



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) DISCHARGE PERMIT

SIC Code:	4952	NAICS Code:	221320	SPDES Number:	NY0026875
Discharge Class (CL):	05	DEC Number:	4-0126-00138/00001		
Toxic Class (TX):	T	Effective Date (EDP):	EDP		
Major-Sub Drainage Basin:	13 - 01	Expiration Date (ExDP):	ExDP		
Water Index Number:	H (Portion 5)	Item No.:	858 - 004	Modification Dates (EDPM):	
Compact Area:	-				

This SPDES permit is issued in compliance with Title 8 of Article 17 of the Environmental Conservation Law of New York State and in compliance with the Clean Water Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1251 et.seq.)

PERMITTEE NAME AND ADDRESS						
Name:	Albany County Water Purification District			Attention:	Executive Director	
Street:	112 State St, Basement					
City:	Albany			State:	NY	Zip Code: 12207
Email:	Angelo.gaudio@albanycountyny.gov			Phone:	(518) 447-1611	

is authorized to discharge from the facility described below:

FACILITY NAME, ADDRESS, AND PRIMARY OUTFALL								
Name:	Albany County Water Purification District – North Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)							
Address / Location:	1 Canal Road South				County:	Albany		
City:	Menands			State:	NY	Zip Code:	12204	
Facility Location:	Latitude:	42 °	40 ' 38 " N	& Longitude:	73 °	43 ' 50.6 " W		
Primary Outfall No.:	001	Latitude:	42 °	40 ' 28.8 " N	& Longitude:	73 °	43 ' 24.5 " W	
Outfall Description:	Treated Sanitary	Receiving Water:	Hudson River			Class:	C	Standard: C

in accordance with: effluent limitations; monitoring and reporting requirements; other provisions and conditions set forth in this permit; and 6 NYCRR Part 750-1 and 750-2.

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire on midnight of the expiration date shown above and the permittee shall not discharge after the expiration date unless this permit has been renewed or extended pursuant to law. To be authorized to discharge beyond the expiration date, the permittee shall apply for permit renewal not less than 180 days prior to the expiration date shown above.

DISTRIBUTION:

CO BWP - Permit Coordinator
BWP – Permit Writer
RWE
RPA
EPA Region II
NYSEFC
County Health

Permit Administrator:			
Address:	625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233-1750		
Signature:		Date:	/ /

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DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
7-Day Geo Mean	The highest allowable geometric mean of daily discharges over a calendar week.
7-Day Average	The average of all daily discharges for each 7-days in the monitoring period. The sample measurement is the highest of the 7-day averages calculated for the monitoring period.
12-Month Rolling Average (12 MRA)	The current monthly value of a parameter, plus the sum of the monthly values over the previous 11 months for that parameter, divided by the number of months for which samples were collected in the 12-month period.
30-Day Geometric Mean	The highest allowable geometric mean of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the antilog of: the sum of the log of each of the daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month.
Action Level	Action level means a monitoring requirement characterized by a numerical value that, when exceeded, triggers additional permittee actions and department review to determine if numerical effluent limitations should be imposed.
Compliance Level / Minimum Level	A compliance level is an effluent limitation. A compliance level is given when the water quality evaluation specifies a Water Quality Based Effluent Limit (WQBEL) below the Minimum Level. The compliance level shall be set at the Minimum Level (ML) for the most sensitive analytical method as given in 40 CFR Part 136, or otherwise accepted by the Department.
Daily Discharge	The discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for the purposes of sampling. For pollutants expressed in units of mass, the 'daily discharge' is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the 'daily discharge' is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the day.
Daily Maximum	The highest allowable Daily Discharge.
Daily Minimum	The lowest allowable Daily Discharge.
Effective Date of Permit (EDP or EDPM)	The date this permit is in effect.
Effluent Limitations	Effluent limitation means any restriction on quantities, quality, rates and concentrations of chemical, physical, biological, and other constituents of effluents that are discharged into waters of the state.
Expiration Date of Permit (ExDP)	The date this permit is no longer in effect.
Instantaneous Maximum	The maximum level that may not be exceeded at any instant in time.
Instantaneous Minimum	The minimum level that must be maintained at all instants in time.
Monthly Average	The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of each of the daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month.
Outfall	The terminus of a sewer system, or the point of emergence of any waterborne sewage, industrial waste or other wastes or the effluent therefrom, into the waters of the State.
Range	The minimum and maximum instantaneous measurements for the reporting period must remain between the two values shown.
Receiving Water	The classified waters of the state to which the listed outfall discharges.
Sample Frequency / Sample Type / Units	See NYSDEC's "DMR Manual for Completing the Discharge Monitoring Report for the SPDES" for information on sample frequency, type and units.

PERMIT LIMITS, LEVELS AND MONITORING

OUTFALL	LIMITATIONS APPLY	RECEIVING WATER	EFFECTIVE	EXPIRING
001	All Year (unless otherwise stated)	Hudson River	EDP	ExDP

PARAMETER	EFFLUENT LIMITATION					MONITORING REQUIREMENTS				FN
	Type	Limit	Units	Limit	Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Location		
								Inf.	Eff.	
Flow	Monthly Average	35	MGD			Continuous	Recorder		X	
Flow	Daily Maximum	Monitor	MGD			Continuous	Recorder		X	
pH	Daily Minimum	6.0	SU			6/day	Grab		X	
	Daily Maximum	9.0	SU							
Temperature	Daily Maximum	Monitor	°F			6/day	Grab		X	
CBOD ₅	Monthly Average	25	mg/L	7,300	lbs/d	3/week	24-hr. Comp.	X	X	1
CBOD ₅	7-Day Average	40	mg/L	12,000	lbs/d	3/week	24-hr. Comp.		X	
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	Monthly Average	30	mg/L	8,800	lbs/d	1/day	24-hr. Comp.	X	X	1
TSS	7-Day Average	45	mg/L	13,000	lbs/d	1/day	24-hr. Comp.		X	
Settleable Solids	Daily Maximum	0.3	mL/L			6/day	Grab		X	
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (as N) June 1 – October 31	Monthly Average	15	mg/L	Monitor	lbs/d	1/day	24-hr. Comp.		X	
Total Mercury	Daily Maximum	50	ng/L			1/Quarter	Grab	X	X	3
Total Mercury	12 MRA	12	ng/L			1/Quarter	Grab		X	3
Chlorine, Total Residual May 1 – October 31	Daily Maximum	0.6	mg/L			6/day	Grab		X	
Chlorine, Total Residual November 1 – April 30	Daily Maximum	0.6	mg/L			1/day	Grab		X	
Biennial Pollutant Scan						1/Two Years	-		X	2
ACTION LEVEL PARAMETERS	Type	Action Level	Units	Action Level	Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Inf.	Eff.	FN
Total Copper	Daily Maximum	Monitor	µg/L	4.0	lbs/d	1/month	24-hr. Comp.		X	4
Total Zinc	Daily Maximum	Monitor	µg/L	12	lbs/d	1/month	24-hr. Comp.		X	4
EFFLUENT DISINFECTION		Limit	Units	Limit	Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Inf.	Eff.	FN
Required Seasonal from May 1st - October 31st										
Coliform, Fecal	30-Day Geometric Mean	200	No./100 mL			1/day	Grab		X	
Coliform, Fecal	7-Day Geometric Mean	400	No./100 mL			1/day	Grab		X	

Footnotes on following page

PERMIT LIMITS, LEVELS AND MONITORING (continued)

WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY (WET) TESTING		Limit	Units	Action Level	Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Inf.	Eff.	FN
WET - Acute Invertebrate	See footnote			8.7	TUa	Quarterly	See footnote		X	5
WET - Acute Vertebrate	See footnote			8.7	TUa	Quarterly	See footnote		X	5
WET - Chronic Invertebrate	See footnote			54	TUc	Quarterly	See footnote		X	5
WET - Chronic Vertebrate	See footnote			54	TUc	Quarterly	See footnote		X	5

FOOTNOTES:

