

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8
1595 WYNKOOP STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-1129

AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq; “the Act”),

The City of Hardin, Montana

is authorized to discharge from its wastewater treatment facility located in the N 1/2 of Section 24, Township 1S, Range 33E, latitude 45.734793° N and longitude 107.579082° W, Big Horn County, Montana

to Bighorn River

in accordance with discharge point(s), effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth herein. Authorization for discharge is limited to those outfalls specifically listed in the Permit.

This Permit shall become effective **December 1, 2023**

This Permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, **November 30, 2028**

Authorized Permitting Official

Darcy O’Connor, Director
Water Division

NPDES BP (Rev.11/2021)

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1 Definitions

The *7-day (weekly) average*, other than for microbiological organisms (e.g., bacteria, viruses, etc.), is the 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. Geometric means shall be calculated for microbiological organisms unless specified otherwise in the Permit. The 7-day and weekly averages are applicable only to those effluent characteristics for which there are 7-day average effluent limitations. The calendar week, which begins on Sunday and ends on Saturday, shall be used for purposes of reporting self-monitoring data on discharge monitoring report forms. Weekly averages shall be calculated for all calendar weeks with Saturdays in the month. If a calendar week overlaps two months (i.e., the Sunday is in one month and the Saturday in the following month), the weekly average calculated for that calendar week shall be included in the data for the month that contains the Saturday. (40 CFR § 122.2)

The *30-day (monthly) average*, other than for microbiological organisms (e.g., bacteria, viruses, etc.), is the 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. Geometric means shall be calculated for microbiological organisms unless specified otherwise in the Permit. The calendar month shall be used for purposes of reporting self-monitoring data on discharge monitoring report forms. (40 CFR § 122.2)

Act (“the Act”) means the Clean Water Act (formerly referred to as either the Federal Water Pollution Act or the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972), Pub. L. 92-500, as amended by Pub. L. 95-217, Pub. L. 95-576, Pub. L. 96-483, Pub. L. 97-117, and Pub. L. 100-4. In this Permit the Act may be referred to as the CWA. (40 CFR § 122.2)

Bypass means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. (40 CFR § 122.41(m)(1)(i))

Composite samples shall be flow proportioned. The composite sample shall, at a minimum, contain at least four (4) samples collected over the compositing period, unless specified otherwise at 40 CFR Part 136. (40 CFR § 122.21(g)(7)). Unless otherwise specified, the time between the collection of the first sample and the last sample shall not be less than six (6) hours, not more than twenty-four (24) hours. Acceptable methods for the preparation of composite samples are as follows:

- (a) Constant time interval between samples, sample volume proportional to flow rate at the time of sampling;
- (b) Constant time interval between samples, sample volume proportional to total flow (volume) since last sample. For the first sample, the flow rate at the time of the first sample was collected may be used;
- (c) Constant sample volume, time interval between samples proportional to flow (i.e., sample taken every “X” gallons of flow); and,
- (d) Continuous collection of sample with sample collection rate proportional to flow rate.

Daily Maximum (Daily Max.) is the maximum measured value for a pollutant discharged during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with daily maximum limitations expressed in units of mass (e.g., kilograms, pounds), the daily maximum is calculated as the total mass of pollutant discharged over the calendar day or representative 24-hour period. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement (e.g., milligrams/liter, parts per billion), the daily maximum is calculated as the average of all measurements of the pollutant over the calendar day or representative 24-hour period. If only one measurement or sample is taken during a calendar day or representative 24-hour period, the single measured value for a pollutant will be considered the daily maximum measurement for that calendar day or representative 24-hour period. The Daily Maximum limitation is the highest allowable discharge limit over the calendar day or representative 24-hour period. (40 CFR §§ 122.2, see “daily discharge” and “maximum daily discharge limitation”)

EPA means the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Regional Administrator of the EPA Region 8 or an authorized representative.

E. coli means *Escherichia coli*.

Geometric mean is an average or mean based on multiplication instead of addition. To calculate a geometric mean, multiply all the measured values together and then take the nth root, where n is the number of measured values.

$$GeoMean = \sqrt[n]{(X_1 X_2 X_3 \dots X_n)}$$

Grab sample, for monitoring requirements, is defined as a sample collected over a period not exceeding 15 minutes (typically a single "dip and take" sample or an instantaneous measurement) at a location that is representative of conditions at the time the sample is collected.

Industrial User or *User* means a source of Indirect Discharge, which is the introduction of pollutants into a POTW from any non-domestic source regulated under Section 307(b), (c) or (d) of the Act. (40 CFR §§ 403.3(i) and (j))

Maximum limit means the maximum allowable concentration or other measure of a pollutant determined from the analysis of any sample.

Minimum limit means the minimum allowable concentration or other measure of a pollutant determined from the analysis of any sample.

Interference means an indirect discharge from an Industrial User which, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, both:

- (a) Inhibits or disrupts the POTW, its treatment processes or operations, or its sludge processes, use or disposal; and
- (b) Therefore 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) or of the prevention of sewage sludge use or disposal in compliance with the following

statutory provisions and regulations or permits issued thereunder (or more stringent State or local regulations): Section 405 of the Clean Water Act, the Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA) (including title II, more commonly referred to as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and including State regulations contained in any State sludge management plan prepared pursuant to subtitle D of the SWDA), the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, and the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act. (40 CFR § 403.3(k))

Narrative limit means a narrative condition that must be met (e.g., The discharge must be free from a visible sheet). *New Source* means any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is or may be a “discharge of pollutants,” the construction of which commenced:

- (a) After promulgation of standards of performance under Section 306 of the Act which are applicable to such source, or
- (b) After proposal of standards of performance in accordance with Section 306 of the Act which are applicable to such source, but only if the standards are promulgated in accordance with Section 306 within 120 days of their proposal. (40 CFR § 122.2)

Pass Through means an Indirect 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). (40 CFR § 403.3(p))

Permit means this NPDES permit upon finalization. (40 CFR § 122.2)

Permittee means the “person” as defined either by Section 502(5) of the Act or 40 CFR § 122.2, including an agent or employee thereof, authorized to discharge under this Permit. (Section 502(5) of the Act, 40 CFR § 122.2)

Publicly Owned Treatment Works or *POTW* means a treatment works as defined by Section 212 of the Act, which is owned by a State or municipality (as defined by Section 502(4) of the Act). This definition includes any devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling and reclamation of municipal sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature. It also includes sewers, pipes and other conveyances only if they convey wastewater to a POTW Treatment Plant, which means that portion of the POTW which is designed to provide treatment (including recycling and reclamation) of municipal sewage and industrial waste. The term POTW also means the municipality as defined in Section 502(4) of the Act, which has jurisdiction over the Indirect Discharges to and the discharges from such a treatment works. (40 CFR § 403.3(q) and (r))

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. (40 CFR § 122.41(m)(1)(ii))

Sewage Sludge means any solid, semi-solid, or liquid residue removed during the treatment of municipal wastewater or domestic sewage. Sewage sludge includes, but is not limited to solids removed during primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment, scum, septage, portable toilet pumpings, type III marine sanitation device pumpings (33 CFR Part 159), and sewage sludge products. Sewage sludge does not include grit or screenings, or ash generated during the incineration of sewage sludge. (40 CFR § 122.2)

Storm water means storm water runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage. (40 CFR § 122.26(b)(13))

Sufficiently Sensitive – An analytical test method is sufficiently sensitive when:

- (a) The method minimum level (ML) is at or below the level of the effluent limit established in the permit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or
- (b) The method has the lowest ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N or O for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter. (40 CFR § 122.44(i)(1)(iv)(A))

Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE) means a set of procedures to identify the specific chemicals or pathogens responsible for effluent toxicity. (U.S. EPA Office of Water, March 1991, Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control [EPA/505/2-90-001], pg. xxi)

Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) means a site-specific study conducted in a stepwise process designed to identify the causative agents of effluent toxicity, isolate the sources of toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of toxicity control options, and then confirm the reduction in effluent toxicity after control measures are put in place. (U.S. EPA Office of Water, March 1991, Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control [EPA/505/2-90-001], pg. xxi)

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. (40 CFR § 122.41(n))

Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) is the total toxic effect of an effluent measured directly with a toxicity test using methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136.

