



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
COLUMBIA ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD OFFICE  
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March 25, 2024

Mr. Danny Bingham, Town Administrator  
Town of Chapel Hill  
4650 Nashville Hwy.  
Chapel Hill, TN 37034

RE:      Compliance Evaluation Inspection  
         Chapel Hill STP  
         NPDES Permit No. TN0064670  
         Chapel Hill, Marshall County, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Bingham:

On February 27, 2024, I conducted a Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) of the Town of Chapel Hill Wastewater Treatment Plant. A CEI is conducted to determine compliance with the permit and to review the operation and maintenance of the treatment plant. The following observations were made during the inspection:

### **I. Permit**

The current permit became effective on May 1, 2019, and shall expire on March 31, 2024. A new permit became effective on April 1, 2024, will expire on March 31, 2029. Beginning April 1, 2024, the system is subject to the terms and conditions of the new permit.

### **II. Records/Reports**

Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) are being submitted using the NetDMR electronic reporting system. An electronic Monthly Operation Report (MOR) is being submitted to the Columbia Environmental Field Office. Since the previous inspection, the Town has received two Notices of Violation for exceedances of permit limits. For the monitoring periods of January 2021 through August 2021, the facility failed to operate within permit effluent limits for total suspended solids, E-Coli, and biochemical oxygen demand (BOD 5-day, percent removal and BOD, 5-day, 20 deg. C). For the monitoring periods of October 2021 through April 2022, the facility failed to operate within permit limits for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD, 5-day, percent removal and BOD, 5-day, 20 deg. C). A Bio-chem fermenter is being added in the influent wastewater to aid in bringing the BOD 5-day and BOD percent removal parameters back into compliance.

### **III. Facility Site Review and Operations and Maintenance**

The treatment system consists of a 3-cell lagoon system. Lagoons 1 and 2 are equipped with surface aerators. A logbook is maintained on site for treatment plant repairs and maintenance. A Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) has been developed for the treatment plant, laboratory, and collection system.

### **IV. Laboratory**

The laboratory is equipped to perform the analytical testing requirements of the permit. Bench sheets were available for review for each analytical test performed. The laboratory is clean and well organized. Annual laboratory equipment calibration is conducted by Labtronix. The effluent composite sampler was working, contained a thermometer and was set for flow proportional sample collection. The sampler has been calibrated by Thomas Controls. A new Thermo-Scientific incubator has been purchased since the previous inspection.

### **V. Collection System**

Rehabilitation work continues within the collection system. Defective manholes have been replaced as needed. Camera work has been conducted in various areas to identify wet weather inflow/infiltration. The Stoney Brooke lift station has been upgraded with new pumps, bypass valve, repaired joint leaks, control panel, and SCADA system. Six of the lift stations are now equipped with a SCADA system to allow monitoring from a remote location.

### **VI. Additional Comments/Recommendations**

The Town of Chapel Hill is scheduled to start construction next month on a new sequencing batch reactor (SBR) technology wastewater treatment plant. The SBR technology will eliminate the use of the current STEP (Septic Tank Effluent Pump) system connections for future customers. The Town of Chapel Hill wastewater treatment plant and collections system is being operated by the following personnel:

1. Mr. Bryan Brooks is the wastewater treatment plant operator in direct charge and has current certifications as a Wastewater 2 operator and a Collections System II operator.
2. Mr. Donny Groves is a wastewater plant operator and has a current certification as a BNS wastewater operator and a Collection System II operator.

### **VII. Conclusion**

The Town of Chapel Hill continues ongoing efforts to protect and improve water quality. I would like to thank Mr. Brooks and Mr. Groves for their time and cooperation during the inspection. If you have any questions concerning this correspondence, you may reach me at 931-222-9040 or by e-mail at [gary.horne@tn.gov](mailto:gary.horne@tn.gov).

Sincerely,



Gary Horne  
Division of Water Resources



Mr. Bingham  
March 25, 2024  
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