



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
William R. Snodgrass - Tennessee Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 11th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1102

February 8, 2016

Dr. Kevin Ward
Superintendent of Schools
e-copy: kevinward@k12tn.net
Carter County Board of Education
305 Academy Street
Elizabethton, TN 37643

Subject: **Draft of NPDES Permit No. TN0023698**
Hampton Elementary School
Hampton, Carter County, Tennessee

Dear Dr. Ward:

Enclosed please find a draft copy of the NPDES Permit No. TN0023698 which the Division of Water Resources proposes to issue. This draft copy is furnished to you solely for your review of its provisions. No wastewater discharges are authorized by this modified permit. The issuance of an official modified permit is contingent upon your meeting all of the requirements of the Tennessee Water Quality Control Act and the Rules and Regulations of the Tennessee Water Quality, Oil and Gas Board.

Also enclosed is a copy of the public notice that announces our intent to issue this permit. The notice affords the public an opportunity to review the draft permit and, if necessary, request a public hearing on this issuance process. If you disagree with the provisions and requirements contained in the draft permit, you have thirty (30) days from the date of this correspondence to notify the division of your objections. If your objections cannot be resolved, you may appeal this permit upon issuance. This appeal should be filed in accordance with Section 69-3-110 of the Tennessee Code Annotated.

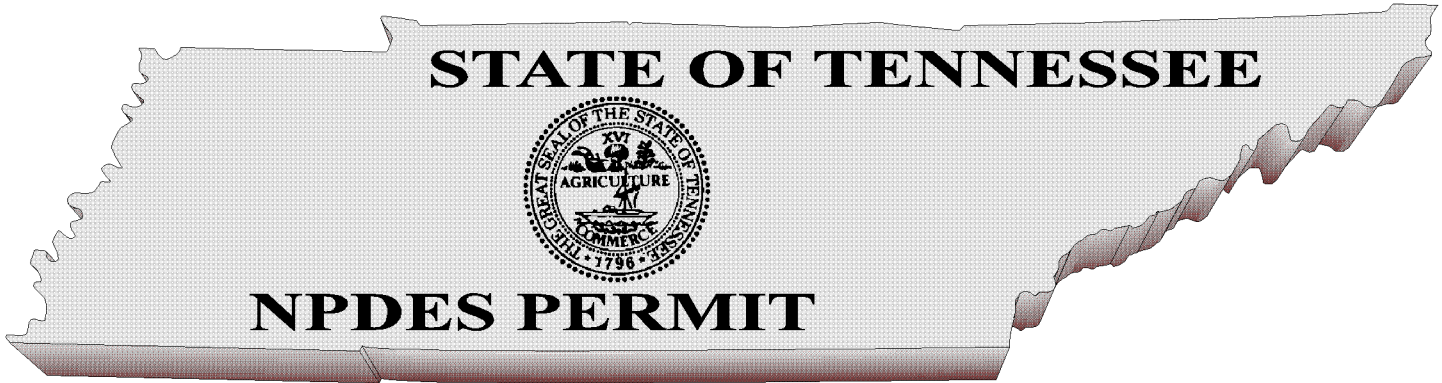
If you have questions, please contact the Johnson City Environmental Field Office at 1-888-891-TDEC; or, at this office, please contact Mr. Hari Akunuri at (615) 532-0650 or by E-mail at Hari.Akunuri@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

Vojin Janjić
Manager, Water-Based Systems

Enclosure

cc: Permit Section File
Johnson City Environmental Field Office



No. TN0023698

Authorization to discharge under the
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Issued By

**State of Tennessee
Department of Environment and Conservation
Division of Water Resources
William R. Snodgrass - Tennessee Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 11th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1102**

Under authority of the Tennessee Water Quality Control Act of 1977 (T.C.A. 69-3-101 et seq.) and the delegation of authority from the United States Environmental Protection Agency under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended by the Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 U.S.C. 1251, et seq.)

Discharger: **Hampton Elementary School**

is authorized to discharge: treated domestic wastewater from Outfall 001

from a facility located: Hampton, Carter County, Tennessee

to receiving waters named: Laurel Fork Creek at mile 0.5

in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth herein.

