha) listed in Table 2 above if it exceeds 90% of the limit.
- e. Level of pathogen reduction achieved (Class A or Class B).
- f. Alternative used as listed in Section I.B.3.(a. or b.). Alternatives describe how the pathogen reduction requirements are met. If Class B sludge, include information on how site restrictions were met in the DMR comment section or attach a separate sheet to the DMR.
- g. Vector attraction reduction alternative used as listed in Section I.B.4. h.
- h. Annual sludge production in dry metric tons/year.
- i. Amount of sludge land applied in dry metric tons/year.
- j. Amount of sludge transported interstate in dry metric tons/year.
- k. The certification statement listed in 503.17(a)(4)(i)(B) or 503.17(a)(5)(i)(B) whichever applies to the permittees sludge treatment activities shall be attached to the DMR.
- l. When the amount of any pollutant applied to the land exceeds 90% of the cumulative pollutant loading rate for that pollutant, as described in Table 2, the permittee shall report the following information as an attachment to the DMR.
  - The location, by either street address or latitude and longitude.
  - The number of hectares in each site on which bulk sewage sludge is applied.
  - The date and time bulk sewage sludge is applied to each site.
  - The cumulative amount of each pollutant (i.e., kilograms/hectare) listed in Table 2 in the bulk sewage sludge applied to each site.
  - The amount of sewage sludge (i.e., metric tons) applied to each site.
  - The following certification statement:
  - "I certify, under penalty of law, that the information that will be used to determine compliance with the requirements to obtain information in 40 CFR 503.12(e)(2) have been met for each site on which bulk sewage sludge is applied. This determination has been made under my direction and supervision in accordance with the system designed to ensure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information used to determine that the requirements to obtain

information have been met. I am aware that there are significant penalties for false certification including fine and imprisonment."

- A description of how the requirements to obtain information in 40 CFR 503.12(e)(2) are met.

### SECTION III. REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO BULK OR BAGGED SEWAGE SLUDGE MEETING POLLUTANT CONCENTRATIONS IN TABLE 3 AND CLASS A PATHOGEN REDUCTION REQUIREMENTS

For those permittees with sludge that contains concentrations of pollutants below those pollutant limits listed in Table 3 for bulk or bagged (containerized) sewage sludge and also meet the Class A pathogen reduction requirements, the following conditions apply (Note: All bagged sewage sludge must be treated by Class A pathogen reduction requirements.):

2. Pollutant limits - The concentration of the pollutants in the municipal sewage sludge is at or below the values listed. **Table 3**

Pollutant	Monthly Average Concentration (milligrams per kilogram)*
Arsenic	41
Cadmium	39
Copper	1500
Lead	300
Mercury	17
Molybdenum	Report
Nickel	420
Selenium	36
Zinc	2800

\* Dry weight basis

3. Pathogen Control

All bulk sewage sludge that is applied to agricultural land, forest, a public contact site, a reclamation site, or lawn or home garden shall be treated by the Class A pathogen reduction requirements as defined above in Element I, Section I.B.3. All bagged sewage sludge must be treated by Class A pathogen reduction requirements.

4. Management Practices - None.

5. Notification Requirements - None.

6. Recordkeeping Requirements - The permittee shall develop the following information and shall retain the information for five years. The sludge documents will be retained on site at the same location as other NPDES records.

- a. The concentration (mg/Kg) in the sludge of each pollutant listed in Table 3 and the applicable pollutant concentration criteria listed in Table 3.
- b. A certification statement that all applicable requirements (specifically listed) have been met, and that the permittee understands that there are significant penalties for false certification including fine and imprisonment. See

503.17(a)(1)(ii) or 503.17(a)(3)(i)(B), whichever applies to the permittees sludge treatment activities.

- c. A description of how the Class A pathogen reduction requirements are met.
- d. A description of how the vector attraction reduction requirements are met.

