



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
CHATTANOOGA ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD OFFICE

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December 12, 2023

Mr. Craig Brymer, Superintendent
Athens Utilities Board
P. O. Box 689
Athens, Tennessee 37371-0689

Re: Athens Utilities Board
Compliance Evaluation Inspection
Collection System (SSO)
NPDES Permit Number TN0024201
NPDES Permit Number TN0067539
McMinn County

Dear Mr. Brymer

On August 28, 2023 and September 7, 2023, Ms. Angela Oberschmidt of the Division of Water Resources performed two Collection System Inspections (SSO) of the Athens Utilities Board (AUB) wastewater collection systems. Mr. Craig Brymer, Mr. Carson McCracken and Mr. Boone Walker provided information during the inspection. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the facility's compliance with the terms and conditions of NPDES Permit Number TN0024201 and TN0067539.

Results

Permit

NPDES Permit Number TN0024201 became effective on November 1, 2022. It will expire on October 31, 2027. NPDES Permit Number TN0067539 became effective on May 1, 2022. It will expire on April 30, 2027.

Records and Reports

All records are kept electronically and were available for review or emailed to Ms. Oberschmidt as requested.

Facility Site Review

Athens Utilities operates eight lift stations in the North Mouse system and seven lift stations in the Oostanaula system.

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Pump Stations visited during the inspections were:

Wheatland Hills
Cedar Springs
Sterling Road

Self-monitoring Program

AUB does not have a formalized CMOM document but are in the process of writing one. AUB has created a Grease Control Policy to support the City of Athens Sewer Use Ordinance. Overflows are reported as required. Pump stations are on the SCADA system.

Operation and Maintenance

A Fats, Oils, Grease (Grease Control Program) program has been implemented. Routine cleaning occurs in areas that are known to need maintenance or that are identified as needing cleaning through work of CCTV inspections of sewer lines. Field inspection of equipment and maintenance staff was completed by Ms. Oberschmidt.

Sewer Overflows

North Mouse Plant had two overflows in the 2022-2023 review period. Oostanaula had two overflows during the 2022-2023 review period. These overflows were due to rains events. All overflows were entered into the overflow portal as required.

AUB has made significant improvements to their sewer systems. Overflows have been reduced due to Capital improvement projects completed and new projects are underway to address the remaining two overflow points in the system.

The Division would like to thank Mr. Brymer and the entire AUB sewer staff for their time and assistance during our inspection. If you have any questions concerning the inspection or this report, please contact Angela Oberschmidt at 423- 333-7251.

Sincerely,



Ms. Jennifer Innes
Program Manager
Division of Water Resources
Chattanooga Field Office

cc: Carson McCracken, AUB Operator (electronic)
cc: Boone Walker, AUB (electronic)