1. Effluent shall not exceed 15% and 15% of influent concentration values for CBOD₅ & TSS respectively. The permittee is not required to calculate percent removals on days when daily average flows exceed 35 MGD.
2. Biennial Pollutant Scan: The permittee shall perform effluent sampling every two (2) years for all applicable pollutants identified in the NY-2A Application, Tables A - D. Sampling data shall be collected according to the guidance in the NY-2A application and maintained by the permittee. Monitoring results shall not be submitted on the DMR. Data shall be submitted with the next submission of the NY-2A form.
3. Quarterly samples shall be collected in calendar quarters (Q1 – January 1st to March 31st; Q2 – April 1st to June 30th; Q3 – July 1st to September 30th; Q4 – October 1st to December 31st).
4. Action Levels: If the action level is exceeded, the additional monitoring requirement is triggered, and the permittee shall undertake a short-term, high-intensity, monitoring program for the parameter. Samples identical to those required for routine monitoring purposes shall be taken on each of at least three consecutive days and analyzed. Results shall be expressed in both mass and concentration. If levels higher than the action levels are confirmed, the permittee shall evaluate the treatment system operation and identify and employ actions to reduce concentrations present in the discharge. The permit may also be reopened by the Department for consideration of revised action levels or effluent limits. Action level monitoring results and the effectiveness of the actions taken shall be summarized and submitted with the monthly operating report data.

5. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing:

Testing Requirements – Acute and if directed Chronic WET testing is required. Testing shall be performed in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136 and TOGS 1.3.2 unless prior written approval has been obtained from the Department. The test species shall be Ceriodaphnia dubia (water flea - invertebrate) and Pimephales promelas (fathead minnow - vertebrate). Receiving water collected upstream from the discharge should be used for dilution. All tests conducted should be static-renewal (two 24-hr composite samples with one renewal for Acute tests and three 24-hr composite samples with two renewals for Chronic tests). The appropriate dilution series should be used to generate a definitive test endpoint, otherwise an immediate rerun of the test may be required. WET testing shall be coordinated with the monitoring of chemical and physical parameters limited by this permit so that the resulting analyses are also representative of the sample used for WET testing. The ratio of critical receiving water flow to discharge flow (i.e. dilution ratio) is 29:1 for acute, and 54:1 for chronic. Discharges which are disinfected using chlorine should be dechlorinated prior to WET testing or samples shall be taken immediately prior to the chlorination system.

Monitoring Period - WET testing shall be performed quarterly (calendar quarters) during calendar years ending in 0 and 5.

Reporting - Toxicity Units shall be calculated and reported on the DMR as follows: $TU_a = (100)/(48\text{-hr LC50})$ [note that Acute data is generated by both Acute and Chronic testing] and $TU_c = (100)/(7\text{-day NOEC})$ or $(100)/(7\text{-day IC25})$ when Chronic testing has been performed or $TU_c = (TU_a) \times (10)$ when only Acute testing has been performed and is used to predict Chronic test results, where the 48-hr LC50, 7-day NOEC and/or IC25 are all expressed in % effluent. This must be done, including the Chronic prediction from the Acute data, for both species unless otherwise directed. For Chronic results, report the most sensitive endpoint (i.e. survival, growth and/or reproduction) corresponding to the lowest 7-day NOEC or IC25 and resulting highest TU_c . For Acute results, report a TU_a of 0.3 if there is no statistically significant mortality in 100% effluent as compared to the control. Report a TU_a of 1.0 if there is statistically significant mortality in 100% effluent as compared to the control, but insufficient mortality to generate a 48-hr LC50. Also, in the absence of a 48-hr LC50, use 1.0 TU_a for the Chronic prediction from the Acute data, and report a TU_c of 10.0.

The complete test report including all bench sheets, statistical analyses, reference toxicity data, daily average flow at the time of sampling and other appropriate supporting documentation, shall be submitted within 60 days following the end of each test period with your WET DMR and to the WET@dec.ny.gov email address. A summary page of the test results for the invertebrate and vertebrate species indicating TU_a , 48-hr LC50 for Acute tests and/or TU_c , NOEC, IC25, and most sensitive endpoints for Chronic tests, should also be included at the beginning of the test report.

WET Testing Action Level Exceedances - If an action level is exceeded then the Department may require the permittee to conduct additional WET testing including Acute and/or Chronic tests. Additionally, the permittee may be required to perform a Toxicity Identification/Reduction Evaluation (TI/RE) in accordance with Department guidance. Enforceable WET limits may also apply. The permittee shall be notified in writing by their Regional DEC office of additional requirements. The written notification shall include the reason(s) why such testing, TI/RE and/or limits are required.

STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS

Stormwater discharges at this facility have coverage under the current Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) Sector [T] (GP-0-23-001), under SPDES Permit No. NYR00B263.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR WWTPS SERVING COMBINED SEWER SYSTEMS

The permittee shall implement the following Best Management Practices (BMPs). These BMPs are designed to implement operation & maintenance procedures, utilize the existing treatment facility and collection system to the maximum extent practicable, and implement sewer design, replacement, and drainage planning, to maximize pollutant capture and minimize water quality impacts from combined sewer overflows. The BMPs are equivalent to the "Nine Minimum Control Measures" required under the USEPA National Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) policy. The EPA's policy is available at <https://www.epa.gov/npdcs/combined-sewer-overflows-csos>

1. CSS Maintenance/Inspection - The permittee shall maintain a written maintenance and inspection program (MIP) for all District-owned portions of the combined sewer system (CSS), including flow recording devices, interceptors, throttling gates, and/or regulators. This program shall be conducted during periods of both dry and wet weather to minimize the occurrence of dry weather overflows related to District-owned appurtenances and ensure the maximum amount of wet weather flow is conveyed to the WWTP for treatment. The MIP shall include a regular program of flushing or cleaning of the interceptor(s) to prevent deposition of solids. This program shall also consist of inspections with required repair, cleaning and maintenance done as needed. This program shall consist of at least monthly inspections.

Inspection reports shall be completed indicating visual inspection, debris removed, any observed flow, incidence of rain or snowmelt, condition of equipment and work required. These reports shall be in a format approved by the Region 4 Office and submitted to the Region with the monthly operating report (Form 92-15-7).

2. Maximum Use of Collection System for Storage - See BMP No. 1.
3. Industrial Pretreatment - The permittee shall implement the approved Industrial Pretreatment Program and evaluate new and increased industrial dischargers in accordance with guidance under **(NYSDEC Division of Water Technical and Operational Guidance Series (TOGS) 1.3.8 New Discharges to POTWs.** (http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/togs138.pdf).

To the maximum extent practicable, consideration shall be given to maximize the capture of nondomestic waste containing toxic pollutants and this wastewater should be given priority over residential/commercial service areas for capture and treatment by the WWTP.

