



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

JUN 26 2013

OFFICE OF
WATER AND
WATERSHEDS

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Doug Buys
Public Works Director
PO Box 324
New Meadows, Idaho 83654



Re: City of New Meadows, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit
Number: ID-002319-5

Dear Mr. Buys:

We are reissuing a NPDES permit for the City of New Meadows. The enclosed document authorizes the facility to discharge to the Little Salmon River. Also enclosed is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's response to the comments received on the draft permit during the public notice period.

This letter serves as service of notice under 40 CFR §124.19(a). The permit will become effective on the date indicated in the permit unless a timely appeal meeting the requirements of 40 CFR §124.19 is received by the Environmental Appeals Board (EAB). Information about the administrative appeal process may be obtained on-line at <http://www.epa.gov/eab> or by contacting the Clerk of the EAB at (202) 233-0122.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel D. Opalski".

Daniel D. Opalski, Director
Office of Water and Watersheds

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Pete Wagner, Regional Administrator, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Boise
Regional Office

Ms. Lauri Monnot, Watershed Coordinator, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Boise
Regional Office

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

City of New Meadows Wastewater Treatment Plant NPDES Permit ID-0023159 May 7, 2013

On April 6, 2013, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a public notice for the reissuance of the City of New Meadows Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. ID-0023159. This Response to Comments provides a summary of significant comments and provides corresponding EPA responses. The comments resulted in eliminating the weekly average limit for total phosphorus.

Comments were received from the following:

Honorable Mayor Julie Spelman City of New Meadows (City)
Justin Hayes, Program Director, Idaho Conservation League (ICL)

- 1. Comment (City):** We are requesting clarification on temperature monitoring requirements. In the Fact Sheet Table 1 identifies temperature as a daily maximum limit that shall be sampled at 30 minute intervals. Table 2 included in the Fact Sheet references temperature testing at 1-hour intervals and includes a monthly instantaneous maximum, maximum day average, seven-day average running average of the daily instantaneous maximum

Table 1 of the Draft NPDES permit states temperature shall be recorded at 1-hour intervals reported as a maximum daily average. As such, is the daily maximum limit of 20.8°C considered a maximum daily average using 1-hour sample data?

Response: Table one of the draft permit is correct. The effluent limitation of 20.8°C is a maximum daily average measured by setting the recording device to record at one-hour intervals and averaging the intervals over 24 hours.

- 2. Comment (City):** The Little Salmon River is not impaired for ammonia and the Basis for Effluent Limitations (Appendix B of the Fact Sheet) indicates no reasonable potential to violate standards of ammonia. Since ammonia is not a concern and to save on testing costs, the City is requesting ammonia testing of the wastewater effluent and surface water be removed from the permit requirements.

Response: The City provided limited surface water monitoring data to support the application for renewal and allow calculations to determine whether there was reasonable potential to exceed water quality standards. The information provided included only single data points for pH and temperature, which are necessary to determine water quality criteria for ammonia. Ammonia background and effluent is also required for the reasonable potential calculations. Therefore, surface water monitoring data are required under the permit to be used in reasonable potential determinations for the next permit cycle. Ammonia effluent levels also provide an indication of the operational efficiency of the wastewater treatment plant.

3. **Comment (ICL):** *The Little Salmon River Subbasin Assessment and TMDL*, developed by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in 2006 and subsequently approved by the EPA, is the approved TMDL for this segment of the Little Salmon River. This TMDL established Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) for point sources that discharge in to this segment of the river, including this facility.

This TMDL established a Total Phosphorus (TP) WLA of 0.1 kg/day [equivalent to 0.22 lbs/day] for the WWTP. This is also expressed in the TMDL as 3 kg/month [equivalent to 6.6 lbs/month]. The WLA is “the maximum daily load” that this facility can lawfully discharge.

When developing NPDES effluent limits, the Clean Water Act provides that the permitting agency (in this case EPA) needs to ensure that these effluent limits are consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the WLA developed in an EPA approved TMDL. The Draft NPDES permit for New Meadows proposes a TP limit as follows:

Average weekly limit is 13.3 lbs/week
Average monthly limit is 6.6 lbs/month

If the facility were to operate in such a manner that it discharged TP at 13.3 lbs/week it would be in compliance with the average weekly limit in the draft permit. However, it would be in violation of the average monthly limit of 6.6 lbs. TOTAL per month. This internal conflict between the weekly limit allowing a discharge of a cumulative 13.3 lbs. per week, yet having a monthly limit of no more than 6.6 lbs/month (total), places the conditions of the permit at odds with itself.

Further, discharging 13.3 lbs/week for any single week in a month exceeds the TMDL wasteload allocation (6.6 lbs/month) assigned to the New Meadows WWTP.

