



# 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 27, 2025

Jerry Lachenbruch, Mayor  
City of Halsey  
PO Box 10  
Halsey, OR 97348

Re: Inspection Report  
City of Halsey Sewage Treatment Plant  
NPDES Permit #101297, EPA ID OR0022390  
File 36320  
WQ-Linn County

Dear Mr. Lachenbruch,

On February 2, 2025, DEQ conducted a compliance evaluation inspection of the City of Halsey's wastewater treatment process. The purpose of the inspection was to determine compliance with the conditions of National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit number 101297, issued to the city on November 9, 2012. The findings are summarized below. I have enclosed a copy of the inspection report checklist that provides additional information.

### Records Review

I reviewed records from May 2024 through January 2025. The city has submitted all monthly discharge monitoring reports (DMR) on time in NetDMR. The January 2025 NetDMR entry had some issues with data entry, but staff quickly corrected the information once they were made aware of the issue. In general, the plant is operated and maintained well.

Based on the inspection of the treatment plant DEQ recommends that the city make some corrections to the standard operating procedures and QA/QC plan as listed below.

### Requested Corrective Actions:

By September 30, 2025, please submit documentation that the following improvements to the facility plans and procedures are completed:

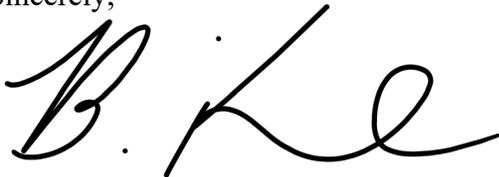
1. Certify the NIST thermometer located at the chlorine building. Document that certification.
2. Install thermometers that have been checked against a NIST certified thermometer in the influent and effluent composite samplers and any refrigerator and/or cooler where samples are stored before analysis.
3. Record the temperatures for all lab sample storage containers during the time of use.

4. Ensure that the QA/QC manual currently in use, follows the guidelines located within the inspection report checklist on page 9 of 19.
5. Ensure the standards, sample duplicates, spikes and blanks for chlorine residual are being recorded.
6. Replace the chlorine standards. Ensure the standards are within their expiration data at all times.
7. Ensure that the Emergency Response and Public Notification Plan meets the requirements listed in Schedule F Condition B8 of the permit.
8. Complete the Inflow and Infiltration Plan and begin to follow the recommendations listed in the plan.

There are no violations to be noted at this time and the facility seems to be running as designed. The facility does have difficulty meeting percent removal efficiencies in the shoulder seasons so a well executed inflow and infiltration plan will help to reduce the amount of clear water flowing into the lagoons which in turn will help with the percent removal efficiencies. The Wastewater Facility Plan recommended the removal of solids from the lagoons. Solids removal will be critical in the future and some indicators of the immediate need for removal would be the inability of the facility to meet BOD and TSS permit requirements on a monthly, weekly or daily basis. The facility is currently meeting these requirements, but solids removal will ensure long-term permit compliance.

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,

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

cc: Ranei Nomura, Manager, Western Region DEQ  
Oregon Records Management Solution  
Andy Ridinger, Lead Utility Operator  
Billie Jones, Utility Worker I