7. Reporting Requirements - The permittee shall report annually on the DMR the following information:

- a. Pollutant Table 3 appropriate for permittee's land application practices.
- b. The frequency of monitoring listed in Element 1, Section I.C. which applies to the permittee.
- c. Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) results. (Pass/Fail).
- d. The concentration (mg/Kg) in the sludge of each pollutant listed in Table 1 (defined as a monthly average) found in Element 1, Section I. In addition, the applicable pollutant concentration criteria listed in Table 3 should be included on the DMR.
- e. Pathogen reduction Alternative used for Class A bagged or bulk sludge as listed in Section I.B.3.a.
- f. Vector attraction reduction Alternative used as listed in Section I.B.4.
- g. Annual sludge production in dry metric tons/year.
- h. Amount of sludge land applied in dry metric tons/year.
- i. Amount of sludge transported interstate in dry metric tons/year.
- j. The certification statement listed in 503.17(a)(1)(ii) or 503.17(a)(3)(i)(B), whichever applies to the permittees sludge treatment activities, shall be attached to the DMR.

**SECTION IV. REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO SLUDGE SOLD OR GIVEN AWAY IN A BAG OR OTHER CONTAINER FOR APPLICATION TO THE LAND THAT DOES NOT MEET THE MINIMUM POLLUTANT CONCENTRATIONS**

1. Pollutant Limits **Table 4**

Pollutant	Annual Pollutant Loading Rate (kilograms per hectare per 365 day period)
Arsenic	2
Cadmium	1.9
Copper	75
Lead	15
Mercury	0.85
Molybdenum	Report
Nickel	21
Selenium	5
Zinc	140

2. Pathogen Control

All sewage sludge that is sold or given away in a bag or other container for application to the land shall be treated by the Class A pathogen requirements as defined above in Section I.B.3.a. above.

3. Management Practices

Either a label shall be affixed to the bag or other container in which sewage sludge that is sold or given away for application to the land, or an information sheet shall be provided to the person who receives sewage sludge sold or given away in another container for application to the land. The label or information sheet shall contain the following information:

- a. The name and address of the person who prepared the sewage sludge that is sold or given away in a bag or other container for application to the land.
- b. A statement that application of the sewage sludge to the land is prohibited except in accordance with the instructions on the label or information sheet.
- c. The annual whole sludge application rate for the sewage sludge that will not cause any of the annual pollutant loading rates in Table 4 above to be exceeded.

4. Notification Requirements - None.

5. Recordkeeping Requirements - The sludge documents will be retained on site at the same location as other NPD ES records. The person who prepares sewage sludge or a sewage sludge material shall develop the following information and shall retain the information for five years.

- a. The concentration in the sludge of each pollutant listed above in found in Element I, Section I, Table 1.
- b. The following certification statement found in §503.17(a)(6)(iii).  
"I certify, under penalty of law, that the information that will be used to determine compliance with the management practices in §503.14(e), the Class A pathogen requirement in §503.32(a), and the vector attraction reduction requirement in (insert vector attraction reduction option) have been met. This determination has been made under my direction and supervision in accordance with the system designed to ensure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information used to determine that the management practices, pathogen requirements, and vector attraction reduction requirements have been met. I am aware that there are significant penalties for false certification including the possibility of fine and imprisonment".
- c. A description of how the Class A pathogen reduction requirements are met.
- d. A description of how the vector attraction reduction requirements are met.
- e. The annual whole sludge application rate for the sewage sludge that does not cause the annual pollutant loading rates in Table 4 to be exceeded. See Appendix A to Part 503 - Procedure to Determine the Annual Whole Sludge Application Rate for Sewage Sludge.