This permit shall become effective on:

This permit shall expire on:

Issuance date:

for Tisha Calabrese Benton
Director

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PART 1

A. EFFLUENT LIMITATION AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Discharge 001 consists of domestic wastewater from a treatment facility with a design capacity of .014 MGD. Discharge 001 shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below.

Description : External Outfall, Number : 001, Monitoring : Effluent Gross, Season : All Year

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Qualifier</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Sample Type</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Statistical Base</u>
CBOD, 5-day, 20 C	<=	25	mg/L	Grab	Twice Per Month	Monthly Average
CBOD, 5-day, 20 C	<=	40	mg/L	Grab	Twice Per Month	Daily Maximum
Chlorine, total residual (TRC)	<=	.6	mg/L	Grab	Five Per Week	Daily Maximum
E. coli	<=	126	#/100mL	Grab	Twice Per Month	Monthly Average
E. coli	<=	487	#/100mL	Grab	Twice Per Month	Daily Maximum
Flow	Report	-	Mgal/d	Instantaneous	Five Per Week	Monthly Average
Flow	Report	-	Mgal/d	Instantaneous	Five Per Week	Daily Maximum
Nitrogen, Ammonia total (as N)	<=	10	mg/L	Grab	Twice Per Month	Daily Maximum
Nitrogen, Ammonia total (as N)	<=	5	mg/L	Grab	Twice Per Month	Monthly Average
Oxygen, dissolved (DO)	>=	6.0	mg/L	Grab	Five Per Week	Instantaneous Minimum
Settleable Solids	<=	1.0	mL/L	Grab	Two Per Week	Daily Maximum
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	<=	30	mg/L	Grab	Twice Per Month	Monthly Average
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	<=	45	mg/L	Grab	Twice Per Month	Daily Maximum
pH	>=	6.0	SU	Grab	Two Per Week	Daily Minimum
pH	<=	9.0	SU	Grab	Two Per Week	Daily Maximum

The acceptable methods for analysis of TRC are any methods specified in Title 40 CFR, Part 136 as amended. The method detection level (MDL) for TRC shall not exceed 0.05 mg/l unless the permittee demonstrates that its MDL is higher. The permittee shall retain the documentation that justifies the higher MDL and have it available for review upon request.

The wastewater discharge must be disinfected to the extent that viable coliform organisms are effectively eliminated. The concentration of the E. coli group after disinfection shall not exceed 126 cfu per 100 ml as the geometric mean calculated on the actual number of samples collected and tested for E. coli within the required reporting period. The permittee may collect more samples than specified as the monitoring frequency. Samples may not be collected at intervals of less than 12 hours. For the purpose of determining the geometric mean, individual samples having an E. coli group concentration of less than one (1) per 100 ml shall be considered as having a concentration of one (1) per 100 ml. In addition, the concentration of the E. coli group in any individual sample shall not exceed a specified maximum amount. A maximum daily limit of 487 colonies per 100 ml applies to lakes and exceptional Tennessee waters. A maximum daily limit of 941 colonies per 100 ml applies to all other recreational waters.

There shall be no distinctly visible floating scum, oil or other matter contained in the wastewater discharge.

The wastewater discharge must result in no other materials in concentrations sufficient to be hazardous or otherwise detrimental to humans, livestock, wildlife, plant life, or fish and aquatic life in the receiving stream.

Sludge or any other material removed by any treatment works must be disposed of in a manner which prevents its entrance into or pollution of any surface or subsurface waters.

The wastewater discharge must not cause an objectionable color contrast in the receiving stream.

B. MONITORING PROCEDURES

1. Representative Sampling

Samples and measurements taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge, and shall be taken at the following location(s):

nearest accessible point after final treatment but prior to actual discharge to or mixing with the receiving waters.

2. Test Procedures

- a. Test procedures for the analysis of pollutants shall conform to regulations published pursuant to Section 304 (h) of the Clean Water Act, as amended, under which such procedures may be required.
- b. Unless otherwise noted in the permit, all pollutant parameters shall be determined according to methods prescribed in Title 40, CFR, Part 136, as amended, promulgated pursuant to Section 304 (h) of the Act.