2 Description of Discharge and Monitoring Point(s)

The authorization to discharge provided under this Permit is limited to those outfalls specifically designated below as discharge locations. Discharges at any location not authorized under a NPDES Permit is a violation of the Clean Water Act and could subject the person(s) responsible for such discharge to penalties under Section 309 of the Act.

Table 1. Description of Discharge and Monitoring Points

Outfall Serial Number	Latitude/Longitude	Receiving Water	Description
001	45.734793° N, 107.579082° W (Outlet pipe is approximately one foot from the shore and one foot below the surface of the Bighorn River)	Bighorn River	Effluent discharged from the wastewater treatment plant
001-I	N/A	N/A – Influent	Influent to the wastewater treatment plant
001-RW	N/A	N/A – In-stream monitoring	Downstream receiving water located in the Bighorn River. Located at the dock approximately 1.6 miles downstream from Outfall 001 near Arapooish Pond

3 Effluent Limitations

Effective immediately and lasting through the life of this Permit, the quality of effluent discharged by the facility shall, at a minimum, meet the limitations as set forth below:

Table 2. Daily Maximum, 7-Day and 30-Day Average Effluent Limitations

Effluent Characteristic	30-Day Average Effluent Limitations a/	7-Day Average Effluent Limitations a/	Daily Maximum Effluent Limitations a/
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5), b/	30	45	N/A
Total Suspended Solids (TSS), mg/L, b/	30	45	N/A
<i>E. coli</i> , cfu/100 mL, April 1 – October 31	126 c/	N/A	252 d/
<i>E. coli</i> , cfu/100 mL, November 1 – March 31	630 e/	N/A	1,260 f/

Effluent Characteristic	30-Day Average Effluent Limitations a/	7-Day Average Effluent Limitations a/	Daily Maximum Effluent Limitations a/
pH	Must remain in the range of 6.5 for aquatic WQC to 9.0 <i>at all times</i>		
There shall be no visible sheen in the receiving water. If visible sheen is detected, a grab sample shall be taken immediately and analyzed in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136. The concentration of oil and grease shall not exceed 10 mg/L in any sample taken.			
Total Residual Chlorine, mg/L, g/	N/A	N/A	0.5
Flow, mgd	report only	N/A	report only
Ammonia Nitrogen, mg/L	report only	N/A	report only
Nitrate-Nitrogen, mg/L	report only	N/A	report only
Nitrite-Nitrogen, mg/L	report only	N/A	report only
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, mg/L	report only	N/A	report only
Total Nitrogen, mg/L	report only	N/A	report only
Total Phosphorus, mg/L	report only	N/A	report only
Total Dissolved Solids, mg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Dissolved Oxygen, mg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Antimony, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Arsenic, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Beryllium, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Cadmium, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Chromium, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Copper, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Cyanide, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Lead, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Mercury, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Molybdenum, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Nickel, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Selenium, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Silver, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Zinc, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Total Phenols, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Volatile Organic Pollutants, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds, Acid, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds, Base-Neutral, µg/L	N/A	N/A	report only
Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), ng/L h/	N/A	N/A	report only
Temperature, °C	report only	N/A	report only
WET at 25 C, Acute	report only – Pass/Fail		

a/ See Definitions, Part 1.1 of the Permit, for definition of terms.

b/ Percentage Removal Requirements (TSS and BOD₅ Limitation): In addition to the concentration limits for Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and BOD₅ indicated above, the arithmetic mean of the concentration for effluent samples collected in a calendar month shall not exceed 15 percent of the arithmetic mean of the concentration for influent samples collected at approximately the same times during the same period (85 percent removal).

c/ From April 1 through October 31, the geometric mean number of *E. coli* may not exceed 126 colony-forming units (cfu) per 100 mL during any calendar month.

d/ From April 1 through October 31, no more than 10% of *E. coli* samples taken during any calendar month may exceed 252 cfu per 100 mL.

e/ From November 1 through March 31, the geometric mean number of *E. coli* may not exceed 630 cfu per 100 mL during any calendar month.

f/ From November 1 through March 31, no more than 10% of *E. coli* samples taken during any calendar month may exceed 1,260 cfu per 100 mL.

g/ Monitoring is only required if chlorine is used in the treatment process. The minimum limit of analytical reliability for TRC is considered to be 0.05 mg/L. For purposes of this permit and calculating averages and reporting in the DMR form, analytical values less than 0.05 mg/L shall be considered in compliance with this permit.

h/ Use EPA Draft Method 1633 until EPA approves a 40 CFR Part 136 method. Analysis shall be for the 40 PFAS parameters included in the method. If the results of the initial eight (8) quarterly PFAS monitoring samples using Method 1633 show non-detectable levels of PFAS, the Permittee may submit a request for a waiver from further testing for approval of the appropriate EPA delegated representative. Submit waiver requests to: U.S. EPA, Region 8 (8WD-CWW), Attention: Wastewater Section Supervisor, 1595 Wynkoop Street, Denver, Colorado 80202-1129.

4 Self-Monitoring and Data Requirements

Self-monitoring shall be conducted effective immediately and last through the effective term of this Permit. Sampling and test procedures for pollutants listed in this section shall be in accordance with guidelines promulgated by the Administrator in 40 CFR Part 136 unless another method is required under 40 CFR subchapters N or O, as required in 40 CFR § 122.41(j). At a minimum, the following constituents shall be monitored at the frequency and with the type of measurement indicated; samples or measurements shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge. If no discharge occurs during the entire monitoring period, it shall be stated on the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) that no discharge occurred. See Reporting of Monitoring Results, section 7.4, for more details.

Table 3. Effluent Monitoring and Reporting Requirements - (Outfall 001)

Effluent Characteristic	Monitoring Frequency	Sample Type <u>a/</u>	Data Value Reported on DMR <u>b/</u>
BOD ₅ , mg/L <u>d/</u>	Monthly	Composite	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg. 30-Day Avg. % removal
TSS, mg/L <u>d/</u>	Monthly	Composite	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg. 30-Day Avg. % removal
<i>Escherichia coli</i> (<i>E. coli</i>), number/100 mL	Monthly	Grab	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.
pH, units	Weekly	Grab	Instantaneous Min. Instantaneous Max.
O&G, visual	Daily	Visual	Narrative
O&G, mg/L	Immediately if visual sheen detected	Grab	Daily Max.
Total Residual Chlorine, mg/L	Daily if effluent is chlorinated	Grab	Daily Max.
Flow, mgd <u>c/</u>	Continuous	Recorder	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.
Total Ammonia Nitrogen (as N), mg/L <u>e/</u>	Annually	Grab	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN) (as N), mg/L <u>f/</u>	Annually	Grab	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.
Nitrate-Nitrogen, mg/L <u>f/</u>	Annually	Grab	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.
Nitrite-Nitrogen, mg/L <u>f/</u>	Annually	Grab	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.
Total Nitrogen, mg/L <u>f/</u>	Annually	Grab	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.
Total Phosphorus, mg/L <u>f/</u>	Annually	Grab	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.
Total Dissolved Solids, mg/L	Annually	Grab	Daily Max.
Dissolved Oxygen, mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	Daily Max.
Total Antimony, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Arsenic, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.

