



# 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

December 3, 2025

Kyle Schauer, Public Works Director  
City of Veneta  
PO Box 458  
Veneta, OR 97487

Re: Pre-Enforcement Notice  
Veneta Sewage Treatment Plant  
2025-PEN-10056  
NPDES Permit #102480, EPA ID OR0020532  
File 92762, Site RID 21627  
WQ-Lane County

Dear Mr. Schauer,

DEQ has completed a records review for the City of Veneta to determine compliance with the conditions of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit number 102480, issued on December 13, 2013. The findings are summarized below.

### Records Review

I reviewed records from August 2024 through October 2025. The city has submitted all monthly discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) on time in NetDMR. Based upon this review, DEQ has concluded that the city is responsible for a Schedule A violation.

### Schedule A Violation

During the month of August 2025, the city completed maintenance within the treatment facility which caused solids to flow out of the clarifier and into the disinfection system. In turn, this caused the efficiency of the UV disinfection system to lower due to a higher turbidity within the UV system. Once the maintenance on the clarifier was completed and the UV system was cleaned the disinfection system efficiency returned to normal.

Schedule A, condition 2a of your NPDES permit requires the city to meet an *E. coli* bacteria limit of 406 organisms per 100 mL in a single sample for Class D recycled water discharge. The city violated their permit limit on August 19, 2025, by discharging bacteria with a count of 2,419 organisms per 100 mL. Failing to meet bacteria reduction limits is a Class I violation per OAR 340-012-0055(1)(k).

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

**Requested Corrective Action**

No later than March 1, 2026, submit to DEQ a plan for conducting upkeep within the treatment facility that sustains the efficiency of the UV disinfection system during times of maintenance activities.

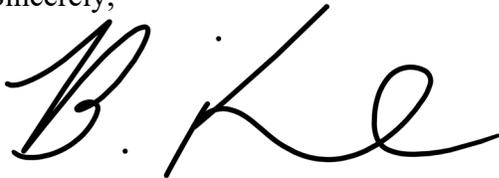
**Referral for Formal Enforcement Action**

This is a serious violation and, accordingly, it is being referred to DEQ's Office of Compliance and Enforcement for formal enforcement action. Formal enforcement action may result in assessment of a civil penalty and/or DEQ order. Civil penalties can be assessed for each day of violation.

If you believe any of the facts in this pre-enforcement notice 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,

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