3. Sampling Frequency

- a. Where the permit requires sampling and monitoring of a particular effluent characteristic(s) at a frequency of less than once per day or daily, the permittee is precluded from marking the "No Discharge" block on the Discharge Monitoring Report if there has been any discharge from that particular outfall during the period which coincides with the required monitoring frequency; i.e. if the required monitoring frequency is once per month or 1/month, the monitoring period is one month, and if the discharge occurs during only one day in that period then the permittee must sample on that day and report the results of analyses accordingly.

4. Recording of Results

For each measurement or sample taken pursuant to the requirements of this permit, the permittee shall record the following information:

- a. The exact place, date, and time of sampling;
- b. The exact person(s) collecting samples;
- c. The dates and times the analyses were performed;
- d. The person(s) or laboratory who performed the analyses;
- e. The analytical techniques or methods used, and;
- f. The results of all required analyses.

5. Records Retention

All records and information resulting from the monitoring activities required by this permit including all records of analyses performed and calibration and maintenance of instrumentation shall be retained for a minimum of three (3) years, or longer if requested by the Division of Water Resources.

C. DEFINITIONS

The "instantaneous concentration" is a limitation on the concentration, in milligrams per liter, of any pollutant contained in the wastewater discharge determined from a grab sample taken of the discharge at any point in time.

The "daily maximum concentration" is a limitation on the average concentration, in milligrams per liter, of the discharge during any calendar day.

The "monthly average concentration" is the arithmetic mean of all samples collected in a one-month period. If only one sample is required per month, the permittee is required to report compliance against the monthly average limit other than *E coli*.

For the purpose of this permit a "calendar day" is defined as any 24-hour period.

D. REPORTING

1. Monitoring Results

Monitoring results shall be recorded monthly and submitted monthly using Monthly Operation Report Forms (MOR) supplied by the Division of Water Resources. Submittals shall be postmarked no later than 15 days after the completion of the reporting period. A copy should be retained for the permittee's files. Monthly Operation Reports and any communication regarding compliance with the conditions of this permit must be sent to:

**Attention: Division of Water Resources
Johnson City Environmental Field Office
2305 Silverdale Road
Johnson City, TN 37601**

The first MOR is due on the 15th of the month following permit effectiveness.

Monthly Operation Report must be signed and certified by a responsible corporate officer, as defined at 40 CFR 122.22, or a general partner or proprietor, or a principal municipal executive officer or ranking elected officer, or a duly authorized representative. Such authorization must be submitted in writing and must explain the duties and responsibilities of the authorized representative.

The electronic submission of DMR (discharge monitoring report) data will be accepted only if formally approved beforehand by the division. For purposes of determining compliance with this permit, data approved by the division to be submitted electronically is legally equivalent to data submitted on signed and certified DMR forms.

2. Additional Monitoring by Permittee

If the permittee monitors any pollutant at the location(s) designated herein more frequently than required by this permit, using approved analytical methods as specified above, the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the values required in the Monthly Operation Report Form (MOR). Such increased frequency shall also be indicated. The Permittee is also required to perform and report influent and operation tests in accordance with the schedule listed on the Monthly Operation Report/Schedule for Analysis for Package Sewage Treatment Facilities or as developed by the design engineer.

3. Falsifying Reports

Knowingly making any false statement on any report required by this permit may result in the imposition of criminal penalties as provided for in Section 309 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, and in Section 69-3-115 of the Tennessee Water Quality Control Act.

E. SCHEDULE OF COMPLIANCE

Full operational level shall be attained from the effective date of this permit.

PART II

A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Duty to Reapply

The permittee is not authorized to discharge after the expiration date of this permit. In order to receive authorization to discharge beyond the expiration date, the permittee shall submit such information and forms as are required to the Director of Water Resources (the "Director") no later than 180 days prior to the expiration date.

2. Right of Entry

The permittee shall allow the Director, the Regional Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or their authorized representatives, upon the presentation of credentials:

- a. To enter upon the permittee's premises where an effluent source is located or where records are required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this permit, and at reasonable times to copy these records;
- b. To inspect at reasonable times any monitoring equipment or method or any collection, treatment, pollution management, or discharge facilities required under this permit; and
- c. To sample at reasonable times any discharge of pollutants.

3. Availability of Reports

Except for data determined to be confidential under Section 308 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Division of Water Resources. As required by the Federal Act, effluent data shall not be considered confidential.