4. Maximize Flow to POTW - Factors cited in BMP No. 2 above shall also be considered in maximizing flow to the POTW. Maximum delivery to the WWTP is particularly critical in treatment of "first-flush" flows. The treatment plant shall be capable of receiving and treating: the peak design hydraulic loading rates for all process units; i.e., a minimum of 88 MGD through the plant headworks; a minimum of 88 MGD through the primary treatment works and disinfection works if applicable; and a minimum of 55 MGD through the secondary treatment works during wet weather. The District-owned collection system and headworks must be capable of delivering these flows during wet weather. If the permittee cannot deliver these flows for treatment, the permittee shall submit a plan and schedule for accomplishing this requirement within 48 months after the effective date of this permit.
5. Wet Weather Operating Plan (WWOP) – The permittee shall maximize treatment during wet weather events. This shall be accomplished by having a WWOP containing procedures so as to operate unit processes to treat maximum flows while not appreciably diminishing effluent quality or destabilizing treatment upon return to dry weather operation. The WWOP shall be developed in accordance with the DEC guidance, Wet Weather Operating Practices for POTWs With Combined Sewers, (http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wwtechtran.pdf). An updated WWOP shall be submitted to the Regional Water Engineer and the Bureau of Water Compliance for review and approval in accordance with the Schedule of Submittals. **A revised wet weather operating plan must be submitted whenever the WWTP and/or District-owned collection system is substantially replaced or modified in a manner that may impact wet weather operations.**

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR WWTPS SERVING COMBINED SEWER SYSTEMS (continued)

6. Prohibition of Dry Weather Overflow - Dry weather overflows from the combined sewer system are prohibited. The occurrence of any dry weather overflow from District-owned assets shall be promptly abated and reported in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 750-2.7 and to the tributary community. Should the permittee observe a dry weather overflow resulting from any other cause, the permittee will report to the tributary community in order for appropriate action to be taken.
7. Control of Floatable and Settleable Solids - The discharge of floating solids, oil and grease, or solids of sewage origin which cause deposition in the receiving waters, is a violation of the NYS Narrative Water Quality Standards contained in Part 703. As such, the permittee shall implement BMP Nos. 1, 4 & 5 above in order to eliminate or minimize the discharge of these substances from the WWTP. If aesthetic problems persist as a result of the operating conditions in the approved WWOP, the permittee should consider if modifications to the WWOP are necessary.
8. Combined Sewer System Replacement – Replacement of District-owned combined sewers shall not be designed or constructed unless approved by NYSDEC. When combined sewers are replaced, the design should contain cross sections which provide sewage velocities which prevent deposition of organic solids during low flow conditions.
9. Combined Sewer/Extension – Combined sewer/extension should be accomplished using separate sewers. These sanitary and storm sewer extensions shall be designed and constructed simultaneously but without interconnections. No new source of stormwater shall be connected to any separate sanitary sewer in the collection system.

If separate sewers are to be extended from combined sewers, the permittee shall consider, prior to approval of the extension, the ability of the sewerage system to convey, and the treatment plant to adequately treat, the increased dry-weather and wet-weather flows.

10. Sewage Backups - If instances of discharges of raw sewage onto the ground surface from surcharging manholes occur, the permittee should consider if modifications to the WWOP are necessary. If there are documented, recurrent instances or raw sewage discharges, the permittee shall, upon letter notification from DEC, prohibit further connections that would exacerbate the surcharging/back-up problems.
11. Septage and Hauled Waste - The discharge or release of septage or hauled waste upstream of a CSO is prohibited.
12. Control of Runoff - Not applicable.
13. Public Notification – The permittee shall report, in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 750-2.7, all known or suspected discharge events from the WWTP that occur not in accordance with requirements of BMP No. 4 or the WWOP, including bypasses of treatment unit(s).
14. Characterization and Monitoring - The permittee previously collaborated with tributary communities to characterize the CSS, determine the frequency of CSOs, and identify CSO impacts. Should a future revision of the tributary communities' Long-Term Control Plan(s) (LTCP) be necessary, the permittee should continue to collaborate with tributary communities to enhance the characterization of the District-owned CSS and WWTP.
15. Annual Report - The permittee shall electronically submit the Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO) Annual Report using nForm (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/48595.html>), which summarizes the implementation of the above BMPs and the permittee's accomplishments under the CSO Long-Term Control Plan. The CSO Annual Report shall be submitted by January 31st of each year. The complete documentation shall be stored at a central location and be made available to DEC upon request.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: CSO CONTROL POLICY

A. Water Quality Requirements for Combined Sewer Overflows

Long-Term Control Plan

In 2007, six Capital Region communities known as the “Albany Pool Communities”— the cities of Albany (NY0025747), Troy (NY0099309), Rensselaer (NY0026026), Cohoes (NY0031046), and Watervliet (NY0030899), and the Village of Green Island (NY0033031) – came together to develop a regional approach to CSO controls. The Albany County Water Purification District (ACWPD) North and South WWTPs (NY0026875 & NY0026867) and Rensselaer County Sewer District (RCSD) WWTP (NY0087971) assisted and supported the development of the long-term solution to address the CSO discharges from the Albany Pool Communities. The initial LTCP was submitted on June 30, 2011, but was disapproved by NYSDEC on December 12, 2012. Subsequently, on January 15, 2014, the Department, the Albany Pool Communities, the ACWPD and RCSD, entered into an Order on Consent (CO4-20120911-01) that required submission of an approvable LTCP, in accordance with the Guidance for Long-Term Control Plan, EPA, September 1995 and implementation of the LTCP following approval. A Supplemental Document to the initial LTCP was submitted in October 2013. The 2011 LTCP and October 2013 Supplement were approved together as the LTCP by letter by NYSDEC on January 15, 2014, in conjunction with the execution of the Order on Consent (CO4-20120911-01).

The ACWPD owns and operates two WWTPs (North and South) accepting combined sanitary wastewater and stormwater from the Albany Pool Communities but does not own or operate any CSO outfalls and/or regulators. The ACWPD North WWTP accepts, through an interceptor sewer, combined sanitary wastewater and stormwater from the cities of Cohoes, and Watervliet and the Village of Green Island.

Implementation of the LTCP is ongoing and the implementation schedule is regulated under the Order on Consent listed above. The approved LTCP required the ACWPD & RCSD WWTPs to install disinfection systems, which have been completed, and maximize treatment of combined sewage from the Albany Pool Communities. In general, the approved LTCP required the Albany Pool Communities to:

- Maximize flow of combined sewage from the Albany Pool Communities to the ACWPD and RCSD WWTPs, pump station upgrades, and sewer system improvements.
- Build and operate a satellite treatment facility to disinfect CSO flow and control of sewage-related floatables at the largest CSO in the City of Albany system.
- Implement multiple projects to separate combined sewers and eliminate some existing CSOs.
- Add facilities to control the discharge of floatable waste at major CSO outfalls in the City of Cohoes and at the Corning Preserve in the City of Albany.
- Implement a long-term Green Infrastructure (GI) strategy to further reduce CSO releases above the 85% capture and treatment level.

The permittee shall continue to effectively operate and maintain its CSO controls implemented in the long-term control plan. Post-Construction Compliance Monitoring (PCCM) is also regulated under the Order on Consent, however, it is a responsibility of the Albany Pool Communities and not a responsibility of ACWPD.

Water Quality Criterion – Demonstration Approach

The Albany Pool Communities shall not discharge any pollutant at a level that causes an in-stream excursion of the applicable water quality requirements. The EPA 1994 CSO Control Policy indicates that a CSO control plan that meets the criteria below would provide an adequate level on control to meet the water quality requirements of the CWA. Following implementation of the approved LTCP, the following criteria shall be an enforceable performance metric under this permit.

- The Albany Pool Communities' approved LTCP has demonstrated that the selected control program will be adequate to meet the water quality-based requirements of the CWA.

B. Special Conditions

1. Reopener

This permit may be modified or revoked and reissued, as provided pursuant to 6 NYCRR 750-1.18, 6 NYCRR 750-1.20, 40 CFR 122.62 and 124.5, for the following reasons:

- I. To include new or revised conditions developed to comply with any state or federal law or regulation that addresses CSOs that are adopted or promulgated subsequent to the effective date of this permit.
- II. To include new or revised conditions if new information, not available at the time of permit issuance, indicates that CSO controls imposed under the permit have failed to ensure the attainment of applicable water quality requirements.

MERCURY MINIMIZATION PROGRAM (MMP) - Type I

1. General - The permittee must develop, implement, and maintain a mercury minimization program (MMP), containing the elements set forth below, to reduce mercury effluent levels with the goal of achieving the WQBEL of 0.7 ng/L.
2. MMP Elements - The MMP must be a written document and must include any necessary drawings or maps of the facility and/or collection system. Other related documents already prepared for the facility may be used as part of the MMP and may be incorporated by reference. At a minimum, the MMP must include the following elements as described in detail below:
 - a. Monitoring - Monitoring at Outfall 001, influent and other locations tributary to compliance points shall be performed using either USEPA Method 1631 or another sufficiently sensitive method, as approved under 40 CFR Part 136¹. Monitoring of raw materials, equipment, treatment residuals, and other non-wastewater/non-stormwater substances may be performed using other methods as appropriate. Monitoring must be coordinated so that the results can be effectively compared between locations.