6. Reporting Requirements - The permittee shall report annually on the DMR the following information:

- a. List Pollutant Table 4 appropriate for permittee's land application practices.
- b. The frequency of monitoring listed in Element 1, Section I.C. which applies to the permittee.
- c. Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) results. (Pass/Fail).
- d. The concentration (mg/Kg) in the sludge of each pollutant listed in Table 1 (defined as a monthly average) found in Element 1, Section I.
- e. Class A pathogen reduction Alternative used as listed in Section I.B.3.a. Alternatives describe how the pathogen reduction requirements are met.
- f. Vector attraction reduction Alternative used as listed in Section I.B.4.
- g. Annual sludge production in dry metric tons/year.
- h. Amount of sludge land applied in dry metric tons/year.
- i. Amount of sludge transported interstate in dry metric tons/year.
- j. The following certification statement found in § 503.17(a)(6)(iii) shall be attached to the DMR.

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the information that will be used to determine compliance with the management practices in §503.14(e), the Class A pathogen requirement in §503.32(a), and the vector attraction reduction requirement in (insert vector attraction reduction option) have been met. This determination has been made under my direction and supervision in accordance with the system designed to ensure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information used to determine that the management practices, pathogen requirements, and vector attraction reduction requirements have been met. I am aware that there are significant penalties for false certification including the possibility of fine and imprisonment".

## **ELEMENT 2- SURFACE DISPOSAL**

### **SECTION I. REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO ALL SEWAGE SLUDGE SURFACE DISPOSAL**

#### **A. General Requirements**

1. The permittee shall handle and dispose of sewage sludge in accordance with Section 405 of the Clean Water Act and all other applicable Federal regulations to protect public health and the environment from any reasonably anticipated adverse effects due to any toxic pollutants which may be present.
2. If requirements for sludge management practices or pollutant criteria become more stringent than the sludge pollutant limits or acceptable management practices in this permit, or control a pollutant not listed in this permit, this permit may be modified or revoked and reissued to conform to the requirements promulgated at Section 405(d)( 2) of the Clean Water Act.
3. In all cases, if the person (permit holder) who prepares the sewage sludge or supplies the sewage sludge to another person (owner or operator of a sewage sludge unit) for disposal in a surface disposal site, the permit holder shall provide all necessary information to the parties who receive the sludge to assure compliance with these regulations.
4. The permittee shall give prior notice to EPA (Chief, Permits Branch, Water Management Division, Mail Code 6WQ -P, EPA Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202) of any planned changes in the sewage sludge disposal practice, in accordance with 40 CFR Part

122.41(l)(1)(iii). These changes may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit. Change in the sludge use or disposal practice may be cause for modification of the permit in accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.62(a)(1).

5. The permittee or owner/operator shall submit a written closure and post closure plan to the permitting authority 180 days prior to the closure date. The plan shall include the following information:
  - a. A discussion of how the leachate collection system will be operated and maintained for three years after the surface disposal site closes if it has a liner and leachate collection system.
  - b. A description of the system used to monitor continuously for methane gas in the air in any structures within the surface disposal site. The methane gas concentration shall not exceed 25% of the lower explosive limit for methane gas for three years after the sewage sludge unit closes. A description of the system used to monitor for methane gas in the air at the property line of the site shall be included. The methane gas concentration at the surface disposal site property line shall not exceed the lower explosive limit for methane gas for three years after the sewage sludge unit closes.
  - c. A discussion of how public access to the surface disposal site will be restricted for three years after it closes.