4. Proper Operation and Maintenance

- a. The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems (and related appurtenances) for collection and treatment which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory and process controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup 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. Backup continuous pH and flow monitoring equipment are not required.

- b. Dilution water shall not be added to comply with effluent requirements to achieve BCT, BPT, BAT and/or other technology based effluent limitations such as those in State of Tennessee Rule 0400-40-05-.03.

5. Treatment Facility Failure (Industrial Sources)

The permittee, in order to maintain compliance with this permit, shall control production, all discharges or both, upon reduction, loss, or failure of the treatment facility, until the facility is restored or an alternative method of treatment is provided. This requirement applies in such situations as the reduction, loss, or failure of the primary source of power.

6. Property Rights

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights in either real or personal property, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of Federal, State, or local laws or regulations.

7. Severability

The provisions of this permit are severable. If any provision of this permit due to any circumstance, is held invalid, then the application of such provision to other circumstances and to the remainder of this permit shall not be affected thereby.

8. Other Information

If the permittee becomes aware that he failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Director, then he shall promptly submit such facts or information.

B. CHANGES AFFECTING THE PERMIT

1. Planned Changes

The permittee shall give notice to the Director as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required only when:

- a. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR 122.29(b); or
- b. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements under 40 CFR 122.42(a)(1).

2. Permit Modification, Revocation, or Termination

- a. This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause as described in 40 CFR 122.62 and 122.64, Federal Register, Volume 49, No. 188 (Wednesday, September 26, 1984), as amended.
- b. The permittee shall furnish to the Director, within a reasonable time, any information which the Director 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 Director, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

- c. If any applicable effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is established for any toxic pollutant under Section 307(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, the Director shall modify or revoke and reissue the permit to conform to the prohibition or to the effluent standard, providing that the effluent standard is more stringent than the limitation in the permit on the toxic pollutant. The permittee shall comply with these effluent standards or prohibitions within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if the permit has not yet been modified or revoked and reissued to incorporate the requirement.
- d. The filing of a request by the permittee for a modification, revocation, reissuance, termination, or notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not halt any permit condition.

3. Change of Ownership

This permit may be transferred to another party (provided there are neither modifications to the facility or its operations, nor any other changes which might affect the permit limits and conditions contained in the permit) by the permittee if:

- a. The permittee notifies the Director of the proposed transfer at least 30 days in advance of the proposed transfer date;
- b. The notice includes a written agreement between the existing and new permittees containing a specified date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability between them; and
- c. The Director, within 30 days, does not notify the current permittee and the new permittee of his intent to modify, revoke or reissue, or terminate the permit and to require that a new application be filed rather than agreeing to the transfer of the permit.

Pursuant to the requirements of 40 CFR 122.61, concerning transfer of ownership, the permittee must provide the following information to the division in their formal notice of intent to transfer ownership: 1) the NPDES permit number of the subject permit; 2) the effective date of the proposed transfer; 3) the name and address of the transferor; 4) the name and address of the transferee; 5) the names of the responsible parties for both the transferor and transferee; 6) a statement that the transferee assumes responsibility for the subject NPDES permit; 7) a statement that the transferor relinquishes responsibility for the subject NPDES permit; 8) the signatures of the responsible parties for both the transferor and transferee pursuant to the requirements of 40 CFR 122.22(a), "Signatories to permit applications"; and, 9) a statement regarding any proposed modifications to the facility, its operations, or any other changes which might affect the permit limits and conditions contained in the permit.

4. Change of Mailing Address

The permittee shall promptly provide to the Director written notice of any change of mailing address. In the absence of such notice the original address of the permittee will be assumed to be correct.

C. NONCOMPLIANCE

1. Effect of Noncompliance

All discharges shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of applicable State and Federal laws and is grounds for enforcement action, permit termination, permit modification, or denial of permit reissuance.

2. Reporting of Noncompliance

a. 24-Hour Reporting

In the case of any noncompliance which could cause a threat to public drinking supplies, or any other discharge which could constitute a threat to human health or the environment, the required notice of non-compliance shall be provided to the Division of Water Resources in the appropriate Environmental Field Office within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. (The Environmental Field Office should be contacted for names and phone numbers of environmental response team.)

