TPDES PERMIT NO.
WQ0010575004
[For TCEQ office use only - EPA I.D. No. TX0105171]

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

This minor amendment supersedes and replaces TPDES Permit No. WQ0010575004 issued on September 20, 2023, and is reissued pursuant to 30 TAC § 305.62 (c)(2).

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

City of Mount Pleasant

whose mailing address is

501 North Madison Avenue
Mount Pleasant, Texas 75455

is authorized to treat and discharge wastes from the Southside Wastewater Treatment Facility, SIC Code 4952

located at 2561 County Road 4540, in Titus County, Texas 75455

Interim Phase Outfall 001: to Hart Creek, thence to Big Cypress Creek Below Lake Bob Sandlin in Segment No. 0404 of the Cypress Creek River Basin

Final phase Outfall 002: directly to Big Cypress Creek Below lake Bob Sandlin in Segment No. 0404 of the Cypress Creek River Basin (See Attachment A)

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

This permit shall expire at midnight, **February 27, 2028**.

ISSUED DATE: June 2, 2025

For the Commission

INTERIM EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS — Outfall Number 001

1. During the period beginning upon the date of issuance and lasting through the completion of expansion to the 5.0 million gallons per day (MGD) facility to Outfall 002, the permittee is authorized to discharge subject to the following effluent limitations:

   The annual average flow of effluent shall not exceed 2.91 MGD, nor shall the average discharge during any two-hour period (2-hour peak) exceed 4,646 gallons per minute.

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations				Min. Self-Monitoring Requirements	
	Daily Avg	7-day Avg	Daily Max	Single Grab	Report Daily Avg. & Daily Max.	
	mg/l (lbs/day)	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow, MGD	Report	N/A	Report	N/A	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day)	7 (170)	11	17	25	Two/week	Composite
Total Suspended Solids	15 (364)	25	40	60	Two/week	Composite
Ammonia Nitrogen						
April - October	2 (49)	5	10	15	Two/week	Composite
November - March	3 (73)	6	10	15	Two/week	Composite
Total Phosphorus*	Report (Report)	N/A	Report	N/A	Two/week	Composite
E. coli, colony-forming units or most probable number per 100 ml	126	N/A	399	N/A	One/week	Grab

***See Other Requirement No. 10.**

2. The effluent shall contain a total chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l after a detention time of at least 20 minutes (based on peak flow) and shall be monitored daily by grab sample. The permittee shall dechlorinate the chlorinated effluent to less than 0.1 mg/l total chlorine residual and shall monitor total chlorine residual daily by grab sample after the dechlorination process. An equivalent method of disinfection may be substituted only with prior approval of the Executive Director.

8. The permittee submitted a report on the site-specific study to determine the water-effects ratio (WER) for copper in a portion of an unnamed tributary to Hart Creek and a portion of City of Mount Pleasant TPDES Permit No. WQ0010575004 Page 35 Hart Creek in Segment No. 0404 which receives the permittee's discharge. The study supports changing the freshwater criteria for dissolved copper to less stringent criteria at this time. The calculated final WER is 7.16. The TCEQ and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6, have reviewed and approved the copper water-effects ratio (WER) study for a portion of an unnamed tributary to Hart Creek and a portion of Hart Creek. This WER will result in a calculated copper concentration for the protection of aquatic life that does not require effluent limits or monitoring requirements in the permit. Therefore, the temporary variance to the existing water quality standard is removed.

   The WER of 7.16 has been incorporated into the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, 30 Texas Administrative Code Section 307.10 Appendix E. This permit may be reopened to require effluent copper limits if a determination, based on more current and sufficient information, is made by the TCEQ and the U.S. EPA that the WER of 7.16 is not appropriate.