Effluent Characteristic	Monitoring Frequency	Sample Type a/	Data Value Reported on DMR b/
Total Beryllium, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Cadmium, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Chromium, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Copper, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Cyanide, µg/L	Annually	Grab	Daily Max.
Total Lead, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Mercury, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Molybdenum, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Nickel, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Selenium, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Silver, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Zinc, µg/L	Annually	Composite	Daily Max.
Total Phenols, µg/L	Annually	Grab	Daily Max.
Volatile Organic Pollutants, µg/L	Annually	Grab	Daily Max.
Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds, Acid, µg/L	Annually	Grab	Daily Max.
Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds, Base-Neutral, µg/L	Annually	Grab	Daily Max.
Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), ng/L e/	Quarterly	Grab	Daily Max.
Temperature, °C	Daily	Grab	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.
WET at 25 C, Acute	See section 5.1	Grab	Pass/Fail

a/ See section 1 of the Permit for definition of terms.

b/ *Daily Max.* – Report the highest daily maximum value for the DMR period. Use a geometric mean to average more than one bacteria sample (E. coli or fecal coliform) collected during a day.

7-Day Avg. – Calculate the 7-day (weekly) average for each calendar week in the DMR period that one or more samples were collected and report the highest 7-day average for the DMR period. Use a geometric mean to average more than one bacteria sample (E. coli or fecal coliform) collected during a calendar week.

30-Day Avg. – Calculate and report the 30-Day average for each calendar month. Use a geometric mean to average more than one bacteria sample (E. coli or fecal coliform) collected during a month.

30-Day Avg. % removal – Calculate the 30-Day Avg. in the influent for each month and effluent for each month and then calculate and report the 30-Day Avg. percent removal for the month (30-Day Avg. percent removal. = (influent 30-Day Avg. – effluent 30-Day Avg.)/influent 30-Day Avg. x 100%).

Maximum and Minimum – Report the extreme high and low measurements for the reporting period. If only one sample was collected during the reporting period, this will be the same value for both.

Narrative – For visual observations, report “Yes” if the parameter was ever detected during the reporting period; report “No” if the parameter was never detected during the reporting period. For WET tests, report “Fail” if any WET test failed during the reporting period; report “Pass” if all WET tests passed during the reporting period.

c/ Flow measurements of effluent volume shall be made in such a manner that the Permittee can affirmatively demonstrate that representative values are being obtained. The average flow rate in million gallons per day (mgd) during the reporting period and the maximum flow rate observed, in mgd, shall be reported.

d/ In addition to monitoring the final discharge, influent samples shall be taken and analyzed for these characteristics on the same day at Outfall 001-I.

e/ Use EPA Draft Method 1633 until EPA approves a 40 CFR Part 136 method. Analysis shall be for the 40 PFAS parameters included in the method. If the results of the initial eight (8) quarterly PFAS monitoring samples using Method 1633 show non-detectable levels of PFAS, the Permittee may submit a request for a waiver from further testing for approval of the appropriate EPA delegated representative. Submit waiver requests to: U.S. EPA, Region 8 (8WD-CWW), Attention: Wastewater Section Chief, 1595 Wynkoop Street, Denver, Colorado 80202-1129.

f/ Annual sampling event should occur during the ‘summer’ months of July, August, and September.

Table 4. Monitoring Requirements – Influent (Outfall 001-I)

Influent Characteristic	Frequency	Sample Type <u>a/</u>	Data Value Reported on DMR <u>b/</u>
Influent Flow, mgd	Continuous	Recorder	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.
Influent BOD ₅ , mg/L	Weekly	Composite	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.
Influent Total Suspended Solids (TSS), mg/L	Weekly	Composite	Daily Max. 30-Day Avg.

a/ See Definitions, Part 1.1 of the Permit, for definition of terms.

b/ Daily Max. – Report the highest daily maximum value for the DMR period.

30-Day Avg. – Calculate and report the 30-Day average for each calendar month.

Table 5. Monitoring Requirements – Bighorn River (Outfall 001-RW)

Stream Characteristic	Frequency	Sample Type <u>a/</u>
Hardness, mg/L	Annually	Grab
Temperature, °C	Monthly <u>b/</u>	Recorder
Dissolved Oxygen, mg/L	Monthly <u>b/</u>	Grab

a/ See Definitions, Part 1.1 of the Permit, for definition of terms.

b/ Monthly monitoring is required June – October.

5 Special Conditions

5.1 Acute Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Monitoring

Beginning with the effective date of this Permit, acute Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) sampling shall be performed annually by the Permittee. The Permittee shall take a grab sample of the discharge from Outfall 001, chill it to between 0 and 6 °C, and send it to the WET laboratory to start analysis within the 36-hour holding time, unless otherwise specified in 40 CFR § 136.

The acute static-renewal toxicity tests shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in the latest revision of the EPA WET manual¹. The Permittee shall ensure that the laboratory conducts a 48-hour acute static-renewal toxicity test with renewals at each 24-hr interval using *Ceriodaphnia dubia*, Method 2002.0, a 96-hour acute static-renewal toxicity test with renewals at each 24-hr interval using *Pimephales promelas*, Method 2000.0. The following minimum dilution series shall be used: 100%, 50%, 25%, 12.5%, 6.25%) and a 0% control. The dilution water used for the test shall be of moderate hardness synthetic laboratory grade water, consistent with EPA WET manual laboratory specifications. Tests shall be run at 25 °C. If test acceptability criteria are not met for control survival, growth, or reproduction, the test shall be considered invalid and retesting should begin immediately. Failure to obtain a valid test result during the monitoring period shall result in a violation of the Permit for failure to monitor.

WET test results shall be reported on the DMR submitted for the reporting period when the monitoring was conducted.

¹ (Reference for “EPA WET Manual” - pick appropriate manual based on whether acute or chronic test are required (*Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms*, EPA-821-R-02-012. Fifth Edition, October 2002. U.S. EPA; and/or *Short-term Methods for Estimating the Chronic Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater Organisms*, EPA-821-R-02-013. Fourth Edition, October 2002. U.S. EPA).

If acute toxicity occurs (i.e., a failed test) in a WET test, the Permittee shall do the following:

1. Notify the EPA (within 24 hours) as indicated in Permit section 7.9.2 of the initial test failure;
2. Promptly take all reasonable measures necessary to immediately reduce toxicity; and
3. Conduct an additional WET test within two (2) weeks of the date of when the Permittee learned of the WET test failure. The retesting shall be done using the same dilution series and the species that failed the test.

Should toxicity occur in the second WET retest, the Permittee shall:

1. Immediately begin accelerated monthly testing until further notified by the EPA. Accelerated monthly WET testing is to be performed using the same species and dilution series as was used in the failed initial and re-test(s); and
2. Provide written notification to the Regional WET Coordinator within 14 calendar days of the Permittee receiving notice of the WET testing results. Such notification should detail the test failures (e.g. two consecutive failures of a single endpoint).

In addition to the accelerated monitoring, the Permittee shall perform a toxicity identification evaluation/toxicity reduction evaluation (TIE/TRE), as required by Permit section 5.2 (below), to establish the cause of the toxicity, locate the source(s) of the toxicity, and develop control for the source of toxicity or treatment for the source of the toxicity.