A written submission must be provided within five days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances unless the Director on a case-by-case basis waives this requirement. The permittee shall provide the Director with the following information:

- i. A description of the discharge and cause of noncompliance;
- ii. The period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times or, if not corrected, the anticipated time the noncompliance is expected to continue; and
- iii. The steps being taken to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncomplying discharge.

b. Scheduled Reporting

For instances of noncompliance which are not reported under subparagraph 2.a. above, the permittee shall report the noncompliance on the Monthly operation report. The report shall contain all information concerning the steps taken, or planned, to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the violation and the anticipated time the violation is expected to continue.

3. Overflow

- a. "**Overflow**" means the discharge to land or water of wastes from any portion of the collection, transmission, or treatment system other than through permitted outfalls
- b. Overflows are prohibited.
- c. The permittee shall operate the collection system so as to avoid overflows. No new or additional flows shall be added upstream of any point in the collection system, which experiences chronic overflows (greater than 5 events per year) or would otherwise overload any portion of the system.
- d. Unless there is specific enforcement action to the contrary, the permittee is relieved of this requirement after: 1) an authorized representative of the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Conservation has approved an engineering report and construction plans and specifications prepared in

accordance with accepted engineering practices for correction of the problem; 2) the correction work is underway; and 3) the cumulative, peak-design, flows potentially added from new connections and line extensions upstream of any chronic bypass point are less than or proportional to the amount of inflow and infiltration removal documented upstream of that point. The inflow and infiltration reduction must be measured by the permittee using practices that are customary in the flow measurement industry and reported in an attachment to a Monthly Operating Report submitted to the local TDEC Environmental Field Office. The data measurement period shall be sufficient to account for seasonal rainfall patterns and seasonal groundwater table elevations.

- e. In the event that more than 5 overflows have occurred from a single point in the collection system for reasons that may not warrant the self-imposed moratorium or completion of the actions identified in this paragraph, the permittee may request a meeting with the Division of Water Resources EFO staff to petition for a waiver based on mitigating evidence.

4. Upset

- a. "*Upset*" means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology-based 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.
- b. An upset shall constitute an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology-based permit effluent limitations if the permittee demonstrates, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:
 - i. An upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset;
 - ii. The permitted facility was at the time being operated in a prudent and workman-like manner and in compliance with proper operation and maintenance procedures;
 - iii. The permittee submitted information required under "Reporting of Noncompliance" within 24 hours of becoming aware of the upset (if this information is provided orally, a written submission must be provided within five days); and
 - iv. The permittee complied with any remedial measures required under "Adverse Impact."

5. Adverse Impact

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize any adverse impact to the waters of Tennessee resulting from noncompliance with this permit, including such accelerated or additional monitoring as necessary to determine the nature and impact of the noncomplying discharge. It shall not be a defense for the permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.

6. Bypass

- a. "**Bypass**" is the intentional diversion of wastewater away from any portion of a treatment facility. "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which would cause 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.
- b. Bypasses are prohibited unless all of the following three (3) conditions are met:
 - i. The bypass is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;
 - ii. There are not feasible alternatives to bypass, such as the construction and use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment down-time or preventative maintenance;
 - iii. The permittee submits notice of an unanticipated bypass to the Division of Water Resources in the appropriate Environmental Field Office within 24 hours of becoming aware of the bypass (if this information is provided orally, a written submission must be provided within five days). When the need for the bypass is foreseeable, prior notification shall be submitted to the Director, if possible, at least ten (10) days before the date of the bypass.
- c. Bypasses not exceeding permit limitations are allowed **only** if the bypass is necessary for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. All other bypasses are prohibited. Allowable bypasses not exceeding limitations are not subject to the reporting requirements of 6.b.iii, above.

7. Washout

- a. For domestic wastewater plants only, a "washout" shall be defined as loss of Mixed Liquor Suspended Solids (MLSS) of 30.00% or more. This refers to the MLSS in the aeration basin(s) only. This does not include MLSS decrease due to solids wasting to the sludge disposal system. A washout can be caused by improper operation or from peak flows due to infiltration and inflow.
- b. A washout is prohibited. If a washout occurs the permittee must report the incident to the Division of Water Resources in the appropriate Environmental Field Office within 24 hours by telephone. A written submission must be provided within five days. The washout must be noted on the Monthly operation report. Each day of a washout is a separate violation.