## **B. Management Practices**

1. An active sewage sludge unit located within 60 meters of a fault that has displacement in Holocene time shall close by March 22, 1994.
2. An active sewage sludge unit located in an unstable area shall close by March 22, 1994.
3. An active sewage sludge unit located in a wetland shall close by March 22, 1994.
4. Surface disposal shall not restrict the flow of the base 100-year flood.
5. The run-off collection system for an active sewage sludge unit shall have the capacity to handle run-off from a 25-year, 24-hour storm event.
6. A food crop, feed crop, or a fiber crop shall not be grown on a surface disposal site.
7. Animals shall not be grazed on a surface disposal site.
8. Public access shall be restricted on the active surface disposal site and for three years after the site closes.
9. Placement of sewage sludge shall not contaminate an aquifer. This shall be demonstrated through one of the following:
  - a. Results of a ground-water monitoring program developed by a qualified ground-water scientist.
  - b. A certification by a qualified ground-water scientist may be used to demonstrate that sewage sludge placed on an active sewage sludge unit does not contaminate an aquifer.
10. When a cover is placed on an active surface disposal site, the concentration of methane gas in air in any structure within the surface disposal site shall not exceed 25% of the lower explosive limit for methane gas during the period that the sewage sludge unit is active. The concentration of methane gas in air at the property line of the surface disposal site shall not exceed the lower

explosive limit for methane gas during the period that the sewage sludge unit is active. Monitoring shall be continuous.

### C. Testing Requirements

1. Sewage sludge shall be tested once during the life of the permit within one year from the effective date of the permit in accordance with the method specified at 40 CFR 268, Appendix I (Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP)) or other approved methods. Sludge shall be tested after final treatment prior to leaving the POTW site. Sewage sludge determined to be a hazardous waste in accordance with 40 CFR Part 261, shall be handled according to RCRA standards for the disposal of hazardous waste in accordance with 40 CFR Part 262. The disposal of sewage sludge determined to be a hazardous waste, in other than a certified hazardous waste disposal facility shall be prohibited. The Information Management Section, telephone no. (214) 665-6750, and the appropriate state agency shall be notified of test failure within 24 hours. A written report shall be provided to this office within 7 days after failing the TCLP. The report will contain test results, certification that unauthorized disposal has not occurred and a summary of alternative disposal plans that comply with RCRA standards for the disposal of hazardous waste. The report shall be addressed to: Director, Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division, EPA Region 6, Mail Code 6PD, 144 5 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202. A copy of this report shall be sent to the Chief, Water Enforcement Branch, Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, Mail Code 6 EN-W, at the same street address.
2. Sewage sludge shall be tested at the frequency show below in Element 2, Section I.D. for PCBs. Any sludge exceeding a concentration of 50 mg/Kg shall not be surface disposed.
3. Pathogen Control

All sewage sludge that is disposed of in a surface disposal site shall be treated by either the Class A or Class B pathogen requirements unless sewage sludge is placed on an active surface disposal site, and is covered with soil or other material at the end of each operating day. When reporting on the DMR, list pathogen reduction level attained as A, B, or C (daily cover). When reporting how compliance was met, list Alternative 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 for Class A, or Alternative Number 1, 2, 3, or 4 for Class B, on DMR.

- a. Six alternatives are available to demonstrate compliance with Class A sewage sludge. All 6 alternatives require either the density of fecal coliform in the sewage sludge be less than 1000 MPN per gram of total solids (dry weight basis), or the density of Salmonella sp.

bacteria in the sewage sludge be less than three Most Probable Number per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed; at the time the sewage sludge is prepared for sale or given away in a bag or other container for application to the land. Below are the additional requirements necessary to meet the definition of a Class A sludge. Alternatives 5 and 6 are not authorized to demonstrate compliance with Class A sewage sludge in Texas permits.

Alternative 1 - The temperature of the sewage sludge that is used or disposed shall be maintained at a specific value for a period of time. See 503.32(a)(3)(ii) for specific information. This alternative is not applicable to composting.

Alternative 2 - The pH of the sewage sludge that is used or disposed shall be raised to above 12 and shall remain above 12 for 72 hours. The pH shall be defined as the logarithm of the reciprocal of the hydrogen ion concentration measured at 25 degrees Celsius or measured at another temperature and then converted to an equivalent value at 25 degrees Celsius.

