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Seth A. Mendelsohn
Corporate Counsel

May 30, 2014

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility
Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

In re: Application of Pennsylvania-American Water Company for Approval of (1) the transfer, by sale, of substantially all of Paint-Elk Joint Sewer Authority, properties and rights related to its wastewater system to Pennsylvania-American Water Company, and (2) the rights of Pennsylvania-American Water Company to begin to offer or furnish wastewater service to the public in portions of Paint Township and Elk Township, Clarion County, Pennsylvania. Docket No. A-2013-2395998

Dear Ms. Chiavetta:

In response to Jani Tuzinski's letter dated May 15, 2014, Pennsylvania-American Water Company filed answers to the data requests regarding the above referenced docket number on May 28, 2014.

Enclosed is a supplement to Request A-36 regarding the NPDES Compliance Inspection Report for Paint-Elk Joint Sewer Authority application.

Respectfully,

Seth A. Mendelsohn

blg
Enclosure
cc: J. Tuzinski
S. Donnelly



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF WATER STANDARDS AND FACILITY REGULATION
NPDES COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT

EW

2092128 CWB

NPDES PA0034924	Mo. / Day / Yr. 5/4/2011	Entry Time 0945	Exit Time 1130	Inspection Type RTNC	eFACTS ID No. 2065325
Primary Facility name Paint-Elk Municipal Sewage Plant			Municipal or Operating Authority Paint-Elk Joint Sewer Authority		
Location Southside of Route 322 between Marianne & Shippenville <i>CW Sew Treat RPTS</i>				Permit expiration 5/31/2016	
Municipality Paint-Elk Townships		County Clarion		Permit renewal application due December 2015 § 92a.7	
Primary Facility <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sewage <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Waste <input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater <input type="checkbox"/> Other:					
Responsible Person			Title Chairman		
Address 22129 State Route 66 Shippenville, PA 16254			Business phone: (814)226-8804 FAX: Email: fivewebbsfive@yahoo.com		
VIOLATIONS: <small>(list below)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Pending		The permittee must comply with all conditions of their NPDES permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of The Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law, as amended, 35 P.S. § 691.1 et seq.		
Weather: Clear Skies Mid 60's F					
People Present: Clint Stonesifer, WQS; Rick Webb, Operator					
Summary: See Following Pages					
Person interviewed Rick Webb		Date 5/4/2012	Inspector Clint Stonesifer	Date 5/4/2012	
Signature		Phone number 814-226-8804	Inspector signature	Phone number 814-797-1191	
Title: Plant Operator			Title: Water Quality Specialist		
E-mail: fivewebbsfive@yahoo.com			E-mail: cstonesife@pa.gov		
This document is official notification that a representative of the Department of Environmental Protection inspected the above facility or site. The findings of this inspection are shown above and on any attached pages. Any violations which were noted during the inspection are indicated. Violations may also be discovered upon examination of the results of laboratory analyses of the discharge and review of Department records. Notification will be forthcoming, if such violations are noted.					
Report a spill, release or environmental emergency by calling 911 and your DEP Regional Office. Notice may also be required to the National Response Center at 800-424-8802. § 91.33					

Comments

++Facility maintains NPDES Permit #0034924 and WQM Permit #1690402 to allow for the treatment of municipal sewage generated from Paint and Elk Townships.

++Previous inspections have documented that with the completion of the Riverhill extension the facility now consists of 4 major pump stations, 40+ individual grinder pumps, ponds, aerators, and several miles of sewer line. The facility currently has a single operator to perform all the associated responsibilities. Should the operator be unable to accomplish all associated tasks with maintaining the system the Department will likely frown upon such instances. I recommend that the Authority hire at least one more skilled operator to assure such circumstances do not prevail.

++An inspection in 2010 determined that the facility was going septic because the operator was having difficulty keeping the aerators running because hair and other garbage was entangling the aerators and tripping the breaker. It has been suggested previously that the facility needs a headworks that will remove that grit and debris. To date, a headworks still is not present and during today's inspection one aerator was not running because of the situation noted above. Several other aerators were on the verge of shutting off as well. Credit should be given to the operator as he has crafted a baffling system that keeps some of the garbage from becoming entangled in the aerators. A serious consideration of a headworks should be deliberated.

++Because of the situation described above the lagoons at times will go septic because of the operator's inability to keep the blowers running. It was noted during a 2010 inspection that odors had been a problem and that residents were complaining to the operator. Today's inspection found a slight odor; however, the operator said it may increase due to warmer temperatures and pond turnover that occurs during spring months.

++The permit requires that the Authority begin planning for sludge removal and disposal when sludge capacity reaches 20%. An inspection in 2011 found that the lagoons were over the 20% limit and no plan for sludge disposal could be produced. Sludge in pond #1 is now at 26.2% compared to 23.8% last year. Pond #2 showed a decrease from 31.3% to 31% indicating it is spilling over to ponds #3 & #4. It was noted 10 years ago that without adequate removal in ponds #1 & #2 that ponds #3 & #4 will need cleaned also. On today's inspection a plan for sludge removal could not be produced. The longer this situation festers the problems will only be exacerbated down the road. The facility is currently operating in violation of the permit and needs to develop a plan ASAP.

++The facility continues to pull 8-hour manual composite samples. It has been suggested previously that the facility purchase a composite sampler to more accurately assess the treatment at the facility.

Comments

++Overall, the operator continues to maintain the facility as best as possible and it currently meets parameters set forth in the NPDES Permit as verified by a DMR inspection.