



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

## Department of Environmental Quality

Western Region Salem Office

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Salem, OR 97302

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TTY 711

February 19, 2025

Steve Martinenko, City Administrator  
664 Commercial Street  
Monroe, OR 97456-8403

Re: Warning Letter with Opportunity to Correct  
Monroe Sewage Treatment Plant  
2025-WLOTC-9842  
NPDES Permit #101692, EPA ID OR0029203  
File 57951  
WQ-Benton County

Dear Mr. Martinenko,

DEQ has completed a records review for City of Monroe to determine compliance with the conditions of National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit number 101692, issued to City of Monroe on May 12, 2022. The findings are summarized below.

### Records Review

I reviewed records from November 2021 through December 2024. City of Monroe has submitted all monthly discharge monitoring reports (DMR) on time in NetDMR. Based upon this review, DEQ has concluded that City of Monroe is responsible for the following violations.

### Schedule A Effluent Limit Violations

1. Schedule A, Table A1 of the permit requires City of Monroe to meet a monthly average BOD<sub>5</sub> load limit of 45 lb/d. In January 2024 City of Monroe reported a monthly average of 55 lb/d. This is a Class II violation per OAR 340-012-0055(2)(a)(A).

### Schedule B Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

Table B1 of the permit lists out minimum monitoring and reporting requirements of the permit. The City of Monroe failed to submit the following reports. Failing to timely submit a report or plan as required by the permit is a Class II violation per AOR 340-012-0055(2)(b).

**Table 1 – Failure to Report Violations**

Reporting Requirement	Due Date of Report	Violation Class
Industrial User Survey	1/15/2024	II
Sludge Depth Survey	2/15/2024	II
Outfall Inspection	1/15/2025	II
Lagoon Leak Test	1/15/2025	II
Sludge Depth Survey	2/15/2025	II

Please note that Class I violations are the most serious violations; Class III violations are the least serious. Compliance with your permit is required by Oregon Revised Statute 468B.025(2).

**Requested Corrective Actions**

1. Submit Industrial User Survey results by March 31, 2025.
2. Submit Outfall Inspection Report by September 15, 2025.
3. Submit Lagoon Leak Test results by September 15, 2025.
4. Submit Sludge Depth Survey for calendar year 2025 by September 15, 2025.

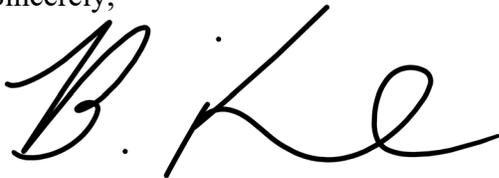
DEQ has received a request that the permit be reviewed and to modify the sludge depth survey reporting to once during the permit cycle. That request will be addressed in a separate communication.

This notice is a warning letter with opportunity to correct. 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](mailto:brenda.kuiken@deq.oregon.gov) or by phone at (503) 893-0924.

Sincerely,



Brenda Kuiken  
WQ Compliance Specialist

cc: DEQ Salem Office file  
ec: Ranei Nomura, Manager, Western Region DEQ  
Oregon Records Management Solution  
Chuck Scholz, City of Monroe DRC