5.2 Toxicity Identification Evaluation/Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TIE/TRE)

Should acute toxicity occur in the second retest following failure in the first test, the Permittee shall initiate corrective actions as follows:

5.2.1 Where the source of toxicity is known, the Permittee shall:

- 5.2.1.1 Submit a TRE plan and schedule to reduce toxicity in the effluent and demonstrate no toxicity is present at or below the IWC. The plan and schedule shall be submitted to Regional WET Coordinator **within 30 days** of the date of when the Permittee learned of the second retest failure.
 - 5.2.1.1.1 The Regional WET Coordinator has **30 days** from receipt of the initial TRE plan to review the TRE plan and schedule and provide written comments to the Permittee.
 - 5.2.1.1.2 If the Regional WET Coordinator **provides comments** on the TRE plan and schedule, the Permittee has **30 days** from receipt of those comments to submit a revised TRE plan and schedule that addresses the Regional WET Coordinator's comments and to initiate the revised TRE plan and schedule.

- 5.2.1.1.3 If the Regional WET Coordinator **does not provide comments** on the TRE plan and schedule, the Permittee shall confirm receipt and approval of the TRE plan/schedule by EPA and initiate the TRE plan and schedule **within 60 days** after submittal of the TRE plan and schedule to the Regional WET Coordinator.
- 5.2.1.2 Alternately, if the source of toxicity is known and can immediately be controlled through sustainable permanent operational changes, the Permittee can return to compliance by achieving passing results in follow-up testing on the accelerated monthly schedule. If one quarter of follow-up tests indicate a return to compliance after the operational changes have been made, the Permittee may provide a written request for relief from accelerated testing and/or completion of a TRE.
- 5.2.2 Where the source of toxicity is unknown and the toxicity cannot be immediately controlled through operational changes, the Permittee shall initiate a TIE to identify the source of the toxicity and develop and implement a TRE plan and schedule to identify and reduce toxicity in the effluent and demonstrate no toxicity at or below the IWC in accordance with the following schedule:
- 5.2.2.1 Submit a toxicity reduction (TRE) study plan detailing the toxicity identification and reduction procedures to be employed and the schedule for completing the plan. The plan and schedule shall be submitted to the Regional WET Coordinator **within 45 days** of the date of when the Permittee learned of the second re-test failure. EPA publications listed below shall be considered in developing the plan and schedule. Copies of the publications may be downloaded from the Region 8 web page at <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/permit-limits-whole-effluent-toxicity-wet>.
- "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase I Toxicity Characterization Procedures", Second Edition, EPA/600/6-91/003, February 1991.
- "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase II Toxicity Identification Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity", EPA/600/R-92/080, September 1993.
- "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase III Toxicity Confirmation Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity", EPA/600/R-92/081, September 1993.
- "Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Guidance for Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants", EPA/833B-99/002, August 1999.
- "Generalized Methodology for Conducting Industrial Toxicity Reduction Evaluations (TREs)", EPA/600/2-88/070, April 1989
- 5.2.2.2 The Regional WET Coordinator may review the TRE plan and schedule and provide written comments to the Permittee.

- 5.2.2.3 If the Regional WET Coordinator **provides comments** on the TRE plan and schedule, the Permittee has **30 days** from receipt of those comments to submit a revised TRE plan and schedule that addresses the Regional WET Coordinator's comments and to initiate the revised TRE plan and schedule.
- 5.2.2.4 If the Regional WET Coordinator **does not provide comments** on the TRE plan and schedule, the Permittee shall initiate the TRE plan and schedule **within 60 days** after submittal of the TRE plan and schedule to the Regional WET Coordinator.
- 5.2.3 The Permittee shall comply with the final schedule for implementing the TRE plan; failure to comply with the schedule is a violation of the Permit.
- 5.2.4 The Permittee may request modification(s) to the TIE/TRE plan or schedule. The request shall be submitted to the Regional WET Coordinator for review prior to implementation of the modification. The review and comment procedure shall follow the steps included in sections 5.2.1 and/or 5.2.2 above, as applicable. Unless notified of approval in writing of the modification, the Permittee shall not implement any modification of the TIE/TRE plan or schedule.
- 5.2.5 The Permittee shall submit results of the TRE, including summary of findings, corrective actions required, and data generated in accordance with the final schedule for implementing the TRE plan;
- 5.2.6 The Permittee shall also complete construction, if necessary, to implement the TRE controls as described in the final TRE report in accordance with the final schedule for implementing the TRE plan; and
- 5.2.7 Upon successful completion of the TIE/TRE and approval by the Permitting Authority, the Permittee shall return to annual whole effluent toxicity monitoring and reporting as specified in section 4 of the Permit.

All test results from additional toxicity testing conducted (i.e., retest results, accelerated monthly testing, and monthly TIE/TRE testing) shall be reported by the 28th of the month following the WET test through NetDMR, as required by section 7.4 of the Permit, and to the following address:

U.S. EPA, Region 8 (8WD-CWW)
Attn: Wastewater Section Supervisor
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129

If WET testing confirms reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the narrative standards, the Permit may be reopened to include a WET limitation.

6 Inspections, Corrective Actions, and Operation and Maintenance

6.1 Logs and Documentation:

This section requires activities for inspections, corrective actions, and maintenance to be documented in a paper or electronic log(s). The Permittee may have one log or multiple logs to document these activities. The Permittee shall maintain the log(s) of inspections, corrective actions, and maintenance in either paper or electronic format in accordance with record-keeping requirements in section 7.8 and shall make the log(s) available for inspection, upon request, by authorized representatives of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

6.2 Inspection Requirements:

6.2.1 On at least a daily basis, unless otherwise approved by the Permit issuing authority, the Permittee shall inspect its wastewater treatment facility, at a minimum, for the following:

6.2.1.1 Determine if there is a visible sheen, floating oil, floating solids and/or foam;

6.2.1.2 Determine if proper operation and maintenance procedures are being undertaken at the wastewater treatment facility.

6.2.2 The Permittee shall maintain a log in either paper or electronic format recording information obtained during inspection activities. The log can be the facility's automated digital network/system such as a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA). At a minimum, the log shall include the following:

6.2.2.1 Date and time of the inspection;

6.2.2.2 Name of the inspector(s);

6.2.2.3 Identification of operational problems and/or maintenance problems;

6.2.2.4 Corrective actions, as appropriate, to remedy identified problems, the planned date for each corrective action, and the actual date each corrective action was taken; and,

6.2.2.5 Other information, problems identified, or observations, as appropriate.

- 6.2.3 Problems identified during the inspection including, but not limited to, those associated with section 6.2.1 of the Permit, shall be corrected at the time of inspection, if possible. If they cannot be corrected at the time of the inspection, the inspector must identify and document a corrective action to remedy the problem(s), as well as a timeline for completion of the remedy. The corrective action shall be completed by the time specified. Corrective actions to remedy problem(s) shall be in line with and addressed through proper operation and maintenance (section 6.3 of the Permit). All problems identified during inspections, as well as associated corrective actions and timelines, shall be documented in the inspection log.

6.3 Proper Operation and Maintenance:

The Permittee shall 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 a permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the Permit.