Minimum required monitoring is as follows:

- i. Sewage Treatment Plant Influent and/or Effluent – The permittee must collect samples at the location(s) and frequency as specified in the SPDES permit limitations table.
- ii. Key Locations and Potential Mercury Sources – The permittee must sample *key locations*, chosen to identify *potential mercury sources*, at least semi-annually. Sampling of discharges from dental facilities in compliance with 6 NYCRR 374.4 is not required.
- iii. Hauled Wastes – The permittee must establish procedures for the acceptance of hauled waste to ensure the hauled waste is not a potential mercury source. Loads which may exceed 500 ng/L,² must receive approval from the Department prior to acceptance.
- iv. Decreased Monitoring Requirements - Facilities with EEQ at or below 12 ng/L are eligible for the following:
 - 1) Reduced requirements, through a permittee-initiated permit modification
 - a) Conduct influent monitoring, sampling quarterly, in lieu of monitoring within the collection system, such as at *key locations*; and
 - b) Conduct effluent compliance sampling quarterly.
 - 2) If a facility with reduced requirements reports discharges above 12 ng/L for two of four consecutive effluent samples, the Department may undertake a Department-initiated modification to remove the allowance of reduced requirements.
 - 3) Under the decreased permit requirements, the facility must continue to conduct a status report, as applicable in accordance with 2.c of this MMP, to determine if any waste streams have changed.
- v. Additional monitoring must be completed as required elsewhere in this permit (e.g., locations tributary to compliance points).

¹ Outfall monitoring must be conducted using the methods specified in Table 8 of *DOW 1.3.10*.

²A level of 0.2 mg/L (200,000 ng/L) or more is considered hazardous per 40 CFR Part 261.11. 500 ng/L is used here to alert the permittee that there is an unusual concentration of mercury and that it will need to be managed appropriately.

MERCURY MINIMIZATION PROGRAM (MMP) - Type I (Continued)

- b. Control Strategy - The control strategy must contain the following minimum elements:
- i. Pretreatment/Sewer Use Law - The permittee must review pretreatment program requirements and the Sewer Use Law (SUL) to ensure it is up-to-date and enforceable with applicable permit requirements and will support efforts to achieve a dissolved mercury concentration of 0.70 ng/L in the effluent.
 - ii. Monitoring and Inventory/Inspections -
 - 1) Monitoring shall be performed as described in 2.a above. As mercury sources are found, the permittee must enforce its sewer use law to track down and minimize these sources.
 - 2) The permittee must inventory and/or inspect users of its system as necessary to support the MMP.
 - a) Dental Facilities
 1. The permittee must maintain an inventory of each dental facility.
 2. The permittee must inspect each dental facility at least once every five years to verify compliance with the wastewater treatment operation, maintenance, and notification elements of 6 NYCRR 374.4. Alternatively, the permittee may develop and implement an outreach program,³ which informs users of their responsibilities, and collect the “Amalgam Waste Compliance Report for Dental Dischargers”⁴ form, as needed, to satisfy the inspection requirements. The permittee must conduct the outreach program at least once every five years and ensure the “Amalgam Waste Compliance Report for Dental Dischargers” are submitted by new users, as necessary. The outreach program could be supported by a subset of site inspections.
 3. A file shall be maintained containing documentation demonstrating compliance with 2.b.ii.2)a) above. This file shall be available for review by the Department representatives and copies shall be provided upon request.
 - b) Other potential mercury sources
 1. The permittee must maintain an inventory of other *potential mercury sources*.
 2. The permittee must inspect other *potential mercury sources* once every five years. Alternatively, the permittee may develop and implement an outreach program which informs users of their responsibilities as *potential mercury sources*. The permittee must conduct the outreach program at least once every five years. The outreach program should be supported by a subset of site inspections.
 3. A file shall be maintained containing documentation demonstrating compliance with 2.b.ii.2)b) above. This file shall be available for review by the Department representatives and copies shall be provided upon request.
 - iii. Systems with CSO & Type II SSO Outfalls – Permittees must prioritize *potential mercury sources* upstream of CSOs and Type II SSOs for mercury reduction activities and/or controlled-release discharge.
 - iv. Equipment and Materials – Equipment and materials (e.g., thermometers, thermostats) used by the permittee, which may contain mercury, must be evaluated by the permittee. As equipment and materials containing mercury are updated/replaced, the permittee must use mercury-free alternatives, if possible.
 - v. Bulk Chemical Evaluation – For chemicals, used at a rate which exceeds 1,000 gallons/year or 10,000 pounds/year, the permittee must obtain a manufacturer’s certificate of analysis, a chemical analysis performed by a certified laboratory, and/or a notarized affidavit which describes the substances’ mercury concentration and the detection limit achieved. If possible, the permittee must only use bulk chemicals utilized in the wastewater treatment process which contain <10 ppb mercury.

³ For example, the outreach program could include education about sources of mercury and what to do if a mercury source is found.

⁴ The form, “Amalgam Waste Compliance Report for Dental Dischargers,” can be found here:

https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/dentalform.pdf

MERCURY MINIMIZATION PROGRAM (MMP) - Type I (Continued)

- c. Status Report - An annual status report must be developed and maintained on site, in accordance with the [Schedule of Additional Submittals](#), summarizing:
- i. All MMP monitoring results for the previous reporting period;
 - ii. A list of known and *potential mercury sources*
 - 1) If the permittee meets the criteria for MMP Type IV, the permittee must notify the Department for a permittee-initiated modification;
 - iii. All actions undertaken, pursuant to the control strategy, during the previous reporting period;
 - iv. Actions planned, pursuant to the control strategy, for the upcoming reporting period; and
 - v. Progress towards achieving a dissolved mercury concentration of 0.70 ng/L in the effluent (e.g., summarizing reductions in effluent concentrations as a result of the control strategy implementation and/or installation/modification of a treatment system).

The permittee must maintain a file with all MMP documentation. The file must be available for review by Department representatives and copies must be provided upon request in accordance with 6 NYCRR 750-2.1(i) and 750-2.5(c)(4).

3. MMP Modification - The MMP must be modified whenever:
- a. Changes at the facility, or within the collection system, increase the potential for mercury discharges;
 - b. Effluent discharges exceed the current permit limitation(s); or
 - c. A letter from the Department identifies inadequacies in the MMP.

The Department may use information in the status reports, as applicable in accordance with 2.c of this MMP, to determine if the permit limitations and MMP Type is appropriate for the facility.

DEFINITIONS:

Key location – a location within the collection/wastewater system (e.g. including but not limited to a specific manhole/access point, tributary sewer/wastewater connection, or user discharge point) identified by the permittee as a potential mercury source. The permittee may adjust key locations based upon sampling and/or best professional judgement.

Potential mercury source – a source identified by the permittee that may reasonably be expected to have total mercury contained in the discharge. Some potential mercury sources include switches, fluorescent lightbulbs, cleaners, degreasers, thermometers, batteries, hauled wastes, universities, hospitals, laboratories, landfills, Brownfield sites, or raw material storage.

DISCHARGE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- (a) The permittee shall install and maintain identification signs at all outfalls to surface waters listed in this permit, unless the Permittee has obtained a waiver in accordance with the Discharge Notification Act (DNA). Such signs shall be installed before initiation of any new discharge location.
- (b) Subsequent modifications to or renewal of this permit does not reset or revise the deadline set forth in (a) above, unless a new deadline is set explicitly by such permit modification or renewal.
- (c) The Discharge Notification Requirements described herein do not apply to outfalls from which the discharge is composed exclusively of storm water, or discharges to ground water.
- (d) The sign(s) shall be conspicuous, legible and in as close proximity to the point of discharge as is reasonably possible while ensuring the maximum visibility from the surface water and shore. The signs shall be installed in such a manner to pose minimal hazard to navigation, bathing or other water related activities. If the public has access to the water from the land in the vicinity of the outfall, an identical sign shall be posted to be visible from the direction approaching the surface water.