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

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

Alternative 3 - The sewage sludge shall be analyzed for enteric viruses prior to pathogen treatment. The limit for enteric viruses is one Plaque-forming Unit per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) either before or following pathogen treatment. See 503.32(a)(5)(ii) for specific information. The sewage sludge shall be analyzed for viable helminth ova prior to pathogen treatment. The limit for viable helminth ova is less than one per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) either before or following pathogen treatment. See 503.32(a)(5)(iii) for specific information.

Alternative 4 - The density of enteric viruses in the sewage sludge shall be less than one Plaque-forming Unit per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed or at the time the sludge is prepared for sale or give away in a bag or other container for application to the land.

The density of viable helminth ova in the sewage sludge shall be less than one per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed or at the time the sewage sludge is prepared for sale or give away in a bag or other container for application to the land.

Alternative 5 - Sewage sludge shall be treated by one of the Processes to Further Reduce Pathogens (PFRP) described in 503 Appendix B. PFRPs include composting, heat drying, heat treatment, and thermophilic aerobic digestion.

Alternative 6 - Sewage sludge shall be treated by a process that is equivalent to a Process to Further Reduce Pathogens, if individually approved by the Pathogen Equivalency Committee representing the EPA.

b. Four alternatives are available to demonstrate compliance with Class B sewage sludge.

Alternatives 2, 3, and 4 are not authorized to demonstrate compliance with Class B sewage sludge in Texas permits.

Alternative 1 -

- Seven representative samples of the sewage sludge that is disposed shall be collected for one monitoring episode at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed.
- The geometric mean of the density of fecal coliform in the samples collected shall be less than either 2,000,000 Most Probable Number per gram of total solids (dry weight basis) or 2,000,000 Colony Forming Units per gram of total solids (dry weight basis).

Alternative 2 - Sewage sludge shall be treated in one of the Processes to significantly Reduce Pathogens described in 503 Appendix B.

Alternative 3 - Sewage sludge shall be treated in a process that is equivalent to a PSRP, if individually approved by the Pathogen Equivalency Committee representing the EPA.

Alternative 4 - Sewage sludge placed on an active surface disposal site is covered with soil or other material at the end of each operating day.

#### 4. Vector Attraction Reduction Requirements

All sewage sludge that is disposed of in a surface disposal site shall be treated by one of the following alternatives 1 through 11 for Vector Attraction Reduction.

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

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

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

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

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

Alternative 6 - The pH of sewage sludge shall be raised to 12 or higher by alkali addition and, without the addition of more alkali shall remain at 12 or higher for two hours and then at 11.5 or higher for an additional 22 hours.

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

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

Alternative 9 -

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

Alternative 10 -

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

Alternative 11 - Sewage sludge placed on an active sewage sludge unit shall be covered with soil or other material at the end of each operating day.

## 5. Methane Gas Control Within a Structure On Site

When cover is placed on an active surface disposal site, the methane gas concentration in the air in any structure shall not exceed 25% of the lower explosive limit (LEL) for methane gas during the period that the disposal site is active.

## 6. Methane Gas Control at Property Line

The concentration of methane gas in air at the property line of the surface disposal site shall not exceed the LEL for methane gas during the period that the disposal site is active.

**D. Monitoring Requirements**

Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) Test - Once/Permit Life, performed within one year from the effective date of the permit.

PCBs - Once/Year

Methane Gas in covered structures on site - Continuous

Methane Gas at property line - Continuous

All other pollutants shall be monitored at the frequency shown below:

Amount of sewage sludge* (metric tons per 365 day period)	Frequency
$0 \leq \text{Sludge} < 290$	Once/Year
$290 \leq \text{Sludge} < 1,500$	Once/Quarter
$1,500 \leq \text{Sludge} < 15,000$	Once/Two Months
$15,000 \leq \text{Sludge}$	Once/Month

\*Amount of sewage sludge placed on an active sewage sludge unit (dry weight basis).

Representative samples of sewage sludge shall be collected and analyzed in accordance with the methods referenced in 40 CFR 503.8(b).

