



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

We make Indiana a cleaner, healthier place to live.

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Thomas W. Easterly
Commissioner

May 18, 2006

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

7002 0510 0004 2579 9748

The Honorable Jan Mills, Mayor
City of West Lafayette
609 West Navajo Street
West Lafayette, Indiana 47906

Dear Mayor Mills:

Re: Sewer Ban Early Warning Notification
NPDES Discharge Permit IN0024821
City of West Lafayette, Tippecanoe County

The Early Warning System defined in Article 4 of Indiana's Administrative Code (327 IAC 4-1-3) requires that our Department notify the ranking elected official of a municipality when the wastewater treatment system approaches ninety percent (90%) of its hydraulic or organic design capacity. The Office of Water Quality has reviewed the monthly Reports of Operation (MROs) for the West Lafayette wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The Office of Water Quality has determined that dry weather wastewater flows have reached or are approaching 90% of the hydraulic design capacity (design flow) of 9.0 million gallons per day (MGD). Dry weather wastewater flow is defined, for analysis purposes, to be wastewater flow that enters the WWTP four (4) or more days after a rainfall event in a combined storm and sanitary sewer system.

For the 12 month period of January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003, the average daily dry weather flow entering the WWTP was calculated to be 8.23 MGD, which is 91.5 percent (%) of the design flow. For the 12 month period of January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004, the average daily dry weather flow was calculated to be 8.22 MGD, which is 91% of the design flow. For the 12 month period of January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005, the average daily dry weather flow was calculated to be 7.96 MGD, which is 88.5% of the design flow.

The organic design for carbonaceous biological oxygen demand (CBOD) in the raw influent wastewater is 9,760 Lb/day (9.0 MGD * 130 Mg/L * 8.34). The Office of Water Quality has reviewed the MROs for the WWTP and has determined that the average CBOD in the raw wastewater is close to the design of 9,760 Lb/day. For the 12 month period of January 1 through December 31, 2005, the average CBOD was calculated to be 9,482 Lb/day, which is 97% of the design.

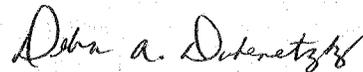
Our office views the early warning notification process as a service to the local government officials. The early warning notification is intended to alert municipalities to potential problems and provide a period of time to evaluate conditions, plan for possible solutions and arrange funding in the event capital improvements are required.

One impact of the early warning notification is that additional connections to the City of West Lafayette's wastewater collection and treatment system will be subject to close scrutiny to determine if the issuance of a construction permit would add significant new load to the plant and/or result in bypassing or discharge of insufficiently treated sewage. We bring this condition to your attention so you can take the necessary steps to accommodate the additional flow and/or organic loading to the wastewater treatment plant.

Furthermore, the regulation that governs the overload conditions of wastewater treatment facilities also contains a provision for the imposition of a ban on future wastewater connections. The sewer ban may be imposed if the hydraulic and/or organic overloading of the wastewater plant or collection system exists and the addition of wastewater from new or existing sources is likely to result in the bypassing or the discharge of insufficiently treated sewage. A copy of 327 IAC 4 is included for clarification on the rules governing the early warning notification and the sewer connection ban.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Miles at (317) 232-6548.

Sincerely,



Debra A. Dubenetzky, Chief
Compliance Branch
Office of Water Quality

MWM/mwm
Enclosure

cc: Indiana State Department of Health
Attention: Mr. Alan Dunn
Tippecanoe County Health Department
Mr. Mark Moore, Certified Operator, West Lafayette

ARTICLE 4. WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES; OVERLOAD CONDITION

Rule 1. General

327 IAC 4-1-1 Purpose

Authority: IC 13-1-3-7; IC 13-7-7-5

Affected: IC 13-1-3; IC 13-7

Sec. 1. This article is promulgated in order to prevent the excessive hydraulic and/or organic overloading of POTWs or semipublic facilities resulting in the subsequent discharge or bypassing of insufficiently treated sewage due to new sewer connections to such overloaded POTWs or semipublic facilities. (*Water Pollution Control Board; 327 IAC 4-1-1; filed Sep 24, 1987, 3:00 p.m.: 11 IR 611; filed Mar 2, 1994, 5:00 p.m.: 17 IR 1615*)

327 IAC 4-1-2 Definitions

Authority: IC 13-1-3-7; IC 13-7-7-5

Affected: IC 8-1-2-89; IC 13-1-3-1.5; IC 13-7-1

Sec. 2. In addition to the definitions contained in IC 13-7-1, IC 13-1-3-1.5, and 327 IAC 1, the following definitions apply throughout this article:

- (1) "Combined sewer" means a sewer designed and employed to receive both water-carried and/or liquid wastes and storm and/or surface water.
- (2) "Discharge" or "direct discharge", when used without qualification, means a discharge of a pollutant.
- (3) "Discharge of a pollutant" means any addition of any pollutant, or combination of pollutants, into any waters of the state of Indiana from a point source in Indiana. The term includes, without limitation, additions of pollutants into waters of the state from the following:
 - (A) Surface run-off which is collected or channeled by man.
 - (B) Discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances which do not lead to treatment works.
- (4) "Effluent limitation" means any restriction established by the commissioner on quantities, discharge rates, and concentrations of pollutants that are discharged or will be discharged from point sources into waters of the state of Indiana.
- (5) "Environmental Protection Agency" or "EPA" means the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- (6) "Hazardous substance" means any substance designated under 40 CFR 116 pursuant to Section 311 of the Clean Water Act (CWA).
- (7) "NPDES permit" means a written authorization issued by the commissioner or the EPA to regulate the discharge of pollutants pursuant to Section 402 of the CWA or corresponding state law (327 IAC 5).
- (8) "Person" means an individual, partnership, copartnership, firm, company, corporation, association, joint stock company, trust, estate, municipal corporation, city, school city, town, school town, school district, school corporation, county, consolidated unit of government, political subdivision, state agency, or any other legal entity.
- (9) "Point source" means any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including, but not limited to, any:
 - (A) pipe;
 - (B) ditch;
 - (C) channel;
 - (D) tunnel;
 - (E) conduit;
 - (F) well discrete fissure;
 - (G) container;
 - (H) rolling stock;
 - (I) vessel; or
 - (J) other floating craft;

from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture.

(10) "Pollutant" means, but the definition is not necessarily limited to:

- (A) dredged spoil;
- (B) incinerator residue;
- (C) filter backwash;
- (D) sewage;
- (E) garbage;
- (F) sewage sludge;
- (G) munitions;
- (H) chemical wastes;
- (I) solid wastes;
- (J) toxic wastes;
- (K) hazardous substances;

- (L) biological materials;
 - (M) radioactive materials (except those regulated under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended; 42 U.S.C. 2011, et seq.);
 - (N) heat, wrecked, or discarded equipment;
 - (O) rock;
 - (P) sand;
 - (Q) cellar dirt; and
 - (R) other industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste;
- discharged into water.

(11) "Publicly owned treatment works" or "POTW" means a treatment works as defined by Section 212(2) of the CWA which is owned by the state or a municipality (as defined by Section 502(4) of the CWA), except that it does not include pipes, sewers, or other conveyances not connected to a facility providing treatment. The definition includes any devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of municipal sewage or compatible industrial wastes. "POTW" also means the municipality, as defined by Section 502(4) of the CWA, including, without limitation, a city, town, county, or other public body created by or pursuant to state law, which has jurisdiction over the indirect discharges to and the discharges from such a treatment works.

(12) "Sanitary sewer" means a sewer that conveys liquid and water-carried wastes from residences, commercial buildings, industrial plants, and institutions; and to which storm, surface, and ground waters are not intentionally allowed to enter.

(13) "Semipublic facilities" means a treatment works as defined by Section 212(2) (33 U.S.C. 1292(2)) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. 1251, et seq., in effect on November 13, 1991, that is not a POTW, is not state or federally owned, or is not an industrial wastewater treatment plant as defined by 327 IAC 8-12-2(b). Semipublic facilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (A) Rural sewage disposal services provided by sewage disposal companies as defined by IC 8-1-2-89(a)(2).
- (B) Trailer or mobile home parks.
- (C) Commercial or shopping centers.
- (D) Housing developments.
- (E) Truck stops.
- (F) Restaurants.
- (G) Schools.
- (H) Campgrounds.

(14) "Sewer" means a pipe or conduit that carries wastewater or drainage water.

(15) "Source" means any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is or may be a discharge of domestic sewage or other wastewater into a semipublic facility or POTW.

(16) "Wastewater" means liquid or water-carried wastes from industrial, municipal, agricultural, or other sources.

(17) "Water pollution treatment/control facility" means any equipment, device, unit, structure, etc., that is used to control, prevent, pretreat, or treat any discharge or threatened discharge of pollutants into any waters of the state of Indiana, including surface and subsurface waters and public or private sewerage systems. The term includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (A) Treatment facilities.
- (B) Combined sewers.
- (C) Sanitary sewers.
- (D) Lift (pumping) stations.