The signs shall have **minimum** dimensions of eighteen inches by twenty-four inches (18" x 24") and shall have white letters on a green background and contain the following information:

<p>N.Y.S. PERMITTED DISCHARGE POINT</p> <p>SPDES PERMIT No.: NY_____</p> <p>OUTFALL No. : _____</p> <p>For information about this permitted discharge contact:</p> <p>Permittee Name: _____</p> <p>Permittee Contact: _____</p> <p>Permittee Phone: () - ### - ####</p> <p>OR:</p> <p>NYSDEC Division of Water Regional Office Address:</p> <p>NYSDEC Division of Water Regional Phone: () - ### - ####</p>
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- (e) Upon request, the permittee shall make available electronic or hard copies of the sampling data to the public. In accordance with the RECORDING, REPORTING AND ADDITIONAL MONITORING REQUIREMENTS page of your permit, each DMR shall be maintained (either electronically or as a hard copy) on record for a period of five years.
- (f) The permittee shall periodically inspect the outfall identification sign(s) in order to ensure they are maintained, are still visible, and contain information that is current and factually correct. Signs that are damaged or incorrect shall be replaced within 3 months of inspection.

INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. **DEFINITIONS:** Generally, terms used in this Section shall be defined as in the General Pretreatment Regulations (40 CFR Part 403). Specifically, the following definitions apply to terms used in this Section:
1. **Categorical Industrial User (CIU):** an industrial user of the POTW that is subject to Categorical Pretreatment Standards under 40 CFR 403.6 and 40 CFR Chapter I, Subchapter N;
 2. **Local Limits:** General Prohibitions, specific prohibitions and specific limits as set forth in 40 CFR 403.5.
 3. **The Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW):** as defined by 40 CFR 403.3(q) and that discharges in accordance with this permit.
 4. **Program Submission(s):** requests for approval or modification of the POTW Pretreatment Program submitted in accordance with 40 CFR 403.11 or 403.18 and approved by USEPA on August 2, 1984.
 5. **Significant Industrial User (SIU):**
 - a) CIUs;
 - b) Except as provided in 40 CFR 403.3(v)(3), any other industrial user that discharges an average of 25,000 gallons per day or more of process wastewater (excluding sanitary, non-contact cooling and boiler blowdown wastewater) to the POTW;
 - c) Except as provided in 40 CFR 403.3(v)(3), any other industrial user that contributes a process waste stream which makes up 5 percent or more of the average dry weather hydraulic or organic capacity of the POTW treatment plant;
 - d) Any other industrial user that the permittee designates as having a reasonable potential for adversely affecting the POTW's operation or for violating a pretreatment standard or requirement.
 6. **Substances of Concern:** Substances identified by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Industrial Chemical Survey as substances of concern.
- B. **IMPLEMENTATION:** The permittee shall implement a POTW Pretreatment Program in accordance 40 CFR Part 403 and as set forth in the permittee's approved Program Submission(s). Modifications to this program shall be made in accordance with 40 CFR 403.18. Specific program requirements are as follows:
1. **Industrial Survey:** To maintain an updated inventory of industrial dischargers to the POTW the permittee shall:
 - a) Identify, locate and list all industrial users who might be subject to the industrial pretreatment program from the pretreatment program submission and any other necessary, appropriate and available sources. This identification and location list will be updated, at a minimum, every five years. As part of this update the permittee shall collect a current and complete New York State Industrial Chemical Survey form (or equivalent) from each SIU.
 - b) Identify the character and volume of pollutants contributed to the POTW by each industrial user identified in B.1.a above that is classified as a SIU.
 - c) Identify, locate and list, from the pretreatment program submission and any other necessary, appropriate and available sources, all SIUs of the POTW.
 2. **Control Mechanisms:** To provide adequate notice to and control of industrial users of the POTW the permittee shall:
 - a) Inform by certified letter, hand delivery courier, overnight mail, or other means which will provide written acknowledgment of delivery, all industrial users identified in B.1.a. above of applicable pretreatment standards and requirements including the requirement to comply with the local sewer use law, regulation or ordinance and any applicable requirements under section 204(b) and 405 of the Federal Clean Water Act and Subtitles C and D of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS (continued)

- b) Control through permit or similar means the contribution to the POTW by each SIU to ensure compliance with applicable pretreatment standards and requirements. Permits shall contain limitations, sampling frequency and type, reporting and self-monitoring requirements as described below, requirements that limitations and conditions be complied with by established deadlines, an expiration date not later than five years from the date of permit issuance, a statement of applicable civil and criminal penalties and the requirement to comply with Local Limits and any other requirements in accordance with 40 CFR 403.8(f)(1).
3. Monitoring and Inspection: To provide adequate, ongoing characterization of non-domestic users of the POTW, the permittee shall:
- Receive and analyze self-monitoring reports and other notices. The permittee shall require all SIUs to submit self-monitoring reports at least every six months unless the permittee collects all such information required for the report, including flow data.
 - The permittee shall adequately inspect each SIU at a minimum frequency of once per year.
 - The permittee shall collect and analyze samples from each SIU for all priority pollutants that can reasonably be expected to be detectable at levels greater than the levels found in domestic sewage at a minimum frequency of once per year.
 - Require, through permits, each SIU to collect at least one 24 hour, flow proportioned composite (where feasible) effluent sample every six months and analyze each of those samples for all priority pollutants that can reasonably be expected to be detectable in that discharge at levels greater than the levels found in domestic sewage. The permittee may perform the aforementioned monitoring in lieu of the SIU except that the permittee must also perform the compliance monitoring described in 3.c.
4. Enforcement: To assure adequate, equitable enforcement of the industrial pretreatment program the permittee shall:
- Investigate instances of noncompliance with pretreatment standards and requirements, as indicated in self-monitoring reports and notices or indicated by analysis, inspection and surveillance activities. Sample taking and analysis and the collection of other information shall be performed with sufficient care to produce evidence admissible in enforcement proceedings or in judicial actions. Enforcement activities shall be conducted in accordance with the permittee's Enforcement Response Plan developed and approved in accordance with 40 CFR Part 403.
 - Enforce compliance with all national pretreatment standards and requirements in 40 CFR Parts 406 - 471.
 - Provide public notification of significant non-compliance as required by 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2)(viii).
 - Pursuant to 40 CFR 403.5(e), when either the Department or the USEPA determines any source contributes pollutants to the POTW in violation of Pretreatment Standards or Requirements the Department or the USEPA shall notify the permittee. Failure by the permittee to commence an appropriate investigation and subsequent enforcement action within 30 days of this notification may result in appropriate enforcement action against the source and permittee.
5. Recordkeeping: The permittee shall maintain and update, as necessary, records identifying the nature, character, and volume of pollutants contributed by SIUs. Records shall be maintained in accordance with 6 NYCRR 750-2.5(c).
6. Staffing: The permittee shall maintain minimum staffing positions committed to implementation of the Industrial Pretreatment Program in accordance with the approved pretreatment program.
- C. SLUDGE DISPOSAL PLAN. The permittee shall notify NYSDEC, and USEPA as long as USEPA remains the approval authority, 60 days prior to any major proposed change in the sludge disposal plan. NYSDEC may require additional pretreatment measures or controls to prevent or abate an interference incident relating to sludge use or disposal.

INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS (continued)

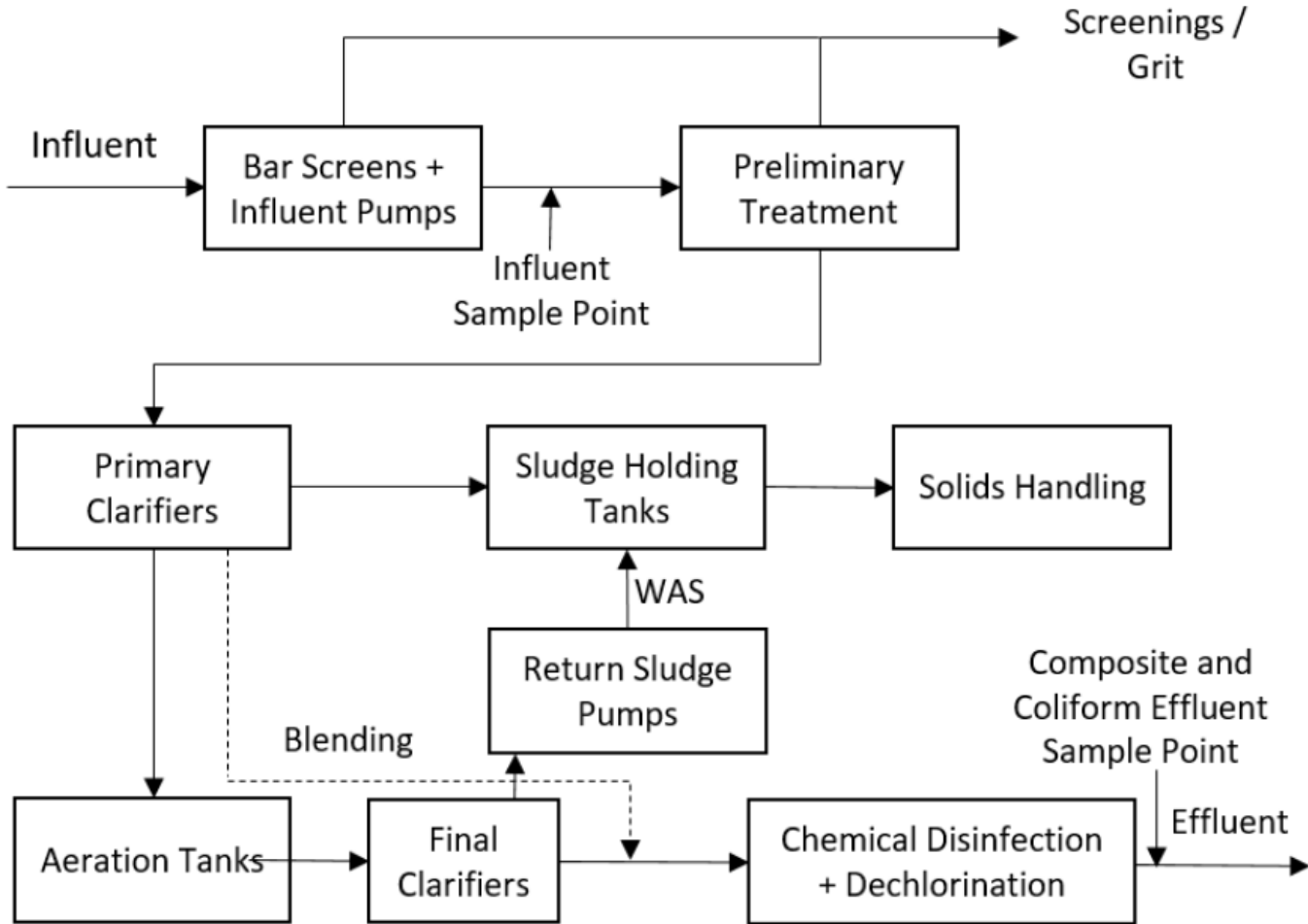
- D. **REPORTING:** The permittee shall provide to the offices listed on the Monitoring, Reporting and Recording page of this permit and to the Chief-Water Compliance Branch, USEPA Region II, 290 Broadway, New York, NY 10007, a periodic report that briefly describes the permittee's program activities over the previous year. This report shall be submitted in accordance with the Schedule of Submittals to the above noted offices within 60 days of the end of the reporting period. The periodic report shall include:
1. **Industrial Survey:** Updated industrial survey information in accordance with 40 CFR 403.12(i)(1) (including any NYS Industrial Chemical Survey forms updated during the reporting period).
 2. **Implementation Status:** Status of Program Implementation, to include:
 - a) Any interference, upset or permit violations experienced at the POTW directly attributable to industrial users.
 - b) Listing of SIUs issued permits.
 - c) Listing of SIUs inspected and/or monitored during the previous reporting period and summary of results.
 - d) Listing of SIUs notified of promulgated pretreatment standards or applicable local standards who are on compliance schedules. The listing should include for each facility the final date of compliance.
 - e) Summary of POTW monitoring results not already submitted on Discharge Monitoring Reports and toxic loadings from SIU's organized by parameter.
 - f) A summary of additions or deletions to the list of SIUs, with a brief explanation for each deletion.
 3. **Enforcement Status:** Status of enforcement activities to include:
 - a) Listing of SIUs in significant non-compliance (as defined by 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2)(viii)) with federal or local pretreatment standards at end of the reporting period.
 - b) Summary of enforcement activities taken against non-complying SIUs. The permittee shall provide a copy of the public notice of significant violators as specified in 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2)(viii).
- E. **ADDITIONAL PRETREATMENT CONDITIONS:**
1. **Notification of Material Change:** Facility shall notify the NYSDEC prior to the addition of any SIUs or CIUs which may materially change the nature of the discharge from the POTW or increase the discharge of one or more substances authorized in this permit or discharge a substance not currently authorized in this permit (6 NYCRR Part 750-2.9(a)(1)). The noticed act is prohibited until the Department determines whether a permit modification is necessary pursuant to 750-2.9(a)(2).

MONITORING LOCATIONS

The permittee shall take samples and measurements, to comply with the monitoring requirements specified in this permit, at the locations(s) specified below:

Influent: The influent sample shall be collected prior to the grit removal system.

Effluent: The effluent sample shall be collected following disinfection and dichlorination, prior to the discharge to the Hudson River.



GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. The regulations in 6 NYCRR Part 750 are hereby incorporated by reference and the conditions are enforceable requirements under this permit. The permittee shall comply with all requirements set forth in this permit and with all the applicable requirements of 6 NYCRR Part 750 incorporated into this permit by reference, including but not limited to the regulations in paragraphs B through I as follows:
- B. General Conditions
- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Duty to comply | 6 NYCRR 750-2.1(e) & 2.4 |
| 2. Duty to reapply | 6 NYCRR 750-1.16(a) |
| 3. Need to halt or reduce activity not a defense | 6 NYCRR 750-2.1(g) |
| 4. Duty to mitigate | 6 NYCRR 750-2.7(f) |
| 5. Permit actions | 6 NYCRR 750-1.1(c), 1.18, 1.20 & 2.1(h) |
| 6. Property rights | 6 NYCRR 750-2.2(b) |
| 7. Duty to provide information | 6 NYCRR 750-2.1(i) |
| 8. Inspection and entry | 6 NYCRR 750-2.1(a) & 2.3 |
- C. Operation and Maintenance
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Proper Operation & Maintenance | 6 NYCRR 750-2.8 |
| 2. Bypass | 6 NYCRR 750-1.2(a)(17), 2.8(b) & 2.7 |
| 3. Upset | 6 NYCRR 750-1.2(a)(94) & 2.8(c) |
- D. Monitoring and Records
- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. Monitoring and records | 6 NYCRR 750-2.5(a)(2), 2.5(a)(6), 2.5(c)(1), 2.5(c)(2), & 2.5(d) |
| 2. Signatory requirements | 6 NYCRR 750-1.8 & 2.5(b) |
- E. Reporting Requirements
- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Reporting requirements | 6 NYCRR 750-2.5, 2.7 & 1.17 |
| 2. Anticipated noncompliance | 6 NYCRR 750-2.7(a) |
| 3. Transfers | 6 NYCRR 750-1.17 |
| 4. Monitoring reports | 6 NYCRR 750-2.5(e) |
| 5. Compliance schedules | 6 NYCRR 750-1.14(d) |
| 6. 24-hour reporting | 6 NYCRR 750-2.7(c) & (d) |
| 7. Other noncompliance | 6 NYCRR 750-2.7(e) |
| 8. Other information | 6 NYCRR 750-2.1(f) |
| 9. Additional conditions applicable to a POTW | 6 NYCRR 750-2.9 |
- F. Planned Changes
1. The permittee shall give notice to the Department as soon as possible of planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility when:
 - a. The alteration or addition to the permitted facility may meet any of the criteria for determining whether 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 either to effluent limitations in the permit, or to notification requirements under 40 CFR §122.42(a)(1); or
 - c. 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.