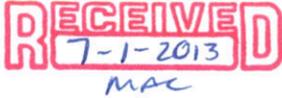
This conflict is unlawful and must be remedied.

If it is the case that EPA needs to craft a weekly limit, that limit must be limited to less than or equal to 6.6 lbs/week and recognize that all of the weekly discharges must not cumulatively exceed the monthly limit since this TMDL is articulated as a cumulative load.

Response: The EPA agrees. *The Little Salmon River Subbasin Assessment and TMDL* provided an allocation of a *cumulative* discharge of 6.6 lbs/month total phosphorus rather than the more common *average* allocation as shown in footnote 6 to Table 1:

⁶Loading is calculated by multiplying the average monthly concentration (mg/L) by the *total flow for the month* [emphasis added] (million gallons) and a conversion factor of 8.34

The proposed weekly limit of 13.3 lbs/week and any weekly average over 6.6 lbs/month would not be consistent with the wasteload allocation. The weekly limit is not required to insure the permit is consistent with the monthly allocation and it is not practicable to derive a weekly limit. The NPDES regulations at 40 CFR §122.45(d) require that permit limits for publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) be expressed as average weekly limits (AWLs), unless impracticable. Since the allocation in this case is cumulative over a month an average weekly limit is impracticable and the weekly limit is not included the final permit.



United States Environmental Protection Agency
 Region 10
 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
 Seattle, Washington 98101

**Authorization to Discharge Under the
 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System**

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §1251 *et seq.*, as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987, P.L. 100-4, the "Act",

**City of New Meadows P.O. Box 324
 New Meadows, Idaho 83654**

is authorized to discharge from a wastewater treatment facility located in the City of New Meadows, Idaho, at the following location(s):

Outfall	Receiving Water	Latitude	Longitude
001	Little Salmon River	44° 58' 38" N	116° 17' 26" W

in accordance with discharge point(s), effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth herein.

This permit shall become effective August 1, 2013

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, July 31, 2018

The permittee shall reapply for a permit reissuance on or before February 1, 2018, 180 days before the expiration of this permit if the permittee intends to continue operations and discharges at the facility beyond the term of this permit.

Signed this 26th day of June, 2013,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel D. Opalski". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Daniel D. Opalski, Director
 Office of Water and Watersheds

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Schedule of Submissions

The following is a summary of some of the items the permittee must complete and/or submit to the EPA during the term of this permit:

Item	Due Date
1. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR)	DMRs are due monthly and must be submitted by the 20 th day of the month. (see Part III.B.).
2. Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Plan	The permittee must provide the EPA and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) with written notification that the Operations and Maintenance Plan has been developed or updated and is being implemented within 180 days after the effective date of this permit. The Plan must be kept on site and made available to the EPA and IDEQ upon request (see Part II.A.).
3. Quality Assurance Plan (QAP)	The permittee must provide the EPA and IDEQ with written notification that the Quality Assurance Plan has been developed and implemented within 90 days after the effective date of this permit. The Plan must be kept on site and made available to the EPA and IDEQ upon request (see Part II.B.).
4. Twenty-Four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting	The permittee must report certain occurrences of noncompliance by telephone to (206) 553-1846 within 24 hours after the time the permittee becomes aware of the certain circumstances (See Part III.G.).
5. Emergency Response and Public Notification Plan	The permittee must provide the EPA and IDEQ with written notification that the Plan has been updated and implemented within 180 days after the effective date of this permit (see Part II.D.).
6. NPDES Application Renewal	The application must be submitted at least 180 days before the expiration date of the final permit (see Part V.B.).

I. Limitations and Monitoring Requirements

A. Discharge Authorization

During the effective period of this permit, the permittee is authorized to discharge pollutants from the outfall specified herein to the Little Salmon River, within the limits and subject to the conditions set forth herein. This permit authorizes the discharge of only those pollutants resulting from facility processes, waste streams and operations that have been clearly identified in the permit application process.

B. Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements

1. Effluent Limitations. The permittee must limit and monitor discharges from Outfall 001 as specified in Table 1, below. All limits represent maximum effluent limits unless otherwise indicated. The permittee must comply with the effluent limits in the table at all times, unless otherwise indicated, regardless of the frequency of monitoring or reporting required by other provisions of this permit.