- 6.3.1 Operation and Maintenance Program: The Permittee shall complete the following as part of the operation and maintenance program for the wastewater treatment facility:
- 6.3.1.1 Have a current Operation and Management Manual(s) (O&M Manual(s)) that describes the proper operational procedures and maintenance requirements of the wastewater treatment facility, as required by the previous permit, and make any necessary updates as soon as possible, but no later than six (6) months after the effective date of this Permit. Maintain and implement the O & M Manual(s);
 - 6.3.1.2 Have the O&M Manual(s) readily available (e.g., on-site) to the operator of the wastewater treatment facility and require that the operator become familiar with the manual(s) and any updates;
 - 6.3.1.3 Have a documented schedule(s) for routine operation and maintenance activities at the wastewater treatment facility; and,
 - 6.3.1.4 Require the operator to perform the routine operation and maintenance requirements in accordance with the schedule(s) and document them in a log in accordance with 6.1.4.
- 6.3.2 Operation and Maintenance Log: The Permittee shall maintain a log in either paper or electronic format containing a summary record of all operation and maintenance activities at the wastewater treatment facility. Activities shall be recorded within 48 hours of completing the activity. At a minimum, the log shall include the following information:
- 6.3.2.1 Date and time;

- 6.3.2.2 Name and title of person(s) making the log entry;
 - 6.3.2.3 Name of the persons(s) performing the activity;
 - 6.3.2.4 A brief description of the activity; and,
 - 6.3.2.5 Other information, as appropriate.
- 6.3.3 Asset Management Plan: The Permittee shall, as soon as possible, but no later than one year after the effective date of this Permit, develop, maintain, and implement an asset management plan (AMP) to cover the treatment facility and collection system.
- 6.3.3.1 The AMP shall include an inventory of all critical assets in a single list, spreadsheet, or database. Critical assets may include, but are not limited to, sewer lines, manholes, outfalls, lift stations, force mains, catch basins, flow meters, and wastewater treatment facility assets and/or any other asset which are critical to operations would require significant capital expenditures to replace or repair. Each entry shall include:
 - 6.3.3.1.1 Name and identification number (if applicable).
 - 6.3.3.1.2 Location (GPS coordinate or equivalent identifier).
 - 6.3.3.1.3 Current performance/condition and any upcoming replacement needs before the Permit expiration date.
 - 6.3.3.1.4 Purchase and installation date (if known).
 - 6.3.3.1.5 Purchase price (if known).
 - 6.3.3.1.6 Replacement cost (if known).
 - 6.3.3.2 The AMP shall include a treatment system map showing the sewer collection system it owns and operates including the wastewater treatment system. The map shall be of sufficient detail and at a scale to allow easy interpretation. The treatment system information shown on the map shall be based on current conditions and shall be kept up to date and available for review by federal agencies. Map(s) shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - 6.3.3.2.1 All sanitary sewer lines and related manholes;
 - 6.3.3.2.2 All outfalls of the system or the treatment plant outfall(s);
 - 6.3.3.2.3 All pump stations and force mains;
 - 6.3.3.2.4 The wastewater treatment facility(ies);
 - 6.3.3.2.5 All surface waters (labeled);

- 6.3.3.2.6 The scale and a north arrow;
 - 6.3.3.2.7 Other major appurtenances such as inverted siphons and air release valves;
 - 6.3.3.2.8 A numbering system which uniquely identifies manholes, catch basins, overflow points, regulators and outfalls; and
 - 6.3.3.2.9 The pipe diameter, date of installation, type of material, distance between manholes and, invert elevations at manhole locations, and the direction of flow.
- 6.3.3.3 The AMP shall identify emerging or increased threats to the facility resulting from long-term compliance concerns, such as flooding risk, risk of wildfires, or drought risk, that may impact compliance between the start of the current permit and the year 2050. The Permittee shall project upgrades to existing assets, relocation of existing infrastructure, new infrastructure projects, and additional operation and maintenance along with associated costs, necessary to ensure continued compliance. The Permittee should consider optimizing energy efficiency in the treatment system and collection system (where applicable).
- 6.3.3.4 Further guidance on implementing an AMP may be found on EPA’s website “Check Up Program for Small Systems (“CUPSS”) Asset Management Tool” (<https://www.epa.gov/dwcapacity/information-check-program-small-systems-cupss-asset-management-tool>).
- 6.3.4 Staff and Funding: The Permittee shall provide adequate staff and funding to carry out the operation, maintenance, repair, and testing functions required to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of this Permit. The level of staffing needed, in numbers, training and experience, shall be determined taking into account the work involved in operating the system, conducting maintenance, and complying with this Permit. The Permittee may be required to provide EPA documentation on the sources of revenue, annual budgets, annual expenses, and staffing.

7 Monitoring, Record Keeping, and Reporting Requirements

7.1 Representative Sampling:

All samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements established under section 4 shall be representative. Effluent samples shall be collected from the effluent stream prior to discharge into the receiving waters. Any influent samples shall be taken of the influent stream at the first influent access point, and if feasible prior to entering any treatment unit. Any receiving water samples shall be collected in a representative location of the receiving stream. Samples and measurements shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored activity, discharge, influent, receiving stream, or other

monitored location. Sludge samples shall be collected at a location representative of the quality of sludge immediately prior to use or disposal practice.

7.2 Monitoring Procedures:

Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved by EPA under 40 CFR Part 136 or is required under 40 CFR subchapters N or O, unless other test procedures have been specified in this Permit. Sludge monitoring procedures shall be those specified in 40 CFR Part 503, or as specified in this Permit. The Permittee must select a test procedure that is Sufficiently Sensitive for all monitoring conducted in accordance with this Permit.

7.3 Penalties for Tampering:

The Act provides that any person who knowingly falsifies, tampers with, or 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 two years, or by 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.

7.4 Reporting of Monitoring Results:

Upon the effective date of this Permit, the Permittee must electronically report discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) using NetDMR at the frequency and by the due dates specified in Table 4, below.

Table 6. DMR Compliance Monitoring Periods and Due Dates

Compliance Monitoring Period	Due Date
Month of January	February 28
Month of February	March 28
Month of March	April 28
Month of April	May 28
Month of May	June 28
Month of June	July 28
Month of July	August 28
Month of August	September 28
Month of September	October 28
Month of October	November 28
Month of November	December 28
Month of December	January 28

Electronic submissions by permittees must be submitted to EPA Region 8 no later than the 28th of the month following the completed reporting period. The Permittee must sign and certify all electronic submissions in accordance with the Signatory Requirements (see

section 9.7). NetDMR is accessed from the internet at https://usepa.servicenow.com/oeca_icis?id=netdmr_homepage.

In addition, the Permittee must submit a copy of the DMR to the Crow Tribe. Currently, the Permittee may submit a copy to the Crow Tribe by one of three ways:

1. a paper copy may be mailed;
2. the email address may be added to the electronic submittal through NetDMR; or,
3. the Permittee may provide viewing rights through NetDMR.

Additional requirements for data entered in NetDMR are as follows:

1. Requirements for the data values to report for each parameter (e.g., daily maximum, 30-day average, etc.) are included in section 4, Table 3.
2. If there is no data to report on the DMR for a parameter, enter the applicable no data indicator (NODI) code in NetDMR.
3. Enter the applicable measurement units.
4. In the number of excursions column (“# of Ex.”), enter the total number of sample measurements during the monitoring period that exceed the maximum and/or average limit(s) or was below the minimum limit(s), as applicable, for all permit limits for each parameter; if none, enter “0.”
5. For “Frequency of Analysis,” enter the actual frequency of monitoring for the parameter (e.g., Cont,” for continuous monitoring, “1/7” for one per week, “1/30” for one per month, “2/30” for two per month, “1/90” for one per quarter, “1/180” for one per six months, “1/365” for one per year, etc.).
6. For “Sample Type,” indicate the sample type collected.

7.5 Other Reporting Requirements:

All reports shall be signed and certified in accordance with the Signatory Requirements (see section 9.7). Unless otherwise specified in the applicable section of the Permit, all paper reports shall be submitted to EPA Region 8, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, Water Enforcement Branch and the Crow Tribe at the addresses given below:

original to:

U.S. EPA, Region 8 (8ENF-W-NW)
Attention: NPDES and Wetlands Enforcement Section Supervisor
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129

copy to:

Crow Tribe
Natural Resources and Public Safety Department
P.O. Box 159
Crow Agency, MT 59022

Prior to December 21, 2025, all other reports required herein (e.g., sections 7.10 and 7.11) as well as sewer overflow event reports, shall be signed and certified in accordance with the Signatory Requirements (see section 9.7), and submitted to EPA Region 8 and the Crow Tribe at the addresses given above. Effective no later than December 21, 2025, these reports shall be submitted electronically using the NPDES Electronic Reporting Tool (NeT). If the NeT tool is not available on December 21, 2025, the reports can continue to be submitted to the addresses above until the tool is available unless otherwise indicated in compliance with this section and 40 CFR Part 3 (including, in all cases, subpart D to Part 3), 40 CFR §122.22, and 40 CFR Part 127.