In addition to the Department, the permittee shall submit a copy of this notice to the United States Environmental Protection Agency at the following address: U.S. EPA Region 2, Clean Water Regulatory Branch, 290 Broadway, 24th Floor, New York, NY 10007-1866.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS (continued)

2. Notification Requirement for POTWs

All POTWs shall provide adequate notice to the Department and the USEPA of the following:

- a. Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger which would be subject to section 301 or 306 of CWA if it were directly discharging those pollutants; or
- b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that POTW by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW at the time of issuance of the permit.
- c. For the purposes of this paragraph, adequate notice shall include information on:
 - i. the quality and quantity of effluent introduced into the POTW, and
 - ii. any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.

POTWs shall submit a copy of this notice to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, at the following address:

U.S. EPA Region 2, Clean Water Regulatory Branch, 290 Broadway, 24th Floor, New York, NY 10007-1866

G. Sludge Management

The permittee shall comply with all applicable requirements of 6 NYCRR Part 360.

H. SPDES Permit Program Fee

The permittee shall pay to the Department an annual SPDES permit program fee within 30 days of the date of the first invoice, unless otherwise directed by the Department, and shall comply with all applicable requirements of ECL 72-0602 and 6 NYCRR Parts 480, 481 and 485. Note that if there is inconsistency between the fees specified in ECL 72-0602 and 6 NYCRR Part 485, the ECL 72-0602 fees govern.

I. Water Treatment Chemicals (WTCs)

New or increased use and discharge of a WTC requires prior Department review and authorization. At a minimum, the permittee must notify the Department in writing of its intent to change WTC use by submitting a completed *WTC Notification Form* for each proposed WTC. The Department will review that submittal and determine if a SPDES permit modification is necessary or whether WTC review and authorization may proceed outside of the formal permit administrative process. The majority of WTC authorizations do not require SPDES permit modification. In any event, use and discharge of a WTC shall not proceed without prior authorization from the Department. Examples of WTCs include biocides, coagulants, conditioners, corrosion inhibitors, defoamers, deposit control agents, flocculants, scale inhibitors, sequestrants, and settling aids.

1. WTC use shall not exceed the rate explicitly authorized by this permit or otherwise authorized in writing by the Department.
2. The permittee shall maintain a logbook of all WTC use, noting for each WTC the date, time, exact location, and amount of each dosage, and, the name of the individual applying or measuring the chemical. The logbook must also document that adequate process controls are in place to ensure that excessive levels of WTCs are not used.
3. The permittee shall submit a completed WTC Annual Report Form each year that they use and discharge WTCs. This form shall be submitted in electronic format and attached to either the December DMR or the annual monitoring report required below. The *WTC Notification Form and WTC Annual Report Form* are available from the Department's website at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/93245.html>

RECORDING, REPORTING AND ADDITIONAL MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

- A. The monitoring information required by this permit shall be retained for a period of at least five years from the date of the sampling for subsequent inspection by the Department or its designated agent.
- B. Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs): Completed DMR forms shall be submitted for each 1 month reporting period in accordance with the DMR Manual available on Department's website.

DMRs must be submitted electronically using the electronic reporting tool (NetDMR) specified by NYSDEC. Instructions on the use of NetDMR can be found at <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/103774.html>. **Hardcopy paper DMRs will only be received at the address listed below, directed to the Bureau of Water Compliance, if a waiver from the electronic submittal requirements has been granted by DEC to the facility.**

Attach the monthly "Wastewater Facility Operation Report" (form 92-15-7) and any required DMR attachments electronically to the DMR. A summary of the bypassed flows at the WWTP, including volume and frequency and related rainfall volumes in the service area, shall also be attached to each DMR.

The first monitoring period begins on the effective date of this permit, and, unless otherwise required, the reports are due no later than the 28th day of the month following the end of each monitoring period.

- C. Additional information required to be submitted by this permit shall be summarized and reported to the Regional Water Engineer and Bureau of Water Permits at the following addresses:

Department of Environmental Conservation
 Division of Water, Bureau of Water Permits
 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-3505 Phone: (518) 402-8111

Department of Environmental Conservation
 Regional Water Engineer, Region 4
 1130 North Westcott Road, Schenectady, New York, 12306-2014 Email: DOW.R4@dec.ny.gov
 Phone: (518) 357-2045

- D. Bypass and Sewage Pollutant Right to Know Reporting: In accordance with the Sewage Pollutant Right to Know Act (ECL § 17-0826-a), Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) are required to notify DEC and Department of Health within two hours of discovery of an untreated or partially treated sewage discharge and to notify the public and adjoining municipalities within four hours of discovery. Information regarding reporting and other requirements of this program may be found on the Department's website. In addition, POTWs are required to provide a five-day incident report and supplemental information to the DEC in accordance with Part 750-2.7(d) by utilizing the Division of Water Report of Noncompliance Event form unless waived by DEC on a case-by-case basis.
- E. Schedule of Additional Submittals:
 The permittee shall submit the following information to the Regional Water Engineer and to the Bureau of Water Permits, unless otherwise instructed:

SCHEDULE OF ADDITIONAL SUBMITTALS		
Outfall(s)	Required Action	Due Date
001	<u>WATER TREATMENT CHEMICAL (WTC) ANNUAL REPORT FORM</u> The permittee shall submit a completed WTC Annual Report Form each year that Water Treatment Chemicals are used. The form shall be attached to the December DMR.	January 28 th Annually

SCHEDULE OF ADDITIONAL SUBMITTALS		
Outfall(s)	Required Action	Due Date
001	<u>ANNUAL FLOW CERTIFICATION</u> The permittee shall submit an Annual Flow Certification form each year in accordance with 750-2.9(C)(4). The form shall be attached to the February DMR or submitted through nForm.	February DMR (March 28 th)
001	<u>BIENNIAL POLLUTANT SCAN</u> The permittee shall implement an ongoing monitoring program and perform effluent sampling every two years as specified in the footnote of the permit limits table.	Retain and submit with next NY-2A Application
001	<u>WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY (WET) TESTING</u> WET testing shall be performed as required in the footnote of the permit limits table. The toxicity test report including all information requested of this permit shall be attached to your WET DMRs and sent to the WET@dec.ny.gov email address.	Within 60 days following the end of each monitoring period
001	<u>WET WEATHER OPERATIONS PLAN (WWOP)</u> The permittee shall submit an updated Wet Weather Operation Plan (WWOP) in accordance with CSO BMP No. 5. The WWOP shall outline the optimum operational procedures to transition from dry weather operation mode to wet weather operation mode, and back to dry weather operation mode. These procedures shall be used to optimize the treatment of the maximum volume of wet weather flows possible at the treatment plant during wet weather events meeting the effluent limitations in this permit.	EDP + 6 months
001	<u>COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW (CSO) ANNUAL REPORT</u> The permittee shall submit a Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO) Annual Report, which summarizes the implementation of BMPs and the Long-Term Control Plan (if applicable) via nForm (https://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/95925.html). Additional information regarding CSO Annual Report is available on-line at https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/48595.html .	January 31 st Each Year
001	<u>MERCURY MINIMIZATION PROGRAM</u> The permittee must complete and maintain onsite an annual mercury minimization status report in accordance with the requirements of this permit.	<i>Maintained Onsite</i> EDP + 12 months, annually thereafter
001	<u>PRETREATMENT PROGRAM</u> Submit a report that briefly describes the permittee's program activities over the previous year. The report shall follow the guidelines contained in this permit and be submitted to the Regional Water Engineer and the Bureau of Water permits as well as the USEPA Region II office.	Within 60 days following the end of each reporting period

