



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

Western Region Salem Office

4026 Fairview Industrial Dr SE

Salem, OR 97302

(503) 378-8240

FAX (503) 373-7944

TTY 711

May 6, 2024

Nathan Frarck, City Administrator
City of Amity
PO Box 159
Amity, OR 97101-0159

Re: Warning Letter with Opportunity to Correct
City of Amity STP
2024-WLOTC-9285
NPDES Permit #101924, EPA ID OR0026212
File 2772
WQ-Yamhill County

Dear Mr. Frarck,

DEQ has reviewed the sanitary sewer overflow report received on April 2, 2024. The SSO reported had 2,000 gallons spilled on April 2, 2024. The overflow left the force main around 303 Oak Street and affected the ground near this lift station, the storm system, but most likely did not reach Salt Creek.

City of Amity staff reported this SSO to OERS within 24 hours of becoming aware of the SSO. The reported cause of the SSO was a break in the force main.

Violation

Based on this review DEQ has concluded the City of Amity is responsible for the following violation of its permit and Oregon environmental law.

Schedule F, section B, condition 6(b) of the permit prohibits all overflows. The SSO reached waters of the United States and therefore is a Class I violation per OAR 340-012-0055(1)(a).

Class I violations are the most serious violations; Class III violations are the least serious. Oregon Revised Statute 468B.025(2) requires compliance with your permit.

Requested Corrective Actions

1. Schedule F, section B, condition 1 requires proper operation and maintenance of all facilities and systems of treatment control (and related appurtenances). Maintenance of the pump station and force main are needed to maintain the integrity of the pipes and should be inspected and/or replaced as they come to the end of their useful life. The

average life span of asbestos cement pipe is 50-70 years. The City of Amity needs to determine the age of the force main and determine a replacement program for this pipe.

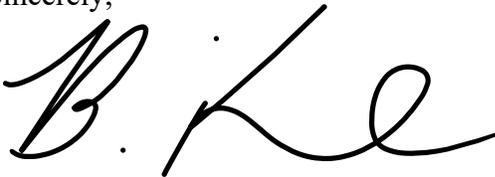
2. While the city promptly reported the SSO to OERS as required by Schedule F, section D, condition 5(a), information sent to DEQ at different times were inconsistent and incomplete. Please ensure that reports are provided to DEQ that are accurate and complete. If the city needs more time to gather the facts or needs assistance with completing a DEQ form, please contact me for help.

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 information to me at the office at the address shown at the top of this letter. DEQ will consider the new information you submit and take appropriate action.

If you have any questions, please contact me in writing at brenda.kuiken@deq.oregon.gov or by phone at (503) 893-0924.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Kuiken', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brenda Kuiken
WQ Compliance Specialist

cc: DEQ Salem Office file

ec: Ranei Nomura, Manager, Western Region DEQ
Oregon Records Management Solution
Greg Binks, PW Superintendent