D. LIABILITIES

1. Civil and Criminal Liability

Except as provided in permit conditions or "**Bypass**," "**Overflow**," "**Upset**," "**Diversion**," and "**Treatment Facility Failures**," nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil or criminal

penalties for noncompliance. Notwithstanding this permit, the permittee shall remain liable for any damages sustained by the State of Tennessee, including but not limited to fish kills and losses of aquatic life and/or wildlife, as a result of the discharge of wastewater to any surface or subsurface waters. Additionally, notwithstanding this Permit, it shall be the responsibility of the permittee to conduct its wastewater treatment and/or discharge activities in a manner such that public or private nuisances or health hazards will not be created.

2. Liability Under State Law

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable State law or the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended.

PART III OTHER REQUIREMENTS

A. CERTIFIED OPERATOR

The waste treatment facilities shall be operated under the supervision of a certified operator in accordance with the Water Environmental Health Act of 1984.

B. PLACEMENT OF SIGNS

The permittee shall place and maintain a sign at each outfall. The sign(s) should be clearly visible to the public from the bank and the receiving stream. The minimum sign size should be two feet by two feet (2' x 2') with one inch (1") letters. The sign should be made of durable material and have a white background with black letters.

The sign(s) are to provide notice to the public as to the nature of the discharge and in the case of the permitted outfalls, that the discharge is regulated by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water Resources. The following is given as an example of the minimal amount of information that must be included on the sign:

NPDES permitted domestic outfall:

<p>TREATED DOMESTIC WASTEWATER (PERMITTEE'S NAME) (PERMITTEE'S PHONE NUMBER) NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT # _____ TENNESSEE DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES Johnson City Environmental Field Office PHONE NUMBER : 1-888-891-8332</p>
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C. ADDITION OF WASTE LOADS

The permittee may not add wasteloads to the existing treatment system without the knowledge and approval of the division.

D. SLUDGE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The permittee must comply with the provisions of 40 CFR Part 503. If the sludge is transported to another POTW for disposal, the permittee shall note on the monthly operation report the amount of sludge wasted in gallons, % solids of sludge wasted and the name of the facility to which the sludge was taken.

E. ANTIDegradation

Pursuant to the Rules of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Chapter 0400-40-03-.06, titled "Tennessee Antidegradation Statement," which prohibits the degradation of high quality surface waters and the increased discharges of substances that cause or contribute to impairment, the permittee shall further be required, pursuant to the terms and conditions of this permit, to comply with the effluent limitations and schedules of compliance required to implement applicable water quality standards, to comply with a State Water Quality Plan or other state or federal laws or regulations, or where practicable, to comply with a standard permitting no discharge of pollutants.

RATIONALE SHEET

NPDES PERMIT No. TN0023698

Permit Writer: HVA

January 2016

I. DISCHARGER

NAME: Hampton Elementary School
 REPRESENTATIVE: Dr. Kevin Ward
 LOCATION: Hampton, COUNTY: Carter, PHONE NUMBER: 423- 547-8350
 WASTEWATER:
 Discharge number: 001 type: Domestic
 WATERSHED: Watauga HUC: 6010103
 Average design flow: .014 MGD
 PRESENT TREATMENT: Extended aeration
 STATUS: Reissuance
 CERTIFIED OPERATOR GRADES: STP: I; Date Rated: 01/18/2016

II. RECEIVING WATERS

STREAM: Laurel Fork Creek at mile 0.5
 CLASSIFICATION: Fish and aquatic life, recreation, irrigation, livestock watering and wildlife uses.
 LOW FLOW: 7Q10= 1.93 CFS
 ESTABLISHED FROM: USGS gage station No. 03484911.
 WATER QUALITY STATUS: According to the division's most recent assessment of water quality, the Laurel Fork Creek at mile 0.5 is considered fully supportive of its designated use classifications.
 WATER QUALITY DESIGNATION: Exceptional Tennessee Waters.