Table 1: Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements Outfall 001						
Parameter	Effluent Limitations			Monitoring Requirements		
	Average Monthly Limit	Average Weekly Limit	Maximum Daily Limit	Sample Location	Sample Frequency	Sample Type
Flow	---	---	---	Effluent	Continuous	Recording
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD ₅)	30 mg/L	45 mg/L	---	Influent and Effluent ¹	1/week	8-hour composite
	90 lbs/day	135 lbs/day	---		---	Calculation ²
	≥85% removal	---	---	% removal	1/month	Calculation ³
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	45 mg/L	65 mg/L	---	Influent and Effluent ¹	1/week	8-hour composite
	135 lbs/day	195 lbs/day	---		---	Calculation ²
	≥65% removal	---	---	% removal	1/month	Calculation ³
<i>E. coli</i> Bacteria	126 colonies/100 mL ⁴	---	406 colonies/100 mL ⁵	Effluent	5/month	Grab
pH s.u.	6.5 – 9.0			Effluent	1/week	Grab
Total Phosphorus June 21-September 22	6.6 lb/month ⁶	---	---	Effluent	1/week	8-hour composite

Table 1: Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements Outfall 001						
Parameter	Effluent Limitations			Monitoring Requirements		
	Average Monthly Limit	Average Weekly Limit	Maximum Daily Limit	Sample Location	Sample Frequency	Sample Type
Total Phosphorus September 23- June 20 lbs/month ⁷	---	---	---	Effluent	1/month	8-hour composite
Temperature ⁸ °C	---	---	20.8	Effluent	Continuous	Recording
Total Residual Chlorine	0.5 mg/L	0.75 mg/L	---	Effluent	1/week	Grab
	1.5 lbs/day	2.25 lbs/day				
Total Ammonia-Nitrogen ⁹ mg/L	---	---	---	Effluent	1/month	8-hour composite
NPDES Application Form 2A Effluent Testing Data	---	---	---	Effluent	3x/5 years	See footnote 10

¹ Influent and effluent grab samples shall be collected over approximately the same 8-hour period.

² Loading is calculated by multiplying the concentration (mg/L) by the flow (mgd) on the day sampling occurred and a conversion factor of 8.34.

³ Percent removal is calculated using the following equation: ((average monthly influent concentration – average monthly effluent concentration) ÷ average monthly influent concentration) x100.

⁴ The average monthly *E. coli* bacteria counts must not exceed a geometric mean of 126/100 ml based on a minimum of five samples taken every 3-7 days within a calendar month. See Part V for a definition of geometric mean.

⁵ This is an instantaneous maximum limit, applicable to each grab sample without averaging. A violation must be reported within 24 hours.

⁶ Loading is calculated by multiplying the average monthly concentration (mg/L) by the total flow for the month in million gallons and a conversion factor of 8.34

⁷ The permittee shall report monthly loading by procedures in Footnotes 6.

⁸ Continuous effluent monitoring shall begin within six months of the effective date of the permit. Temperature data must be recorded using a micro-recording temperature devices known as thermistors. Set the recording device to record at one-hour intervals. Report the following temperature monitoring data on the DMR: maximum daily average.

Use the temperature device manufacturer's software to generate (export) an Excel text or electronic ASCII text file. The file must be submitted annually to IDEQ by January 31 for the previous monitoring year along with the placement log. The placement logs should include the following information for both thermistor deployment and retrieval: date, time, temperature device manufacturer ID, location, depth, whether it measured air or water temperature, and any other details that may explain data anomalies.

⁹ Method 350.1 must be used.

¹⁰ For Effluent Testing Data, in accordance with instructions in NPDES Application Form 2A, Part B.6.

Table 2	
Minimum Levels	
Parameter	ML
Total Ammonia - N (mg/L)	0.10
Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	0.1
Temperature °C	0.2

2. The permittee must report within 24 hours to the EPA at (206) 553-1846 any violation of the maximum daily limits for *E. coli*. The permittee must report violations of all other effluent limits at the time that discharge monitoring reports are submitted (See Part III.B and Part III.H., below).
3. The permittee must not discharge any floating solids, visible foam in other than trace amounts, or oily wastes that produce a sheen on the surface of the receiving water.
4. The permittee must collect effluent samples from the effluent stream after the last treatment unit prior to discharge into the receiving waters.
5. Minimum Levels. For all effluent monitoring, the permittee must use methods that can achieve a minimum level (ML) less than the effluent limitation. For specific parameters, the permittee must use methods that can achieve MLs less than or equal to those specified in Table 2. For purposes of reporting on the DMR for a single sample, if a value is less than the MDL, the permittee must report "less than {numeric value of the MDL}" and if a value is less than the ML, the permittee must report "less than {numeric value of the ML}."
6. For purposes of calculating monthly averages, except for *E. coli*, zero may be assigned for values less than the MDL, and the {numeric value of the MDL} may be assigned for values between the MDL and the ML. If the average value is less than the MDL, the permittee must report "less than {numeric value of the MDL}" and if the average value is less than the ML, the permittee must report "less than {numeric value of the ML}." If the average value is equal to or greater than the ML, the permittee must report the actual value. The resulting average value must be compared to the compliance level, the ML, in assessing compliance.