9. In accordance with 30 TAC § 319.9, a permittee that has at least twelve months of uninterrupted compliance with its bacteria limit may notify the commission in writing of its compliance and request a less frequent measurement schedule. To request a less frequent schedule, the permittee shall submit a written request to the TCEQ Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) for each phase that includes a different monitoring frequency. The request must contain all of the reported bacteria values (Daily Avg. and Daily Max/Single Grab) for the twelve consecutive months immediately prior to the request. If the Executive Director finds that a less frequent measurement schedule is protective of human health and the environment, the permittee may be given a less frequent measurement schedule. For this permit, one/week may be reduced to two/month in the Interim and Final phases. **A violation of any bacteria limit by a facility that has been granted a less frequent measurement schedule will require the permittee to return to the standard frequency schedule and submit written notice to the TCEQ Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148).** The permittee may not apply for another reduction in measurement frequency for at least 24 months from the date of the last violation. The Executive Director may establish a more frequent measurement schedule if necessary to protect human health or the environment.

10. The permittee is hereby placed on notice that this permit maybe reviewed and reopened by the TCEQ if Segment No. 0403 is not meeting the endpoint (i.e., 56%) and/or the total wasteload allocation (WLA) of 27,000 kg/yr. (for all point sources) for total phosphorus as required in the One Total Maximum Daily Load for Dissolved Oxygen in Lake O' the Pines for Segment No. 0403 (TMDL Project No. 19). For this facility, the TMDL identified an annual load of 2,300 kg/yr (5,072 lbs/yr). The permit may be amended, pursuant to 30 TAC 305.62, as a result of such review to include additional permit conditions, such as effluent limits for total phosphorus, if implementation efforts do not result in suitable water quality improvements in Lake O' the Pines or achieve the total reduction wasteload allocation of 27,000 kg/yr as established in the TMDL.

11. Prior to construction of the Final phase facility, the permittee shall submit to the TCEQ Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) a summary transmittal letter in accordance with the requirements in 30 TAC § 217.6(d). If requested by the Wastewater Permitting Section, the permittee shall submit plans, specifications, and a final engineering design report which comply with 30 TAC Chapter 217, Design Criteria for Domestic Wastewater Systems. The

CONTRIBUTING INDUSTRIES AND PRETREATMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. The following pollutants may not be introduced into the treatment facility:

   a. 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 flash point of less than 140° Fahrenheit (60° Celsius) using the test methods specified in 40 CFR § 261.21;

   b. Pollutants which will cause corrosive structural damage to the POTW, but in no case shall there be discharges with a pH lower than 5.0 standard units, unless the works are specifically designed to accommodate such discharges;

   c. Solid or viscous pollutants in amounts which will cause obstruction to the flow in the POTW, resulting in Interference;

   d. Any pollutant, including oxygen-demanding pollutants (e.g., biochemical oxygen demand), released in a discharge at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which will cause Interference with the POTW;

   e. Heat in amounts which will inhibit biological activity in the POTW, resulting in Interference, but in no case shall there be heat in such quantities that the temperature at the POTW treatment plant exceeds 104° Fahrenheit (40° Celsius) unless the Executive Director, upon request of the POTW, approves alternate temperature limits;

   f. Petroleum oil, nonbiodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral oil origin in amounts that will cause Interference or Pass Through;

   g. 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

   h. Any trucked or hauled pollutants except at discharge points designated by the POTW.

2. 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 Clean Water Act, including any requirements established under 40 CFR Part 403 [*rev. Federal Register/ Vol. 70/ No. 198/ Friday, October 14, 2005/ Rules and Regulations, pages 60134-60798*].

3. The permittee shall provide adequate notification to the Executive Director, care of the Wastewater Permitting Section (MC 148) of the Water Quality Division, within 30 days subsequent to the permittee's knowledge of either of the following:

   a. Any new introduction of pollutants into the treatment works from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Sections 301 and 306 of the Clean Water Act if it were directly discharging those pollutants; and

   b. 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 the quality and quantity of effluent to be introduced into the treatment works and any anticipated impact of the change on the quality or quantity of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.

Revised July 2007

the biological opinion. The permit does not require EPA review with respect to the presence of endangered or threatened species.