(18) "Waters of the state of Indiana" or "waters of the state" means such accumulations of water, surface and underground, natural and artificial, public and private, or parts thereof, which are wholly or partially within, flow through, or border upon this state, but the term does not include any private pond or any off-stream pond, reservoir, or facility built for reduction or control of pollution or cooling of water prior to the discharge unless the discharge therefrom causes or threatens to cause water pollution. (*Water Pollution Control Board; 327 IAC 4-1-2; filed Sep 24, 1987, 3:00 p.m.: 11 IR 611; filed Mar 2, 1994, 5:00 p.m.: 17 IR 1615*)

327 IAC 4-1-3 Early warning system

Authority: IC 13-1-3-7; IC 13-7-7-5

Affected: IC 13-1-3; IC 13-7

Sec. 3. Whenever, in the determination of the commissioner, a semipublic facility or POTW has reached or is approaching ninety percent (90%) of its maximum hydraulic or organic design capacity, the commissioner shall notify the semipublic facility or POTW that it may be necessary, because of such condition, to impose a sewer connection ban if action is not taken by the semipublic facility or POTW to accommodate additional flow or loading. Such notification shall be by certified mail, return receipt requested, and shall be directed to the principal executive officer, ranking elected official, and/or the authorized agent of the semipublic facility or POTW. Failure of the commissioner to provide such notification to the semipublic facility or POTW shall not preclude the imposition of a sewer connection ban as authorized by this article. (*Water Pollution Control Board; 327 IAC 4-1-3; filed Sep 24, 1987, 3:00 p.m.: 11 IR 613; filed Mar 2, 1994, 5:00 p.m.: 17 IR 1616*)

327 IAC 4-1-4 Imposition of sewer connection bans

Authority: IC 13-1-3-7; IC 13-7-7-5

Affected: IC 13-1-3; IC 13-7

Sec. 4. (a) Whenever, in the determination of the commissioner, hydraulic or organic overloading of a semipublic facility or POTW exists or is impending and the introduction into the semipublic facility or POTW of additional wastewater from new or existing sources is likely to result in the discharge or bypassing of insufficiently treated sewage, the commissioner may impose a ban on further sewer connections to the semipublic facility or POTW.

(b) Such sewer connection ban shall prohibit the connection or introduction of additional wastewater or sewage into the semipublic facility or POTW, except as otherwise provided under this article. (*Water Pollution Control Board; 327 IAC 4-1-4; filed Sep 24, 1987, 3:00 p.m.: 11 IR 613; filed Mar 2, 1994, 5:00 p.m.: 17 IR 1617*)

327 IAC 4-1-5 Notification of imposition of sewer connection ban

Authority: IC 13-1-3-7; IC 13-7-7-5

Affected: IC 13-1-3; IC 13-7

Sec. 5. (a) Whenever the commissioner has determined to impose a ban on further sewer connections to a POTW, the commissioner shall notify the principal executive officer, the ranking elected official, or the authorized agent or representative of the POTW of such determination by certified mail, return receipt requested.

(b) Whenever the commissioner has determined to impose a ban on further sewer connections to a semipublic facility, the commissioner shall notify the owner, chief executive officer, or authorized agent or representative of the semipublic facility of such determination by certified mail, return receipt requested. (*Water Pollution Control Board; 327 IAC 4-1-5; filed Sep 24, 1987, 3:00 p.m.: 11 IR 613; filed Mar 2, 1994, 5:00 p.m.: 17 IR 1617*)

327 IAC 4-1-6 Grounds and procedures for obtaining waivers of sewer connection bans

Authority: IC 13-1-3-7; IC 13-7-7-5

Affected: IC 13-1-3; IC 13-7

Sec. 6. (a) Requests for connections from new or existing sources to a semipublic facility or POTW where a sewer connection ban is in effect may be approved if it is determined by the commissioner that any of the following conditions exist:

(1) The connection will eliminate an existing health hazard and the resulting public health benefit is considered to outweigh the adverse impact of any reduction in the effluent quality from the semipublic facility or POTW.

(2) A semipublic facility or POTW expansion project is under construction and will be completed in such time as to accommodate such new connections.

(3) An equivalent amount of infiltration or wastewater is removed from the sewage system, thus assuring that the additional wastewater will receive treatment.

(4) The commissioner is assured that additional water pollution treatment/control facilities (such as chemical feed equipment) will be provided such that the effluent from the semipublic facility or POTW will not deteriorate beyond its present quality.