C. Surface Water Monitoring

The permittee must conduct surface water monitoring in each calendar quarter of the year (Jan-March, April-June, July-September, October-December). Surface water monitoring must start 180 days after the effective date of the permit and continue until 12 quarterly samples have been collected, analyzed, and reported. The program must meet the following requirements:

1. Monitoring stations must be established in the Little Salmon River above the influence of the facility's discharge.
2. The permittee must seek approval of the surface water monitoring station from IDEQ.

3. A failure to obtain IDEQ approval of surface water monitoring stations does not relieve the permittee of the surface water monitoring requirements of this permit.
4. To the extent practicable, surface water sample collection must occur on the same day as effluent sample collection.
5. All ambient samples must be grab samples.
6. Samples must be analyzed for the parameters listed in Table 3, and must achieve MLs that are equivalent to or less than those listed. The permittee may request different MLs. The request must be in writing and must be approved by the EPA.

Table 3: Surface Water Monitoring Requirements			
Parameter	Method	Units	ML
Total Ammonia as N	grab	mg/L	0.10
Temperature	grab	°C	0.2
pH	grab	standard units	0.1

7. Quality assurance/quality control plans for all the monitoring must be documented in the Quality Assurance Plan required under Part II.B., "Quality Assurance Plan".
8. Surface water monitoring must be reported on the DMR.

II. Special Conditions

A. Operation and Maintenance Plan

In addition to the requirements specified in Part IV.E. of this permit (Proper Operation and Maintenance), within 180 days after the effective date of this permit, the permittee must provide written notice to the EPA and IDEQ that an operation and maintenance plan for the current wastewater treatment facility has been developed and implemented. The plan shall be retained on site and made available on request to the EPA and IDEQ. Any changes occurring in the operation of the plant shall be reflected within the Operation and Maintenance plan.

B. Quality Assurance Plan (QAP)

The permittee must develop and implement a quality assurance plan (QAP) for all monitoring required by this permit. The permittee must submit written notice to the EPA and IDEQ that the Plan has been developed and implemented within 90 days of the effective date of the final permit. Any existing QAPs may be modified for compliance with this section.

1. The QAP must be designed to assist in planning for the collection and analysis of effluent and receiving water samples in support of the permit and in explaining data anomalies when they occur.
2. Throughout all sample collection and analysis activities, the permittee must use the EPA-approved QA/QC and chain-of-custody procedures described in *Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans* (EPA/QA/R-5) and *Guidance for Quality Assurance Project Plans* (EPA/QA/G-5). The QAP must be prepared in the format that is specified in these documents.

3. At a minimum, the QAP must include the following:
 - a) Details on the number of samples, type of sample containers, preservation of samples, holding times, analytical methods, analytical detection and quantitation limits for each target compound, type and number of quality assurance field samples, precision and accuracy requirements, sample preparation requirements, sample shipping methods, and laboratory data delivery requirements.
 - b) Map(s) indicating the location of each sampling point.
 - c) Qualification and training of personnel.
 - d) Name(s), address(es) and telephone number(s) of the laboratories used by or proposed to be used by the permittee.
4. The permittee must amend the QAP whenever there is a modification in sample collection, sample analysis, or other procedure addressed by the QAP.
5. Copies of the QAP must be kept on site and made available to the EPA or IDEQ upon request.

C. Control of Undesirable Pollutants and Industrial Users

1. The permittee must require any industrial user discharging to its treatment works to comply with any applicable requirements of 40 CFR 403 through 471, including the following requirements.
2. The permittee must not allow industrial users to discharge the following pollutants into the POTW:
 - a) Pollutants which create a fire or explosion hazard in the POTW, including, but not limited to, wastestreams with a closed cup flashpoint of less than 140 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) or 60 degrees Centigrade (°C) using the test methods specified in 40 CFR 261.21.
 - b) Pollutants which will cause corrosive structural damage to the POTW, but in no case Discharges with pH lower than 5.0, unless the works is specifically designed to accommodate such Discharges.
 - c) Solid or viscous pollutants in amounts which will cause obstruction to the flow in the POTW resulting in Interference.
 - d) Any pollutant, including oxygen demanding pollutants (BOD, etc.) released in a discharge at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which will cause interference with the POTW.
 - e) Heat in amounts which will inhibit biological activity in the POTW resulting in interference, but in no case heat in such quantities that the temperature at the POTW Treatment Plant exceeds 40 °C (104 °F) unless the Director of the Office of Water and Watersheds, upon request of the POTW, approves alternate temperature limits.
 - f) Petroleum oil, nonbiodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral oil origin in amounts that will cause Interference or pass through.