## SECTION II. REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO SURFACE DISPOSAL SITES WITHOUT A LINER AND LEACHATE COLLECTION SYSTEM.

1. Pollutant limits - Sewage sludge shall not be applied to a surface disposal site if the concentrations of the listed pollutants exceed the corresponding values based on the surface disposal site boundary to the property line distance:

**Table 5**

Unit boundary to property line distance (meter)	Pollutant concentrations* (mg/kg)			
	Arsenic	Chromium	Nickel	PCB's
0 to < 25	30	200	210	49
25 to < 50				
50 to < 75	39	260	270	49
75 to < 100		330	340	49
100 to < 125		400	410	49
125 to < 150		470	480	49
150 to < 175	53	360	370	49
175 to < 200				
200 to < 225				
225 to < 250				
250 to < 275				
275 to < 300				
300 to < 325				
325 to < 350				
350 to < 375				
375 to < 400				
400 to < 425				
425 to < 450				
450 to < 475				
475 to < 500				
500 to < 525				
525 to < 550				
550 to < 575				
575 to < 600				
600 to < 625				
625 to < 650				
650 to < 675				
675 to < 700				
700 to < 725				
725 to < 750				
750 to < 775				
775 to < 800				
800 to < 825				
825 to < 850				
850 to < 875				
875 to < 900				
900 to < 925				
925 to < 950				
950 to < 975				
975 to < 1000				
≥ 150		73	600	420
				49

\*Dry weight basis

2. Management practices - Listed in Section I.B. above.
3. Notification requirements
  - a. The permittee shall assure that the owner of the surface disposal site provide written notification to the subsequent site owners that sewage sludge was placed on the land.
  - b. The permittee shall provide the location of all existing sludge disposal/use sites to the State Historical Commission within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. In addition, the permittee shall provide the location of any new disposal/use site to the State Historical Commission prior to use of the site.
  - c. The permittee shall within 30 days after notification by the State Historical Commission that a specific sludge disposal/use area will adversely affect a National Historic Site, cease use of such area.
4. Recordkeeping requirements - The permittee shall develop the following information and shall retain the information for five years. The sludge documents will be retained on site at the same location as other NPDES records.

- a. The distance of the surface disposal site from the property line and the concentration (mg/Kg) in the sludge of each pollutant listed above in Table 5, as well as the applicable pollutant concentration criteria listed in Table 5.
  - b. A certification statement that all applicable requirements (specifically listed) have been met, and that the permittee understands that there are significant penalties for false certification including fine and imprisonment. See 503.27(a)(1)(ii) or 503.27(a)(2)(ii) as applicable to the permittees sludge disposal activities.
  - c. A description of how either the Class A or Class B pathogen reduction requirements are met, or whether sewage sludge placed on a surface disposal site is covered with soil or other material at the end of each operating day.
  - d. A description of how the vector attraction reduction requirements are met.
  - e. Results of a groundwater monitoring program developed by a qualified ground-water scientist, or a certification by a qualified groundwater scientist may be used to demonstrate that sewage sludge placed on an active sewage sludge unit does not contaminate an aquifer. A qualified ground water scientist is an individual with a baccalaureate or post graduate degree in the natural sciences or engineering who has sufficient training and experience in groundwater hydrology and related fields, as may be demonstrated by State registration, professional certification or completion of accredited university programs, to make sound professional judgments regarding groundwater monitoring, pollutant fate and transport, and corrective action.
5. Reporting Requirements - The permittee shall report annually on the DMR the following information:
- a. Report No for no liner and leachate collection system at surface disposal site.
  - b. The frequency of monitoring listed in Element II, Section I.D. which applies to the permittee.
  - c. Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) results (Pass/Fail).
  - d. The concentration (mg/K g) in the sludge of each pollutant listed in Table 5 as well as the applicable pollutant concentration criteria listed in Table 5.
  - e. The concentration (mg/Kg) of PCB's in the sludge.
  - f. The distance between the property line and the surface disposal site boundary.
  - g. Level of pathogen reduction achieved (C lass A or Class B), unless Vector attraction reduction alternative no. 11 is utilized.
  - h. List Alternative used as listed in Section I.C.3.(a. or b.). Alternatives describe how the pathogen reduction requirements are met.
  - i. Vector attraction reduction Alternative used as listed in Section I.C.4.
  - j. Annual sludge production in dry metric tons/year.
  - k. Amount of sludge surface disposed in dry metric tons/year.
  - l. Amount of sludge transported interstate in dry metric tons/year.
  - m. A narrative description explaining how the management practices in §503.24 are met shall be attached to the DMR.
  - n. The certification statement listed in 503.27(a)(1)(ii) or 503.27(a)(2)(ii) as applicable to the permittees sludge disposal activities, shall be attached to the DMR.

