



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department Environmental Quality
Eastern Region Pendleton Office
800 SE Emigrant Ave., Suite 330
Pendleton, OR 97801
541-276-4063

March 12, 2025

Mayor Cody Lathrop
Dave Wilke, Wastewater Operator
City of Enterprise
102 E. North Street
Enterprise, Oregon 97828-1129

RE: **Warning Letter**
City of Enterprise
2025-WL-9861
NPDES permit #101659, EPA ID# OR0020567
WQ file #27514
WQ – Wallowa County

Dear Mayor Lathrop and Mr. Wilke:

The City of Enterprise (City) operates a wastewater treatment and discharge system under National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit No. 101659. The City is required to monitor for effluent in accordance with the NPDES permit, Schedule B, Table B3.

In March 2024, the City collected 5-day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅) samples twice weekly, however, the March 13, 2024 sample failed to meet the required method holding times for influent and effluent analysis. An additional sample was taken on March 15, 2024 which failed to meet quality control procedures during analysis at the lab. A noncompliance report form was submitted on April 10, 2024, and no other violations were reported (Attachment 1). During the reporting period, at least one sample was collected, and the missed sampling was less frequent than the limit averaging period.

Violations: Failure to Monitor

DEQ has concluded that the City of Enterprise is responsible for the following two violations of Oregon environmental law:

Date	Violation	Violation Class
March 13, 2024	Influent BOD ₅ (mg/L) monitoring failed to meet holding times required by the facility's quality assurance plan resulting in a violation of failing to collect monitoring data required in Schedule B of the permit (OAR 340-012-0055(1)(o)).	I
March 13, 2024	Effluent BOD ₅ (mg/L) monitoring failed to meet holding times required by the facility's quality assurance plan resulting in a violation of failing to collect monitoring data required in Schedule B of the permit (OAR 340-012-0055(1)(o)).	I

Class I violations are considered to be the most serious violations; Class III violations are the least serious. Compliance with this permit is required by Oregon Revised Statute 468B.025(2).

Environmental Impact of Violations

Fulfilling the mandatory monitoring and reporting requirements is an important obligation. Without accurate data collection, the City, DEQ, and the public are unable to promptly evaluate the effectiveness of the City's treatment system and its impact on environmental and human health.

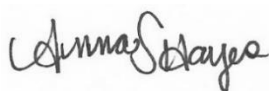
Summary

This notice is a warning letter. DEQ does not intend to take formal enforcement action at this time. Also, 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 may 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 email address below. I will consider any new information you submit and take appropriate action.

If you have any questions, please contact me in writing, at anna.morgan-hayes@deq.oregon.gov, or at 541-246-4562.

Sincerely,



Anna Morgan-Hayes

City of Enterprise
March 12, 2025
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Water Quality Permitting and Compliance
Eastern Region – Water Quality Permitting

cc: Water Quality Permit Compliance, Eastern Region, DEQ
ec: Mike Hiatt, Manager, Eastern Region, DEQ
Oregon Records Management Solution

Attachment 1: Noncompliance Report Form, City of Enterprise, April 10, 2024



Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Noncompliance Reporting Form

For all permit violations, including monitoring requirements.

Use this form to report all instances of noncompliance *except* sanitary sewage overflows. Fill out all fields and sign. You may attach additional information to this report to explain the circumstances of noncompliance. This information may include but is not limited to maintenance records and monitoring results.

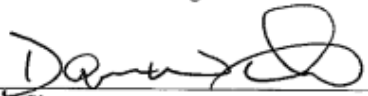
FACILITY / CONTACT INFORMATION		
Name of Permittee: City of Enterprise		
Contact Name: Dave Wilkie		
Phone: 541-398-2400	Email: dwilkie@enterpriseoregon.gov	Date: 4/10/2024
DEQ Permit #: 101659	DEQ File #: 27514	EPA ID #: OR0020567
Has non-compliance been corrected?: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		
Expected time noncompliance is expected to continue: N/A		
Date/Time Started: 3/13/2024		Date/Time Stopped: 3/15/2024
Description of Noncompliance: 3/13/24 BOD sample delayed in transit while in custody of lab resulting in sample being out of 48hr hold time. Another sample sent 3/15/24 this sample received invalid results due to quality control failure during analysis at the lab.		
AGENCY AND PUBLIC NOTIFICATION		
Was the non-compliance one of the following:		
• A noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment	Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
• An unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in this permit	Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
• An upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in this permit	Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
• Violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation	Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
If yes to any of the above, complete the rest of this section.		
OERS Number:		
Signs posted? Where?:		
Media contacted? Who?:		
List any other steps taken to notify the public and/or state and federal agencies:		
CAUSE(S)		
Cause or suspected cause(s):		

Oregon DEQ Noncompliance Reporting Form

continued

RAINFALL DATA	
Rainfall (for storm-related noncompliance):	Design Storm:
inches	inches
Source of rainfall data:	
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS	
List actions taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.	
Actions taken (describe):	
Actions planned and schedule for those actions (describe):	
COMMENTS	
Comments:	

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.



Authorized Signature

Dave Wilkie

Name (print)

Wastewater Operations Manager

Title (print)

4-10-24

Date

541-398-2400

Phone

dwilkie@enterprise

Email
Oregon.gov
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Umpqua Research Company

Analytical Service (541) 276-0385
Physical Address: 466 SW 6th St Pendleton, OR 97801
Mailing Address: PO Box 746 Pendleton, OR 97801

To: Dave Wilkie
City of Enterprise
102 E North St.
Enterprise, OR 97828

Date: 3/25/2024

Subject: BOD data invalid – 3/15/2024 Sample Date

Dear Mr. Wilke,

This letter is to inform you of issues with the BOD analysis for your INFLUENT and EFFLUENT water collected on March 13th and again on March 15th.

The samples collected for BOD analysis on Wednesday, March 13, from the INFLUENT and EFFLUENT sample sites, were received in our Pendleton lab the afternoon of March 13th. We then shipped them the same day, via UPS, to our laboratory in Myrtle Creek, Oregon for analysis. Unfortunately, the samples were not delivered by UPS on Thursday, March 14th as expected. We received an email from UPS, Thursday March 14th, that stated a projected delivery time outside the 48-hour BOD hold time.

With this information, we contacted you and the decision was made to sample the INFLUENT and EFFLUENT on Friday, March 15th. We received your samples Friday, March 15th and ran the BOD test at our Pendleton Laboratory.

Unfortunately, the BOD analysis for your INFLUENT and EFFLUENT water, sampled on Friday, March 15th, have invalid results. Our QC sample for water + seed failed which unfortunately makes all the data in the run invalid. We apologize for the inconvenience.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact our lab at 541-276-0385.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amy Kasiska".

Amy Kasiska
Lab Manager
URC- Table Rock
Pendleton, OR 97801