7.6 Additional Monitoring by the Permittee:

If the Permittee monitors any pollutant in accordance with section 7.1 more frequently than required by this Permit, using test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136, 40 CFR or another method as required under 40 CFR subchapters N or O, Part 503, or as specified in this Permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting. Such increased frequency shall also be indicated on the DMR.

7.7 Monitoring Records Contents:

Records of monitoring information shall include:

- 7.7.1 The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
- 7.7.2 The name(s) of the individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
- 7.7.3 The date(s) analyses were performed;
- 7.7.4 The time(s) analyses were initiated;
- 7.7.5 The name(s) of individual(s) who performed the analyses;
- 7.7.6 References to and, when available, written procedures for the analytical techniques or methods used; and,
- 7.7.7 The results of such analyses, including the bench sheets, instrument readouts, computer disks or tapes, etc., used to determine these results when analysis is conducted by the Permittee.

7.8 Retention of Records:

The Permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation (e.g., strip charts, continuous electronic recording), copies of all reports required by this Permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Permit, for a period of at least three years from the date of the sample, measurement, report

or application. This period may be extended by request of EPA at any time. However, records of monitoring required by this Permit related to sludge use and disposal activities must be kept at least five years (or longer as required by 40 CFR Part 503). Data collected on site, data used to prepare the DMR, copies of DMRs, and a copy of this NPDES Permit must be maintained on site.

7.9 Twenty-Four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting:

- 7.9.1 The Permittee shall orally report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment as soon as possible, but no later than twenty-four (24) hours from the time the Permittee first became aware of the circumstances. The report shall be made to a) EPA, Region 8, Superfund & Emergency Management Division at (303) 293-1788; b) Region 8's NPDES and Wetlands Enforcement Section at (800) 227-8917, and c) Crow Tribe (406) 638-3726.
- 7.9.2 The following occurrences of noncompliance and WET test failures shall be orally reported by telephone to EPA, Region 8's NPDES and Wetlands Enforcement Section at (800) 227-8917 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time) and Crow Tribe at (406) 638-3726 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time) within 24 hours of the Permittee becoming aware of the circumstances:
 - 7.9.2.1 Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the Permit (see section 8.6, Bypass of Treatment Facilities.);
 - 7.9.2.2 Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the Permit (see section 8.7, Upset Conditions);
 - 7.9.2.3 Violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed in the Permit to be reported within 24 hours;
 - 7.9.2.4 Sanitary sewer overflows;
 - 7.9.2.5 Acute toxicity in a WET test.
- 7.9.3 For any noncompliance notification required under sections 7.10.1 or 7.10.2, a written report shall also be provided to the EPA, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, Water Enforcement Branch, and to the Crow Tribe within five days of the time that the Permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. Reports shall be submitted to the addresses in section 7.6, Other Reporting Requirements.
- 7.9.4 The written report shall contain:
 - 7.9.4.1 A description of the noncompliance and its cause;
 - 7.9.4.2 The period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times;

- 7.9.4.3 The estimated time noncompliance is expected to continue if it has not been corrected;
 - 7.9.4.4 Steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance; and,
 - 7.9.4.5 The signed certification statement required by the Signatory Requirements (see section 9.7).
- 7.9.5 An EPA delegated representative may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis for an occurrence of noncompliance listed under section 7.10.1 or 7.10.2 above, if the incident has been orally reported in accordance with the requirements of those sections.

7.10 Other Noncompliance Reporting:

Instances of noncompliance not required to be reported within 24 hours shall be reported at the time that monitoring reports for section 7.4 are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in section 7.9.4, and, if applicable, when the Permittee failed to comply with any applicable long-term combined sewer overflow control plan or other permit requirements.

7.11 Inspection and Entry:

The Permittee shall allow the EPA, or authorized representative (including an authorized contractor or authorized tribal inspector acting as a representative of EPA) upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

- 7.11.1 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;
- 7.11.2 Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Permit;
- 7.11.3 Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Permit; and,
- 7.11.4 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.

8 Compliance Responsibilities

8.1 Duty to Comply:

The Permittee must comply with all conditions of this Permit. Any failure to comply with the Permit may constitute a violation of the Clean Water Act and may be grounds for

enforcement action; termination, revocation and reissuance, modification; or denial of a permit renewal application.

8.2 Penalties for Violations of Permit Conditions:

The Clean Water Act provides for statutory maximum and minimum civil and criminal monetary penalties for violations of its provisions. The Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 requires EPA to make adjustments of statutory civil penalties on an annual basis according to a prescribed formula to reflect inflation, beginning in 2016. EPA has adjusted its civil monetary penalties effective January 12, 2022 (87 Fed. Reg. 1676-79). Please note that the civil penalties described below are reflective of the most recent Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Rule the year this permit was issued and that civil penalties will have been adjusted annually thereafter. Civil penalties that EPA issues will therefore be reflective of the minimum amounts adjusted for inflation at the time of the violation. The civil and criminal penalties for violations of the Act are as follows:

- 8.2.1 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 Section 402(a)(3) or 402(b)(8) of the Act, is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$59,973 per day for each violation.
- 8.2.2 Any person who negligently violates Section 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 for not more than one 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 for not more than two years, or both.
- 8.2.3 Any person who knowingly violates Section 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 \$5,000 to \$50,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment for not more than three 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 for not more than six years, or both.

- 8.2.4 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 for 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 for 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.
- 8.2.5 Any person may be assessed an administrative penalty by the EPA 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. Where an administrative enforcement action is brought for a Class I civil penalty, the assessed penalty may not exceed \$23,989 per violation, with a maximum amount not to exceed \$59,973. Where an administrative enforcement action is brought for a Class II civil penalty, the assessed penalty may not exceed \$23,989 per day for each day during which the violation continues, with the maximum amount not to exceed \$299,857.

8.3 Need to Halt or Reduce Activity not a Defense:

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

8.4 Duty to Mitigate:

The Permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this Permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

8.5 Removed Substances:

Collected screenings, grit, solids, sludge (including sewage sludge), or other pollutants removed in the course of treatment shall be buried or disposed in a manner consistent with all applicable federal, state, tribal, or local regulations (e.g., 40 CFR Part 257 [Criteria For Classification Of Solid Waste Disposal Facilities And Practices], 40 CFR Part 258 [Criteria For Municipal Solid Waste Landfills], 40 CFR Part 503 [Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge]). Sludge/digester supernatant and filter backwash shall not be directly blended with or enter either the final plant discharge and/or waters of the United States.

8.6 Bypass of Treatment Facilities:

8.6.1 Bypass not exceeding limitations: The Permittee may allow any bypass to occur which 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 sections 8.6.2 and 8.6.3.

8.6.2 Notice:

8.6.2.1 Anticipated bypass: If the Permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice in accordance with section 7.6, Other Reporting Requirements, if possible at least 10 days before the date of the bypass to EPA Region 8 Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division Water Enforcement Branch, and the Crow Tribe.

8.6.2.2 Unanticipated bypass: The Permittee shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required under section 7.10, Twenty-four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting, to the EPA Region 8, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, Water Enforcement Branch, and the Crow Tribe.