### SECTION III. REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO SURFACE DISPOSAL SITES WITH A LINER AND LEACHATE COLLECTION SYSTEM.

1. Pollutant limits - None.
2. Management Practices - Listed in Section I.B. above.
3. Notification requirements
  - a. The permittee shall assure that the owner of the surface disposal site provide written notification to the subsequent owner of the site that sewage sludge was placed on the land.
  - b. The permittee shall provide the location of all existing sludge disposal/use sites to the State Historical Commission within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. In addition, the permittee shall provide the location of any new disposal/use site to the State Historical Commission prior to use of the site. The permittee shall within 30 days after notification by the State Historical Commission that a specific sludge disposal/use area will adversely affect a National Historic Site, cease use of such area.
4. Recordkeeping requirements - The permittee shall develop the following information and shall retain the information for five years. The sludge documents will be retained on site at the same location as other NPDES records.
  - a. The following certification statement found in 503.27(a)(1)(ii):

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the pathogen requirements (define option used) and the vector attraction reduction requirements in (define option used) have been met. This determination has been made under my direction and supervision in accordance with the system designed to ensure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information used to determine the (pathogen requirements and vector attraction reduction requirements, if appropriate) have been met. I am aware that there are significant penalties for false certification including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."
  - b. A description of how either the Class A or Class B pathogen reduction requirements are met or whether sewage sludge placed on a surface disposal site is covered with soil or other material at the end of each operating day.
  - c. A description of how the vector attraction reduction requirements are met.
  - d. Results of a ground-water monitoring program developed by a qualified ground-water scientist, or a certification by a qualified ground-water scientist may be used to demonstrate that sewage sludge placed on an active sewage sludge unit does not contaminate an aquifer.
5. Reporting Requirements - The permittee shall report annually on the DMR the following information:
  - a. Report YES for liner and leachate collection system at surface disposal site.
  - b. The frequency of monitoring listed in Element 2, Section I.D. which applies to the permittee.
  - c. Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) results (Pass/Fail).

- d. The concentration (mg/Kg) in the sludge of PCBs.
- e. Level of pathogen reduction achieved (Class A or Class B), unless Vector attraction reduction alternative no. 11 is used.
- f. List Alternative used as listed in Section I.C.3.(a. or b.). Alternatives describe how the pathogen reduction requirements are met.
- g. Vector attraction reduction Alternative used as listed in Section I.B.4. h.
- h. Annual sludge production in dry metric tons/year.
- i. Amount of sludge surface disposed in dry metric tons/year.
- j. Amount of sludge transported interstate in dry metric tons/year.
- k. A narrative description explaining how the management practices in §503.24 are met shall be attached to the DMR.
- l. A certification statement that all applicable requirements (specifically listed) have been met, and that the permittee understands that there are significant penalties for false certification including fine and imprisonment (See 503.27(a)(1)(ii) or 503.27(a)(2)(ii) whichever applies to the permittees sludge disposal activities) shall be attached to the DMR.