III. PREVIOUS PERMIT

ISSUANCE: 30-JUL-11
 EXPIRATION: 31-MAY-16

PARAMETERS	MONTHLY AVERAGE CONCENTRATION (MG/L)	MAXIMUM CONCENTRATION (MG/L)
CBOD ₅	25	40
NH ₃ -N	5	10
Total Suspended Solids	30	45
Dissolved Oxygen	6.0 (daily minimum)	
Total Chlorine Residual		0.6 (daily maximum)
<i>E. coli</i>	126	487/100 ml
Settleable Solids (ml/l)		1.0 (daily maximum)
pH (standard units)	6.0-9.0	
Flow (MGD):		
Effluent	Report	Report

IV. PROPOSED EFFLUENT LIMITS & RATIONALE

A. The conditions under which this permit was issued 30-JUL-11 have not changed except for addition of language relative to electronic DMR (discharge monitoring report) reporting in Part D.1. This language will enable permittee compliance with the EPA electronic reporting rule issued on October 22, 2015. Other than that, the permit will be reissued with existing permit conditions.

B. TEST METHOD FOR *E. COLI*

Disinfection of wastewater is required to protect the receiving stream from pathogenic microorganisms. *E. Coli* are indicator organisms used as a measure of bacteriological health of a receiving stream and the effectiveness of disinfection.

As of September 30, 2004, the criterion for fecal coliform has been removed from the State's Water Quality Standards. Thus, the division imposes an *E. coli* limit on discharges of treated sewage for the protection of recreational use of the stream in lieu of the fecal coliform limit.

Unless otherwise noted in the permit, all pollutant parameters shall be determined according to methods prescribed in Title 40, CFR, Part 136, as amended, promulgated pursuant to Section 304 (h) of the Act.

V. OTHER REQUIREMENTS & CONDITIONS

A. Certified Wastewater Treatment Operator

The waste treatment facilities shall be operated under the supervision of a Grade I certified wastewater treatment operator in accordance with the Water Environmental Health Act of 1984. Operator grades are under jurisdiction of the Water and Wastewater Operators Certification Board. This NPDES permit is under jurisdiction of the Tennessee Board of Water Quality, Oil and Gas. Operator grades are rated and recommended by the Division of Water Resources pursuant to Rule 0400-49-01 (formerly 1200-05-03) and are included in this fact sheet for reference. The grades are intentionally not specified in the permit so that the operation certification board can authorize changes in grade without conflicting with this permit.

B. The permittee is required to install a sign notifying the public of its permitted discharge point.

C. PERMIT TERM

This permit is being reissued for 5 years in order to coordinate its reissuance with other permits located within the Watauga Watershed.

VI ANTIDegradation STATEMENT/WATER QUALITY STATUS

Tennessee's Antidegradation Statement is found in the Rules of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Chapter 0400-40-03-.06. It is the purpose of Tennessee's standards to fully protect existing uses of all surface waters as established under the Act.

Stream determinations for this permit action are associated with the waterbody segment identified by the division as segment ID# TN06010103013_0100.

The Department has made a determination of the receiving waters associated with the subject discharge(s) and has found the (stream or river) to be an exceptional Tennessee water. No permanent degradation of water quality will be allowed unless the applicant demonstrates to the Department that the degradation is for necessary economic or social development and will not interfere with or become injurious to any existing uses. The specific requirements

for this demonstration are described in the Rules of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Chapter 0400-40-03-.06(4).

TMDLs have been developed and approved for this waterbody segment on the following parameters and dates:
None

On 12-JAN-16, the permittee submitted an analysis of reasonable alternatives to the continued treated wastewater discharge into the Laurel Fork Creek at mile 0.5. The analysis included the following alternatives:

- Alternative 1- No action- Continue to discharge all treated wastewater into the Laurel Fork Creek at mile 0.5 with current discharge parameters;
- Alternative 2- Pump the wastewater plant effluent to a nearby wastewater system;
- Alternative 3- Develop drip dispersal system to land apply the wastewater effluent; and
- Alternative 4- Reuse and recycle treated wastewater on City landscaping and golf course.

The Hampton Elementary School chose alternative 1 as the most cost effective and feasible solution to wastewater disposal at this time.

VII. COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE SUMMARY

<u>Section</u>	<u>Description</u>
I. D 1	DMR/MOR Reports, monthly
III. B	Placement of Sign(s), within 60 days from the effective date of this permit
III. D	Sludge management practices, monthly