- g) Pollutants which result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors or fumes within the POTW in a quantity that may cause acute worker health and safety problems.
- h) Any trucked or hauled pollutants, except at discharge points designated by the POTW.
- i) Any pollutant which causes Pass Through or Interference.

D. Emergency Response and Public Notification Plan

1. The permittee must develop and implement an overflow emergency response and public notification plan that identifies measures to protect public health from overflows that may endanger health and unanticipated bypasses or upsets that exceed any effluent limitation in the final permit. At a minimum the plan must include mechanisms to:
 - a) Ensure that the permittee is aware (to the greatest extent possible) of all overflows from portions of the collection system over which the permittee has ownership or operational control and unanticipated bypass or upset that exceed any effluent limitation in the permit;
 - b) Ensure appropriate responses including assurance that reports of an overflow or of an unanticipated bypass or upset that exceed any effluent limitation in the permit are immediately dispatched to appropriate personnel for investigation and response;
 - c) Ensure immediate notification to the public, health agencies, and other affected public entities (including public water systems). The overflow response plan must identify the public health and other officials who will receive immediate notification;
 - d) Ensure that appropriate personnel are aware of and follow the plan and are appropriately trained; and
 - e) Provide for continued operation during emergencies.
2. The permittee must submit written notice to the EPA and IDEQ that the plan has been developed and implemented within 180 days after the effective date of this permit. Any existing emergency response and public notification plan may be modified for compliance with this section.

III. Monitoring, Recording and Reporting Requirements

A. Representative Sampling (Routine and Non-Routine Discharges)

Samples and measurements must be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge.

In order to ensure that the effluent limits set forth in this permit are not violated at times other than when routine samples are taken, the permittee must collect additional samples at the appropriate outfall whenever any discharge occurs that may reasonably be expected to cause or contribute to a violation that is unlikely to be detected by a routine sample. The permittee must analyze the additional samples for those parameters limited in Part I.B. of this permit that are likely to be affected by the discharge.

The permittee must collect such additional samples as soon as the spill, discharge or bypassed effluent reaches the outfall. The samples must be analyzed in accordance with Part III.C. ("Monitoring Procedures"). The permittee must report all additional monitoring in accordance with Part III.D. ("Additional Monitoring by Permittee").

B. Reporting of Monitoring Results

The permittee either must submit monitoring data and other reports in paper form, or must report electronically using NetDMR, a web-based tool that allows permittees to electronically submit DMRs and other required reports via a secure internet connection. Specific requirements regarding submittal of data and reports in paper form and submittal using NetDMR are described below.

1. Paper Copy Submissions

Monitoring data must be submitted using the DMR form (EPA No. 3320-1) or equivalent and must be postmarked by the 20th day of the month following the completed reporting period. The permittee must sign and certify all DMRs, and all other reports, in accordance with the requirements of Part V.E. of this permit ("Signatory Requirements"). The permittee must submit the legible originals of these documents to the Director, Office of Compliance and Enforcement, with copies to Idaho DEQ at the following addresses:

US EPA Region 10
Attn: ICIS Data Entry Team
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
OCE-133
Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

and:

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Boise Regional Office
1445 N. Orchard Street
Boise, ID 83706

2. Electronic Copy Submissions

Monitoring data must be submitted electronically to EPA no later than the 20th of the month following the completed reporting period. All reports required under this permit must be submitted to EPA as a legible electronic attachment to the DMR. The permittee must sign and certify all DMRs, and all other reports, in accordance with the requirements of Part V.E. of this permit ("Signatory Requirements"). Once a permittee begins submitting reports using NetDMR, it will no longer be required to submit paper copies of DMRs or other reports to EPA and IDEQ.

The permittee may use NetDMR after requesting and receiving permission from US EPA Region 10. NetDMR is accessed from <http://www.epa.gov/netdmr>.

C. Monitoring Procedures

Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR 136, unless another method is required under 40 CFR subchapters N or O, or other test procedures have been specified in this permit or approved by EPA as an alternate test procedure under 40 CFR 136.5.

D. Additional Monitoring by Permittee

If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this permit, using test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or as specified in this permit, the permittee must include the results of this monitoring in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR.

Upon request by the EPA, the permittee must submit results of any other sampling, regardless of the test method used.

E. Records Contents

Records of monitoring information must include:

1. the date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
2. the name(s) of the individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
3. the date(s) analyses were performed;
4. the names of the individual(s) who performed the analyses;
5. the analytical techniques or methods used; and
6. the results of such analyses.

