



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

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March 28, 2024

Thrifty Payless, INC
ATTN: Jeff Roberts
Rite Aid Distribution Center #0080
29555 SW Boones Ferry Road
Wilsonville, OR 97070-9245

RE: Warning Letter
Thrifty Payless, INC
2024-WL-9183
Permit No. 13685; EPA ID OR750012
DEQ File No. 107737
Clackamas County

Dear Thrifty Payless:

In August 2023, DEQ received a noncompliance notification that the Rite Aid Distribution Center #0080 had discharged water in exceedance of their permit limits. This is a violation of Schedule A of the assigned permit number 13685. Operators ceased washing activities and began investigating the incident. The following information was provided by AECOM:

1. Upon learning of the pH excursion, it was immediately decided to cease washing the trailers onsite. This status remains in effect and will continue through site closure on April 30, 2024.
 - a. Accordingly, the Thrifty Payless' vendor has not investigated further, as their services were immediately terminated, and all washing onsite ceased. No trailer washing has occurred onsite since the pH excursion.
2. When trailer washing was occurring, the wastewater treatment system effluent outfall emptied into a storm water sewer, which gravity flows into a swale. The swale is completely dry during the dry season, as it has no additional inflow, upstream of the dedicated/segregated wash pad wastewater treatment system. No offsite discharge was observed on the day of the pH excursion. Note: Although trailer washing has ceased, the water treatment system is still in place at the request of the property landlord.
3. Rite Aid will clean the oil-water separator prior to site closure on April 30, 2024, even though there has only been rain water passing through since early August 2023.

Violation

Based on this review, DEQ has concluded that Thrifty Payless, INC is responsible for the following violation of its permit and Oregon environmental law:

Date	Violation	Violation Class
July 03, 2023	The reported grab sample pH of 9.37 standard units (s.u.) was 0.37 s.u. above the permit limit of 9.0 s.u.	Class III Violating a Technology Based Effluent Limit (TBEL) if the discharge is outside the permitted pH range by 1 pH s.u. or less OAR 340-012-0055(3)(b)

Class 1 violations are considered to be the most serious violations; Class 3 violations are the least serious. Oregon Revised Statute 468B.025 (2) states that “No person shall violate conditions of any waste discharge permit issued under ORS 468(b).050.”

This notice is a Warning Letter. DEQ does not intend to take formal enforcement action at this time. However, should you repeat any of these violations, the matter may be referred to DEQ’s Office of Compliance and Enforcement for formal enforcement action, including assessment of civil penalties and/or a DEQ order. Civil penalties can be assessed for each day of violation.

If you believe any of the facts in this Warning Letter are in error, you may provide written information to me at the address shown at the top of the letter within 30 days. The Department will consider new information you submit and take appropriate action.

DEQ wants to help you comply with your permit conditions and limits. If you have any questions about this letter’s content, please contact me via email at mark.bentz@deq.oregon.gov or by phone at 503-869-8264.

Sincerely,



Mark Bentz
Water Quality Compliance Specialist

ecc: Tiffany Yelton-Bram, WQ Source Control NWR DEQ