8.6.3 Prohibition of bypass

8.6.3.1 Bypass is prohibited and the EPA may take enforcement action against a permittee for a bypass, unless:

8.6.3.1.1 The bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;

8.6.3.1.2 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 judgement to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and,

8.6.3.1.3 The Permittee submitted notices as required under section 8.6.2.

8.6.3.2 The EPA may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the EPA determines that it will meet the three conditions listed above in section 8.6.3.1.

8.7 Upset Conditions:

- 8.7.1 Effect of an upset: An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of section 8.7.2 are met. 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 (i.e., Permittees will have the opportunity for a judicial determination on any claim of upset in an enforcement action brought for noncompliance with technology-based permit effluent limitations).
- 8.7.2 Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset: A Permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:
- 8.7.2.1 An upset occurred and that the Permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset;
 - 8.7.2.2 The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated;
 - 8.7.2.3 The Permittee submitted notice of the upset as required under section 7.10, Twenty-four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting; and,
 - 8.7.2.4 The Permittee complied with any remedial measures required under section 8.4, Duty to Mitigate.
- 8.7.3 Burden of proof: In any enforcement proceeding, the Permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

8.8 Toxic Pollutants:

The Permittee shall 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.

8.9 Industrial Waste Management:

- 8.9.1 The permitted facility is a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined in 40 CFR § 403.3(q). The Permittee has the responsibility to protect the Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) from pollutants which pass through or interfere with treatment processes in Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) or which may contaminate sewage sludge.
- 8.9.2 Annual monitoring per the requirements in section 4 is being proposed as means of detecting new industrial discharges. Sampling will be required annually for: arsenic; cadmium; chromium; copper; cyanide; lead; molybdenum; nickel; selenium; silver; zinc; phenols; volatile organic pollutants; semi-volatile organic compounds, acid; and semi-volatile organic compounds, base neutral.

- 8.9.3 An Industrial Waste Survey (IWS) shall be completed within one year after the Permit effective date, and thereafter maintained to ensure that the Permittee is aware of the Industrial Discharges it is receiving from the service area and to determine if these industrial discharges cause or contribute to interference or passthrough or contaminate the sewage sludge. This will allow the Permittee to meet the objectives of 40 CFR § 403.2. The Permittee shall incorporate the following pretreatment management practices when performing the IWS, referenced from 40 CFR § 403.8(f)(2)(i-ii):
- 8.9.3.1 Identify and locate all possible Industrial Users that discharge to the Facility and might be subject to the Pretreatment Standards identified in sections 8.10.3 and 8.10.4 of this Permit or that might discharge PFAS to the collection system. Any compilation, index or inventory of Industrial Users made under this paragraph shall be made available to the EPA upon request.
 - 8.9.3.2 Identify the character and volume of pollutants contributed to the Facility by the Industrial Users identified under paragraph 3.11.2(i) of this section. This information shall be made available to the Regional Administrator or Director upon request.
- 8.9.4 General and Specific Prohibitions. Pursuant to the Pretreatment Standards (40 CFR § 403.5) developed pursuant to Section 307 of the Act, the Permittee shall not allow, under any circumstances, the introduction of the following pollutants to the POTW from any source of nondomestic discharge (Industrial User):
- 8.9.4.1 Any other pollutant which may cause Pass Through or Interference;
 - 8.9.4.2 Pollutants which create a fire or explosion hazard in the POTW, including, but not limited to, waste streams with a closed cup flashpoint of less than sixty (60) degrees Centigrade (140 degrees Fahrenheit) using the test methods specified in 40 CFR § 261.21;
 - 8.9.4.3 Pollutants which will cause corrosive structural damage to the POTW, but in no case discharges with a pH of lower than 5.0 s.u., unless the treatment facilities are specifically designed to accommodate such discharges;
 - 8.9.4.4 Solid or viscous pollutants in amounts which will cause obstruction to the flow in the POTW, or other interference with the operation of the POTW;
 - 8.9.4.5 Any pollutant, including oxygen demanding pollutants (e.g., BOD₅), released in a discharge at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which will cause Interference with any treatment process at the POTW;
 - 8.9.4.6 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 forty (40) degrees Centigrade (104 degrees

Fahrenheit) unless the EPA, upon request of the POTW, approves alternate temperature limits;

- 8.9.4.7 Petroleum oil, nonbiodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral oil origin in amounts that will cause Interference or Pass Through;
 - 8.9.4.8 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;
 - 8.9.4.9 Any trucked or hauled pollutants, except at discharge points designated by the POTW; and,
 - 8.9.4.10 Any specific pollutant which exceeds a local limitation established by the Permittee in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR § 403.5(c) and (d).
- 8.9.5 Categorical Pretreatment Standards. In addition to the general and specific limitations listed above, more specific Pretreatment Standards have been and will be promulgated for specific industrial categories under Section 307 of the Act (40 CFR Part 405 et. seq.). The Permittee must notify the EPA and the Crow Tribe at the addresses in section 7.6, Other Reporting Requirements, of any new introductions by new or existing Industrial Users subject to Categorical Pretreatment Standards under 40 CFR § 403.6 and 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N (categorical Industrial Users) that was not identified in the Permit application or any substantial change in pollutants from any Industrial User within sixty (60) days following the introduction or change. Such notice must identify:
- 8.9.5.1 Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an Industrial User which would be subject to Sections 301, 306, or 307 of the Act if it were directly discharging those pollutants; and,
 - 8.9.5.2 Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the POTW by any Industrial User including but not limited to any Industrial User that discharges an average of 25,000 gallons per day or more of process wastewater to the POTW (excluding sanitary, noncontact cooling and boiler blowdown wastewater), contributes a process wastestream which makes up 5 percent or more of the average dry weather hydraulic or organic capacity of the POTW Treatment Plant, whose discharge designated by the EPA as having a reasonable potential for adversely affecting the POTW's operation or for violating any Pretreatment Standard or requirements. or other discharges that may cause Pass Through or Interference.
 - 8.9.5.3 For the purposes of this section, adequate notice shall include information on:
 - 8.9.5.3.1 The identity of the Industrial User;

- 8.9.5.3.2 The nature and concentration of pollutants in the discharge and the average and maximum flow of the discharge to be introduced into the POTW; and,
 - 8.9.5.3.3 Any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from or biosolids or sludge produced at such POTW.
- 8.9.6 At such time as a specific Pretreatment Standard or requirement becomes applicable to an Industrial User of the Permittee, the EPA may, as appropriate:
- 8.9.6.1 Amend the Permit to specify the additional pollutant(s) and corresponding effluent limitation(s) consistent with the applicable national Pretreatment Standards;
 - 8.9.6.2 Require the Permittee to specify, by ordinance, order, or other enforceable means, the type of pollutant(s) and the maximum amount which may be discharged to the Permittee's POTW for treatment. Such requirement shall be imposed in a manner consistent with the program development requirements of the General Pretreatment Regulations at 40 CFR Part 403; and/or,
 - 8.9.6.3 Require the Permittee to monitor its discharge for any pollutant which may likely be discharged from the Permittee's POTW, should the Industrial User fail to properly pretreat its waste.
- 8.9.7 The EPA retains, at all times, the right to take legal action against any source of nondomestic discharge, whether directly or indirectly controlled by the Permittee, for violations of a permit, order or similar enforceable mechanism issued by the Permittee, violations of any Pretreatment Standard or requirement, or for failure to discharge at an acceptable level under national standards issued by the EPA under 40 CFR, Chapter I, Subchapter N. In cases where a NPDES permit violation has occurred because of the failure of the Permittee to properly develop and enforce Pretreatment Standards and requirements as necessary to protect the POTW, the EPA shall hold the Permittee and/or Industrial User responsible and may take legal action against the Permittee as well as the Industrial User(s) contributing to the Permit violation.
- 8.10 Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Notification and Plan
- If PFAS is detected in any effluent samples for any of the 40 PFAS parameters in Method 1633, the Permittee shall:
- 8.10.1 The first time during the permit term PFAS is detected, provide written notification to EPA within 14 calendar days of the Permittee receiving the PFAS testing results. Notification shall be sent in accordance with section 7.6. Notification shall include the laboratory data results.