F. Retention of Records

The permittee must retain records of all monitoring information, including, all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, copies of DMRs, a copy of the NPDES permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, for a period of at least five years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the EPA or IDEQ at any time.

G. Twenty-four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting

1. The permittee must report the following occurrences of noncompliance by telephone within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances:
 - a) any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment;
 - b) any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit (See Part IV.F., "Bypass of Treatment Facilities");
 - c) any upset that exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit (See Part IV.G., "Upset Conditions"); or

- d) any violation of a maximum daily or instantaneous maximum effluent limitation for applicable pollutants listed in the permit to be reported within 24 hours (See Part I.B.2.).
 - e) any overflow prior to the treatment works, whether or not such overflow endangers health or the environment or exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit.
 - (i) an overflow that results in a discharge to waters of the United States; and
 - (ii) an overflow of wastewater, including a wastewater backup into a building (other than a backup caused solely by a blockage or other malfunction in a privately owned sewer or building lateral) that does not reach waters of the United States.
2. The permittee must also provide a written submission within five days of the time that the permittee becomes aware of any event required to be reported under subpart 1 above. The written submission must contain:
- a) a description of the noncompliance and its cause;
 - b) the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times;
 - c) the estimated time noncompliance is expected to continue if it has not been corrected; and
 - d) steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance.
 - e) if the noncompliance involves an overflow, the written submission must contain:
 - (i) The location of the overflow;
 - (ii) The receiving water (if there is one);
 - (iii) An estimate of the volume of the overflow;
 - (iv) A description of the sewer system component from which the release occurred (e.g., manhole, constructed overflow pipe, crack in pipe);
 - (v) The estimated date and time when the overflow began and stopped or will be stopped;
 - (vi) The cause or suspected cause of the overflow;
 - (vii) Steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the overflow and a schedule of major milestones for those steps;
 - (viii) An estimate of the number of persons who came into contact with wastewater from the overflow; and
 - (ix) Steps taken or planned to mitigate the impact(s) of the overflow and a schedule of major milestones for those steps.
3. The Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours by the NPDES Compliance Hotline in Seattle, Washington, by telephone, (206) 553-1846.

4. Reports must be submitted to the addresses in Part III.B. (“Reporting of Monitoring Results”).

H. Other Noncompliance Reporting

The permittee must report all instances of noncompliance, not required to be reported within 24 hours, at the time that monitoring reports for Part III.B (“Reporting of Monitoring Results”) are submitted. The reports must contain the information listed in Part III.G.2. of this permit (“Twenty-four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting”).

I. Notice of New Introduction of Toxic Pollutants

The permittee must notify the Director of the Office of Water and Watersheds and IDEQ in writing of:

1. Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Sections 301 or 306 of the Act if it were directly discharging those pollutants; and
2. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the POTW by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW at the time of issuance of the permit.
3. For the purposes of this section, adequate notice must include information on:
 - a) The quality and quantity of effluent to be introduced into the POTW, and
 - b) Any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.
4. The permittee must notify the Director of the Office of Water and Watersheds at the following address:

US EPA Region 10
Attn: NPDES Permits Unit Manager
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
OWW-130
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

IV. Compliance Responsibilities

A. Duty to Comply

The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Act and is grounds for enforcement action, for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification, or for denial of a permit renewal application.

B. Penalties for Violations of Permit Conditions

1. Civil and Administrative Penalties. Pursuant to 40 CFR Part 19 and the Act, any person who violates section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the Act, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any such sections in a permit issued under Section 402, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under Sections 402(a)(3) or 402(b)(8) of the Act, is subject to a civil penalty not to

exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(d) of the Act and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act (28 U.S.C. § 2461 note) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act (31 U.S.C. § 3701 note) (currently \$37,500 per day for each violation).