### **ELEMENT 3 - MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL DISPOSAL**

#### **SECTION I. REQUIREMENTS APPLYING TO ALL SEWAGE SLUDGE DISPOSED IN A MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL**

1. The permittee shall handle and dispose of sewage sludge in accordance with Section 405 of the Clean Water Act and all other applicable Federal regulations to protect public health and the environment from any reasonably anticipated adverse effects due to any toxic pollutants that may be present. The permittee shall ensure that the sewage sludge meets the requirements in 40 CFR 258 concerning the quality of the sludge disposed in a municipal solid waste landfill unit.
2. If requirements for sludge management practices or pollutant criteria become more stringent than the sludge pollutant limits or acceptable management practices in this permit, or control a pollutant not listed in this permit, this permit may be modified or revoked and reissued to conform to the requirements promulgated at Section 405(d)(2) of the Clean Water Act.
3. If the permittee generates sewage sludge and supplies that sewage sludge to the owner or operator of a MSWLF for disposal, the permittee shall provide to the owner or operator of the MSWLF appropriate information needed to be in compliance with the provisions of this permit.
4. The permittee shall give prior notice to EPA (Chief, Permits Branch, Water Management Division, Mail Code 6WQ-P, EPA Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202) of any planned changes in the sewage sludge disposal practice, in accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.41(l)(1)(iii). These changes may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit. Change in the sludge use or disposal practice may be because for modification of the permit in accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.62(a)(1).
5. The permittee shall provide the location of all existing sludge disposal/use sites to the State Historical Commission within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. In addition, the permittee shall provide the location of any new disposal/use site to the State Historical Commission prior to use of the site. The permittee shall within 30 days after notification by the State Historical Commission that a specific sludge disposal/use area will adversely affect a National Historic Site, cease use of such area.

6. Sewage sludge shall be tested once during the life of the permit within one year from the effective date of the permit in accordance with the method specified at 40 CFR 268, Appendix I (Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP)) or other approved methods. Sludge shall be tested after final treatment prior to leaving the POTW site. Sewage sludge determined to be a hazardous waste in accordance with 40 CFR Part 261, shall be handled according to RCRA standards for the disposal of hazardous waste in accordance with 40 CFR Part 262. The disposal of sewage sludge determined to be a hazardous waste, in other than a certified hazardous waste disposal facility shall be prohibited. The Information Management Section, telephone no. (214) 665-6750, and the appropriate state agency shall be notified of test failure within 24 hours. A written report shall be provided to this office within 7 days after failing the TCLP. The report will contain test results, certification that unauthorized disposal has not occurred and a summary of alternative disposal plans that comply with RCRA standards for the disposal of hazardous waste. The report shall be addressed to: Director, Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division, EPA Region 6, Mail Code 6PD, 144 5 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202. A copy of this report shall be sent to the Chief, Water Enforcement Branch, Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, Mail Code 6EN-W, at the same street address.
7. Sewage sludge shall be tested as needed, or at a minimum, once/year in accordance with the method 9095 (Paint Filter Liquids Test) as described in "Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Wastes, Physical/Chemical Methods" (EPA Pub. No. SW-846).
8. Recordkeeping requirements - The permittee shall develop the following information and shall retain the information for five years.
  - a. The description, including procedures followed, and results of the Paint Filter Tests performed.
  - b. The description, including procedures followed, and results of the TCLP Test.
9. Reporting requirements - The permittee shall report annually on the Discharge Monitoring Report the following information:
  - a. Results of the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure Test conducted on the sludge to be disposed (Pass/Fail).
  - b. Annual sludge production in dry metric tons/year.
  - c. Amount of sludge disposed in a municipal solid waste landfill in dry metric tons/year.
  - d. Amount of sludge transported interstate in dry metric tons/year.
  - e. A certification that sewage sludge meets the requirements in 40 CFR 258 concerning the quality of the sludge disposed in a municipal solid waste landfill unit shall be attached to the DMR.