(5) Other assurances are provided that the additional sewage to be discharged into the semipublic facility or POTW shall receive adequate treatment.

(b) Requests by POTWs for the waiver of a sewer connection ban for new or existing sources should be submitted by the principal executive officer or ranking elected official of the POTW to the commissioner. Requests by semipublic facilities for the waiver of a sewer connection ban for new or existing sources should be submitted by the owner, chief executive officer, or authorized agent or representative of the semipublic facility to the commissioner. The request for waiver of a sewer ban should contain, at a minimum, the projected flow and pollutant loadings from the proposed connection(s) and the projected impact upon the semipublic facility or POTW. (*Water Pollution Control Board; 327 IAC 4-1-6; filed Sep 24, 1987, 3:00 p.m.: 11 IR 613; filed Mar 2, 1994, 5:00 p.m.: 17 IR 1617*)

327 IAC 4-1-7 Grounds for termination of sewer connection ban

Authority: IC 13-1-3-7; IC 13-7-7-5

Affected: IC 13-1-3; IC 13-7

Sec. 7. A sewer connection ban may be terminated by the commissioner when any of the following exist:

(1) a demonstrated sewage treatment facility improvement to meet applicable NPDES permit limitations has been completed, or

(2) it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the commissioner that an existing hydraulic/organic overloaded condition has been or will be discontinued for a continuous period of twelve (12) months from the date additional connections will be made.

(*Water Pollution Control Board; 327 IAC 4-1-7; filed Sep 24, 1987, 3:00 pm: 11 IR 613*)

327 IAC 4-1-8 Exclusions from sewer connection bans

Authority: IC 13-1-3-7; IC 13-7-7-5

Affected: IC 13-1-3; IC 13-7

Sec. 8. The following shall be excluded from the requirements of sewer connection bans:

(1) Single-family dwellings erected on vacant lots served by an existing sanitary sewer.

(2) Projects that possess a valid construction permit issued under 327 IAC 3-2 prior to the imposition of a sewer connection ban. (Water Pollution Control Board; 327 IAC 4-1-8; filed Sep 24, 1987, 3:00 pm: 11 IR 613)

327 IAC 4-1-9 Appeals

Authority: IC 13-1-3-7; IC 13-7-7-5

Affected: IC 4-21.5; IC 13-1-3; IC 13-7

Sec. 9. A semipublic facility or POTW aggrieved by the imposition of a ban, denial of a sewer ban waiver, or denial of a request to terminate the ban may appeal to the board for a hearing. All hearings under this section shall be held in accordance with IC 4-21.5. (Water Pollution Control Board; 327 IAC 4-1-9; filed Sep 24, 1987, 3:00 p.m.: 11 IR 614; filed Mar 2, 1994, 5:00 p.m.: 17 IR 1617)

327 IAC 4-1-10 Enforcement

Authority: IC 13-1-3-7; IC 13-7-7-5

Affected: IC 13-1-3; IC 13-7-11; IC 13-7-13

Sec. 10. This article may be enforced through administrative or judicial proceedings under IC 13-7-11 and the penalty provisions of IC 13-7-13. (Water Pollution Control Board; 327 IAC 4-1-10; filed Sep 24, 1987, 3:00 p.m.: 11 IR 614; filed Mar 2, 1994, 5:00 p.m.: 17 IR 1617)

327 IAC 4-1-11 Access to information

Authority: IC 13-7-7-5; IC 13-7-16-7

Affected: IC 13-1-3; IC 13-7

Sec. 11. (a) Whenever necessary to carry out the provisions of this article, any person who is or may be reasonably expected to be subject to such regulatory provisions shall:

- (1) establish and maintain records;
- (2) make reports;
- (3) install, use, and maintain monitoring equipment or methods;
- (4) sample effluents, or other material; and
- (5) provide other information;

at the locations, at the times, and in the manner the commissioner may reasonably prescribe.

(b) The commissioner, or the commissioner's authorized representative, upon presentation of proper credentials:

(1) shall have a right of entry to, upon, or through any premises, public or private, in which records, reports, monitoring equipment or methods; samples, or other information required to be maintained or provided under subsection (a) are located; and

(2) may, at reasonable times, have access to and:

- (A) copy any records;
- (B) inspect any equipment or method; or
- (C) sample any effluent or other material required under subsection (a).

(Water Pollution Control Board; 327 IAC 4-1-11; filed Sep 24, 1987, 3:00 p.m.: 11 IR 614; filed Mar 2, 1994, 5:00 p.m.: 17 IR 1618)