2. **Administrative Penalties.** Any person may be assessed an administrative penalty by the Administrator for violating section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of this Act, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under section 402 of this Act. Pursuant to 40 CFR 19 and the Act, administrative penalties for Class I violations are not to exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(g)(2)(A) of the Act and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act (28 U.S.C. § 2461 note) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act (31 U.S.C. § 3701 note) (currently \$16,000 per violation, with the maximum amount of any Class I penalty assessed not to exceed \$37,500). Pursuant to 40 CFR §19 and the Act, penalties for Class II violations are not to exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(g)(2)(B) of the Act and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act (28 U.S.C. § 2461 note) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act (31 U.S.C. § 3701 note) (currently \$16,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues, with the maximum amount of any Class II penalty not to exceed \$177,500).
3. **Criminal Penalties:**
 - a) **Negligent Violations.** The Act provides that any person who negligently violates Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act, or any condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under Section 402 of the Act, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under Section 402(a)(3) or 402(b)(8) of the Act, is subject to criminal penalties of \$2,500 to \$25,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than 1 year, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a negligent violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 2 years, or both.
 - b) **Knowing Violations.** Any person who knowingly violates such sections, or such conditions or limitations is subject to criminal penalties of \$5,000 to \$50,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$100,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than 6 years, or both.
 - c) **Knowing Endangerment.** Any person who knowingly violates Section 301, 302, 303, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the Act, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under Section 402 of the Act, and who knows at that time that he thereby places another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury, shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than \$250,000 or imprisonment of not more than 15 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing endangerment violation, a person shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500,000 or by imprisonment of not more than 30 years, or both. An organization, as defined in Section 309(c)(3)(B)(iii) of the Act, shall, upon conviction of

violating the imminent danger provision, be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000,000 and can be fined up to \$2,000,000 for second or subsequent convictions.

- d) False Statements. The Act provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this permit shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 2 years, or both. If a conviction of a person is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such person under this paragraph, punishment is a fine of not more than \$20,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 4 years, or both. The Act further provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or non-compliance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months per violation, or by both.

C. Need To Halt or Reduce Activity not a Defense

It shall not be a defense for the permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with this permit.

D. Duty to Mitigate

The permittee must take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this permit that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

E. Proper Operation and Maintenance

The permittee must at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems, which are installed by the permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

F. Bypass of Treatment Facilities

1. Bypass not exceeding limitations. The permittee may allow any bypass to occur that does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions of Paragraphs F.2. and 3., below.
2. Required Notice.
 - a) Anticipated bypass. If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it must submit prior written notice, if possible at least 10 days before the date of the bypass.

- b) Unanticipated bypass. The permittee must submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required under Part III.G. (“Twenty-four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting”).
3. Prohibition of bypass.
- a) Bypass is prohibited, and the Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement may take enforcement action against the permittee for a bypass, unless:
 - (i) The bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;
 - (ii) There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass that occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and
 - (iii) The permittee submitted notices as required under Paragraph 2 of this Part.
 - b) The Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Director determines that it will meet the three conditions listed above in Paragraph 3.a. of this Part.

G. Upset Conditions

1. Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology-based permit effluent limitations if the permittee meets the requirements of Paragraph 2 of this Part. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review.
2. Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. To establish the affirmative defense of upset, the permittee must demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:
 - a) An upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset;
 - b) The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated;
 - c) The permittee submitted notice of the upset as required under Part III.G., “Twenty-four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting;” and
 - d) The permittee complied with any remedial measures required under Part IV.D., “Duty to Mitigate”
3. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding, the permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

H. Toxic Pollutants

The permittee must comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the Act for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that establish those standards or prohibitions, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.

I. Planned Changes

The permittee must give written notice to the Director of the Office of Water and Watersheds as specified in Part III.I.4. and IDEQ as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility whenever:

1. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source as determined in 40 CFR 122.29(b); or
2. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants that are not subject to effluent limitations in this permit.
3. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application site.

J. Anticipated Noncompliance

The permittee must give written advance notice to the Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement and IDEQ of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with this permit.

K. Reopener

This permit may be reopened to include any applicable standard for sewage sludge use or disposal promulgated under section 405(d) of the Act. The Director may modify or revoke and reissue the permit if the standard for sewage sludge use or disposal is more stringent than any requirements for sludge use or disposal in the permit, or controls a pollutant or practice not limited in the permit.

V. General Provisions**A. Permit Actions**

This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause as specified in 40 CFR 122.62, 122.64 or 124.5. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any permit condition.

B. Duty to Reapply

If the permittee intends to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit. In accordance with

40 CFR 122.21(d), and unless permission for the application to be submitted at a later date has been granted by the Regional Administrator, the permittee must submit a new application at least 180 days before the expiration date of this permit.

C. Duty to Provide Information

The permittee must furnish to the EPA and IDEQ, within the time specified in the request, any information that the EPA or IDEQ may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit, or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee must also furnish to the EPA or IDEQ, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

D. Other Information

When the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or that it submitted incorrect information in a permit application or any report to the EPA or IDEQ, it must promptly submit the omitted facts or corrected information in writing.

E. Signatory Requirements

All applications, reports or information submitted to the EPA and IDEQ must be signed and certified as follows.