Segment No. 0404 is currently listed in the State's inventory of impaired and threatened waters (the 2020 CWA § 303(d) list). The listings are specifically for bacteria in water (recreation use) from the confluence with an unnamed tributary NHD RC 11140305002717 upstream 37.2 km (23 mi) to Lake Bob Sandlin. This facility is designed to provide adequate disinfection and, when operated properly, should not add to the bacterial impairment of the segment. In addition, in order to ensure that the proposed discharge meets the stream bacterial standard, an effluent limitation of 126 CFU or MPN of *E. coli* per 100 ml will be continued in the draft permit.

The pollutant analysis of treated effluent provided by the permittee in the application indicated 304 mg/l total dissolved solids (TDS), 61.9 mg/l sulfate, and 64.8 mg/l chloride present in the effluent. The segment criteria for Segment No. 0404 are 500 mg/l for TDS, 100 mg/l for sulfate, and 100 mg/l for chlorides. Based on dissolved solids screening, no additional limits or monitoring requirements are needed for total dissolved solids, chloride, or sulfate was performed.

The Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) *One Total Maximum Daily Load for Dissolved Oxygen in Lake O' the Pines for Segment 0403* (Project No. 19) has been approved by the EPA for dischargers located in this segment (0404).

On April 12, 2006, the TCEQ adopted *One Total Maximum Daily Load for Dissolved Oxygen in Lake O' the Pines for Segment 0403* (Project No. 19). The EPA approved the TMDL on June 07, 2006. An Implementation Plan was approved by the TCEQ on July 9, 2008. Dissolved oxygen concentrations compliant with the TSWQS are the final endpoint for the TMDL in Lake O' the Pines. Total phosphorus input reductions to the reservoir are the intermediate water quality targets for achieving the final endpoint goals (i.e. 56% load reduction) of the TMDL.

The TMDL specifies a total wasteload allocation (WLA) of 27,000 kg/yr of total phosphorus from regulated sources. Pilgrim's Pride Corporation has agreed to take on the full phosphorus reductions required for the entire group of permittees listed in the TMDL. The remaining seven permittees will be assigned individual phosphorus monitoring requirements. The TCEQ will evaluate the self-reported total phosphorus data for all eight of these facilities on an ongoing basis to ensure that as a group they are meeting the combined WLA of 27,000 kg/yr of total phosphorus limit identified in the TMDL. There are some other domestic dischargers and a number of industrial permits that are not included in the phosphorus input reduction of the TMDL, in which their individual permits are not subject to a limit or monitoring of total phosphorus.

The seven point source municipal dischargers included in the aggregated load for total phosphorus monitoring requirements established through a WQMP update to the TMDL are City of Omaha (TPDES Permit No. WQ0010239001), City of Pittsburg – Sparks Branch (TPDES Permit No. WQ0010250001), City of Pittsburg – Dry Creek (TPDES Permit No. WQ0010250002), City of Daingerfield (TPDES Permit No. WQ0010499001), City of Mount Pleasant (TPDES Permit No. WQ0010575004), City of Lone Star (TPDES Permit No. WQ0014365001), and City of Ore City (TPDES Permit No. WQ0014389001). These seven permits are not assigned a total phosphorus permit limit, but are required to conduct phosphorus monitoring.

The effluent limitations and conditions in the draft permit comply with EPA-approved portions of the 2018 Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (TSWQS), 30 TAC §§ 307.1 - 307.10, effective March 1, 2018; 2014 TSWQS, effective March 6, 2014; 2010 TSWQS, effective July 22, 2010; and 2000 TSWQS, effective July 26, 2000.

(2) CONVENTIONAL PARAMETERS

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

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

The effluent limitations in the draft permit meet the requirements for secondary treatment and the requirements for disinfection according to 30 TAC Chapter 309, Subchapter A: Effluent Limitations.

(3) COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

The facility is not located in the Coastal Management Program boundary.

C. WATER QUALITY-BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS/CONDITIONS

(1) GENERAL COMMENTS

The Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (30 TAC Chapter 307) state that surface waters will not be toxic to man, or to terrestrial or aquatic life. The methodology outlined in the "Procedures to Implement the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, June 2010" is designed to ensure compliance with 30 TAC Chapter 307. Specifically, the methodology is designed to ensure that no source will be allowed to discharge any