- 8.10.2 Within 180 days of the Permittee receiving positive PFAS testing results, the Permittee shall perform and begin implementing a PFAS source identification and reduction plan (PFAS Plan). If the Permittee already has or is in the process of developing a PFAS Plan, the Permittee shall make any appropriate updates based on the new data. The initial PFAS Plan shall be submitted by this 180-day deadline in accordance with section 7.6. The PFAS Plan shall include, at a minimum, the following:
- 8.10.2.1 Identification of the source or suspected source of the PFAS pollutant(s);
 - 8.10.2.2 Identification and implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to keep PFAS out of the collection system. This may include but is not limited to product substitution, reduction, or elimination for discharges with PFAS;
 - 8.10.2.3 Accidental discharge minimization by optimizing operations and implementing good housekeeping practices;
 - 8.10.2.4 Equipment decontamination or replacement where PFAS products have historically been used to prevent discharge of legacy PFAS following the implementation of product substitution;
 - 8.10.2.5 BMPs to address PFAS-containing firefighting foams, where appropriate, and BMPs to address Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) used for firefighting such as:
 - 8.10.2.5.1 Steps to prohibiting the use of AFFFs in stormwater other than for actual firefighting;
 - 8.10.2.5.2 Eliminating PFOS- and PFOA-containing AFFFs; and
 - 8.10.2.5.3 Implementing procedures to require the immediate clean-up in all situations where AFFFs have been used, including diversions and other measures that prevent discharges via storm sewer systems;
 - 8.10.2.6 A plan for identifying future sources of PFAS in the influent and facility operations, a mechanism for reduction/elimination of those sources and, if removal is possible, treatment that will be implemented to reduce/remove PFAS from the effluent.

The Permittee shall create and maintain documentation of actions taken under the PFAS Plan, including the date. If elements of the PFAS Plan will take longer than 180 days to implement, the PFAS Plan shall justify the rationale for the time needed.

9 General Requirements

9.1 Planned Changes:

The Permittee shall give written notice to the EPA as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. The notice shall be signed and certified in accordance with the Signatory Requirements (see section 9.7) sent to the address below:

U.S. EPA, Region 8 (8WD-CWW)
Attention: Wastewater Section Supervisor
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129

Notice is required only when:

- 9.1.1 The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are not subject to effluent limitations in the Permit.
- 9.1.2 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 plan; or,
- 9.1.3 The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a New Source.

9.2 Anticipated Noncompliance:

The Permittee shall give advance notice to the EPA of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with Permit requirements.

9.3 Permit Actions:

This Permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the Permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition.

9.4 Duty to Reapply:

If the Permittee wishes 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. The application shall be submitted at least 180 days before the expiration date of this Permit, unless

permission for a later date has been granted by the EPA. EPA cannot grant permission for applications to be submitted later than the expiration date of the existing permit.

9.5 Duty to Provide Information:

The Permittee shall furnish to the EPA, within a reasonable time, any information which the EPA 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 shall also furnish to the EPA, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this Permit.

9.6 Other Information:

When the Permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or any report to the EPA, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

9.7 Signatory Requirements:

All applications, reports or information submitted to the EPA shall be signed and certified in accordance with the provisions below.

- 9.7.1 For a corporation. By a responsible corporate officer. A responsible corporate officer means: (i) A president, secretary, treasurer, or vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy- or decision-making functions for the corporation, or (ii) the manager of one or more manufacturing, production, or operating facilities, provided, the manager is authorized to make management decisions which govern the operation of the regulated facility including having the explicit or implicit duty of making major capital investment recommendations, and initiating and directing other comprehensive measures to assure long term environmental compliance with environmental laws and regulations; the manager can ensure that the necessary systems are established or actions taken to gather complete and accurate information for permit application requirements; and where authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures.
- 9.7.2 For a partnership or sole proprietorship. By a general partner or the proprietor, respectively; or
- 9.7.3 For a municipality, State, Federal, or other public agency. By either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official. For purposes of this section, a principal executive officer of a Federal agency includes: (i) The chief executive officer of the agency, or (ii) a senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a principal geographic unit of the agency (e.g., Regional Administrators of EPA).

- 9.7.4 All reports required by the Permit and other information requested by the EPA shall 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:
- 9.7.4.1 The authorization is made in writing by a person described above and is submitted to the EPA; and,
 - 9.7.4.2 The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility, such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.)
- 9.7.5 Changes to authorization: If an authorization under section 9.7.4 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 section 9.7.4 must be submitted to the EPA prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.
- 9.7.6 Certification: Any person signing a document under this section shall 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."

9.8 Penalties for Falsification of Reports:

The Act 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 noncompliance shall, upon conviction be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than six months per violation, or by both.

9.9 Availability of Reports:

Except for data determined to be confidential under 40 CFR Part 2, Subpart B, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this Permit shall be available for public inspection. As required by the Act and 40 CFR § 122.7, permit applications, permits and effluent data shall not be considered confidential.

9.10 Property Rights:

The issuance of this Permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privileges.

9.11 Severability:

The provisions of this Permit are severable, and if any provision of this Permit, or the application of any provision of this Permit to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this Permit, shall not be affected thereby.

9.12 Transfers:

This Permit is not transferable to any person except after notice and approval to the EPA, as described in the below provisions of this section. A permit may be automatically transferred to a new permittee if:

- 9.12.1 The current Permittee notifies the EPA at least 30 days in advance of the proposed transfer date at:

U.S. EPA, Region 8 (8WD-CWW)
Attention: Wastewater Section Supervisor
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129;

- 9.12.2 The notice includes a written agreement between the existing and new permittee containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability between them;
- 9.12.3 The notice includes the signed certification statement required by the Signatory Requirements (see section 9.7); and,
- 9.12.4 The EPA does not notify the existing Permittee and the proposed new permittee of the EPA's intent to modify, or revoke and reissue the Permit. If this notice is not received, the transfer is effective on the date specified in the agreement mentioned in section 9.12.2.

9.13 Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability:

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 to which the Permittee is or may be subject under Section 311 of the Act.

9.14 General Authorities:

The EPA is issuing this Permit pursuant to the Agency's authority to implement the Clean Water Act NPDES program in Indian country, as defined at 18 U.S.C. § 1151.

9.15 Reopener Provision:

This Permit may be reopened and modified (following proper administrative procedures) to include the appropriate effluent limitations (and compliance schedule, if necessary), or other appropriate requirements if one or more of the following events occurs:

- 9.15.1 Water Quality Standards: The water quality standards of the receiving water(s) to which the Permittee discharges are modified in such a manner as to require different effluent limits than contained in this Permit.
- 9.15.2 Wasteload Allocation: A wasteload allocation is developed and approved by the Crow Tribe and/or the EPA for incorporation in this Permit.
- 9.15.3 Water Quality Management Plan: A revision to the current water quality management plan is approved and adopted which calls for different effluent limitations than contained in this Permit.
- 9.15.4 If any applicable toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is promulgated under Section 307(a) of the Act for a toxic pollutant and that standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation on the pollutant in the permit, the EPA shall institute to modify or revoke and reissue the permit to conform to the toxic effluent standard or prohibition.
- 9.15.5 Toxicity Limitation: This Permit may be reopened and modified (following proper administrative procedures) to include whole effluent toxicity limitations if whole effluent toxicity is detected in the discharge.