1. All permit applications must be signed as follows:
 - a) For a corporation: by a responsible corporate officer.
 - b) For a partnership or sole proprietorship: by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively.
 - c) For a municipality, state, federal, Indian tribe or other public agency: by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
2. All reports required by the permit and other information requested by the EPA or IDEQ must be signed by a person described above or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
 - a) The authorization is made in writing by a person described above;
 - b) The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company; and
 - c) The written authorization is submitted to the Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement and IDEQ.
3. Changes to authorization. If an authorization under Part V.E.2. is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Part V.E.2. must be submitted to the Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement and IDEQ prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.

4. Certification. Any person signing a document under this Part must make the following certification:

“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 gather and evaluate 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.”

F. Availability of Reports

In accordance with 40 CFR 2, information submitted to the EPA pursuant to this permit may be claimed as confidential by the permittee. In accordance with the Act, permit applications, permits and effluent data are not considered confidential. Any confidentiality claim must be asserted at the time of submission by stamping the words “confidential business information” on each page containing such information. If no claim is made at the time of submission, the EPA may make the information available to the public without further notice to the permittee. If a claim is asserted, the information will be treated in accordance with the procedures in 40 CFR 2, Subpart B (Public Information) and 41 Fed. Reg. 36902 through 36924 (September 1, 1976), as amended.

G. Inspection and Entry

The permittee must allow the Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement, the EPA Region 10; IDEQ; or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a representative of the Administrator), upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

1. Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
3. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit; and
4. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

H. Property Rights

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, nor any infringement of federal, tribal, state or local laws or regulations.

I. Transfers

This permit is not transferable to any person except after written notice to the Director of the Office of Water and Watersheds as specified in Part III.I.4. The Director may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the permit to change the name of the permittee and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the Act. (See 40 CFR 122.61; in some cases, modification or revocation and reissuance are mandatory).

J. State Laws

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable state law or regulation under authority preserved by Section 510 of the Act.

VI. Definitions

1. "Act" means the Clean Water Act.
2. "Administrator" means the Administrator of the EPA, or an authorized representative.
3. "Average monthly effluent limitation" means the highest allowable average of "daily discharges" over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all "daily discharges" measured during a calendar month divided by the number of "daily discharges" measured during that month.
4. "Average weekly effluent limitation" means the highest allowable average of "daily discharges" over a calendar week, calculated as the sum of all "daily discharges" measured during a calendar week divided by the number of "daily discharges" measured during that week.
5. "Best Management Practices" (BMPs) means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the United States. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage areas.
6. "Bypass" means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.
7. "Composite" - see "8-hour composite".
8. "Daily discharge" means the discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the day.
9. "Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement" means the Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement, EPA Region 10, or an authorized representative.
10. "Director of the Office of Water and Watersheds" means the Director of the Office of Water and Watersheds, EPA Region 10, or an authorized representative.

11. "DMR" means discharge monitoring report.
12. "EPA" means the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
13. "Geometric Mean" means the n^{th} root of a product of n factors, or the antilogarithm of the arithmetic mean of the logarithms of the individual sample values.
14. "Grab" sample is an individual sample collected over a period of time not exceeding 15 minutes.
15. "IDEQ" means the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality.
16. "Interference" is defined in 40 CFR 403.3.
17. "Maximum daily effluent limitation" means the highest allowable "daily discharge."
18. "Method Detection Limit (MDL)" means the minimum concentration of a substance (analyte) that can be measured and reported with 99 percent confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero and is determined from analysis of a sample in a given matrix containing the analyte.
19. "Minimum Level (ML)" means the concentration at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and an acceptable calibration point. The ML is the concentration in a sample that is equivalent to the concentration of the lowest calibration standard analyzed by a specific analytical procedure, assuming that all the method-specified sample weights, volumes and processing steps have been followed. This level is used as the compliance level if the effluent limit is below it.
20. "NPDES" means National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, the national program for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits . . . under sections 307, 402, 318 and 405 of the CWA.
21. "Pass Through" means a Discharge which exits the POTW into waters of the United States in quantities or concentrations which, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, is a cause of a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit (including an increase in the magnitude or duration of a violation).
22. "POTW" means publicly owned treatment works, i.e. the permittee.
23. "QA/QC" means quality assurance/quality control.
24. "Regional Administrator" means the Regional Administrator of Region 10 of the EPA, or the authorized representative of the Regional Administrator.
25. "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production.
26. "Upset" means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology-based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed

treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation.

27. "8-hour composite" sample means a combination of at least three discrete samples collected at equal time intervals from the same location, during the operating hours of a facility over an 8 hour time period. The sample aliquots must be collected and stored in accordance with procedures prescribed in the most recent edition of *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater*.