SCHEDULE OF ADDITIONAL SUBMITTALS		
Outfall(s)	Required Action	Due Date
001	<p><u>EMERGING CONTAMINANT SHORT-TERM MONITORING PROGRAM</u> The permittee shall collect grab samples of both the influent and effluent from the facility’s treatment system(s) associated with the identified outfall for Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and 1,4-Dioxane (1,4-D), unless permittee receives written notification from the Department during this time that sampling can be discontinued. Samples must be analyzed utilizing EPA draft analytical method 1633 and EPA Method 8270D SIM or 8270E SIM, respectively. The samples must represent normal discharge conditions and treatment operations and shall be obtained on a quarterly basis for at least 4 consecutive quarters, unless written notification from the Department indicates otherwise. The results shall be reported through the “Emerging Contaminants Survey for POTWs” found at: https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/127939.html.</p> <p>The permittee shall initiate track down of potential sources by completing the “Emerging Contaminants Investigation Checklist for POTWs” available at the above link.</p> <p>The Department may periodically request updates and/or additional monitoring to check progress on track down investigations. Elements of the checklist may be used as permit conditions in future permit modifications.</p>	<p>EDP + 18 months</p> <p>Within 90 days of DEC written notification</p>

- F. Monitoring and analysis shall be conducted using sufficiently sensitive test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136, unless other test procedures have been specified in this permit.
- G. More frequent monitoring of the discharge(s), monitoring point(s), or waters of the State than required by the permit, where analysis is performed by a certified laboratory or where such analysis is not required to be performed by a certified laboratory, shall be included in the calculations and recording of the data on the corresponding DMRs.
- H. Calculations which require averaging of measurements shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified in this permit.
- I. Unless otherwise specified, all information recorded on the DMRs shall be based upon measurements and sampling carried out during the most recently completed reporting period.
- J. Any laboratory test or sample analysis required by this permit for which the State Commissioner of Health issues certificates of approval pursuant to section 502 of the Public Health Law shall be conducted by a laboratory which has been issued a certificate of approval. Inquiries regarding laboratory certification should be directed to the New York State Department of Health, Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program.

SPDES Permit Fact Sheet Albany County Water Purification District Albany County North WWTP NY0026875



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Summary of Permit Changes

A State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) EBPS permit renewal has been drafted for the Albany County North WWTP. The changes to the permit are summarized below:

- Updated permit format, definitions, and general conditions
- Updated footnotes
- Added reporting of daily maximum flow
- Reduced sampling frequency for CBOD₅ from 1/day to 3/week
- Adjusted Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN) effluent limitation from 15.2 mg/L to 15 mg/L
- Adjusted the action level for Total Zinc, from 12.4 lbs/day to 12 lbs/day
- Reporting of effluent concentration data for Total Copper and Total Zinc has been added
- Added Total Mercury daily maximum and 12-month rolling average effluent limitations
- Expanded applicability of existing Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) limitation for non-disinfection season
- Added biennial pollutant scan requirement
- Reduced Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) action levels to correct past technical error
- Added stormwater pollution prevention requirements
- Updated Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Best Management Practices (BMP) requirements and applicability
- Adjusted required minimum wet weather flow for primary treatment and disinfection to reflect actual peak capacities
- Updated Long Term Control Plan page to Special Conditions: CSO Control Policy requirements
- Added new Mercury Minimization Program (MMP) Type I requirements
- Updated Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) requirements
- Removed previous Schedule of Compliance
- Updated flow diagram & monitoring locations
- Added a new Schedule of Additional Submittals, including requirement for emerging contaminant monitoring

This factsheet summarizes the information used to determine the effluent limitations (limits) and other conditions contained in the permit. General background information including the regulatory basis for the effluent limitations and other conditions are in the [Appendix](#) linked throughout this factsheet.

Administrative History

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 12/1/2009 | The last full technical review was performed and the SPDES permit became effective with an expiration date of 4/30/2010. The 2009 permit has formed the basis of this permit. |
| 5/1/2010 | The current permit was administratively renewed for a 5-year term. |
| 6/17/2014 | The Department received a timely and sufficient application for permit renewal. Review of that application was suspended for full technical review and the permit was extended pursuant to SAPA ¹ . |
| 7/8/2022 | Department issued a Request for Information (RFI) to modify and renew the SPDES permit due to the facility's EBPS score ¹ . At the time of the RFI, the facility had an EBPS score of 320 and ranking of 23. |

¹ Pursuant to 6 NYCRR 750-1.18 and NYS Environmental Benefit Permit Strategy (EBPS)

10/4/2022 The Albany County Water Purification District submitted a NY-2A permit application.

The Notice of Complete Application, published in the [Environmental Notice Bulletin](#) and newspapers, contains information on the public notice process.

Facility Information

This facility is a publicly owned treatment works that receives flow from domestic and industrial users, including waste from categorical industrial users, with effluent consisting of treated sanitary, stormwater, and industrial wastewater. The collection system consists of both separate and combined sewers, however the permittee does not own or operate any combined sewer overflow regulators or outfalls (See [Additional Site-Specific Concerns](#) below). The facility accepts flow from nine (9) significant industrial users (SIUs).

The facility accepts wastewater from the following municipalities:

Municipality	POSS # or SPDES #	Collection System
Albany County Water Purification District	NY0026875	Combined
Town of Guilderland	NYS400024	Separate
Village of Colonie	NYS400012	Separate
Village of Green Island	NY0033031	Combined
City of Albany	NY0025747	Separate
City of Cohoes	NY0031046	Combined
City of Watervliet	NY0030899	Combined
Town of Colonie	NYS400019	Separate
Village of Menands	NYS400020	Separate

The facility accepts wastewater from the following significant industrial users (SIUs):

Significant Industrial User (SIU)	SIC Code	Categorical Reference (if applicable to 40 CFR)
Bimbo Bakeries USA	2051	-
Crystal IS, Inc.	3674	Parts 469.18 (A) & 469.28 (B)
Lydall Performance Materials	2621, 2297	Parts 439.116 (K) & 430.126 (L)
Mohawk Paper Mills, Inc.	2621	Part 430.116 (K)
Morgan Linen Services, Inc.	7213	-
Saint Gobain Abrasives, Inc.	3291, 2262	-
SUNY Polytechnic Institute	8221	-
UltrePET	2821	-
Unifirst Corporation	7218	-

The current 35 million gallons per day (MGD) average daily design flow treatment plant consists of:

- Preliminary Treatment: Mechanical Bar Screening (1" spacing), Grit Removal
- Primary Treatment: Primary Clarification
- Secondary Treatment: Activated Sludge (Secondary Aeration, Clarification)
- Disinfection: Seasonal (May 1-Oct 31) Chlorination/Dechlorination

Sludge is thickened with Dissolved Air Flotation and incinerated.

The primary outfall (Outfall 001) is a 96" pipe extending approximately 236 feet (ft) into the Hudson River, terminating at a depth of approximately 21.5ft, with a 54" single port reduction nozzle diffuser. As detailed in the Simple Mixing Form provided with the NY-2A application form, depth to the top of the outfall varies with the tide, ranging from a minimum of 14 ft at low tide to typically 21 ft at high tide.

The facility is planning the following upgrades/improvements:

- Sludge Processing Improvements, including upgrades to the incinerators and sludge mixing system. May also include consolidation of sludge operations from South WWTP (NY0026867) to the North WWTP via a new sludge forcemain. Estimated Construction Start is 1/1/2024.
- Primary & Secondary clarifier upgrades estimated Construction Start is 1/1/2026.
- New septage and Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) receiving station with FOG processing system. Estimated Construction Start 3/1/2024.
- Replacement of 3 mechanical bar screens and associated equipment. Estimated Construction Start is 3/1/2025.

Site Overview



Figure 1: Aerial image of the North WWTP & Outfall 001 to the Hudson River.

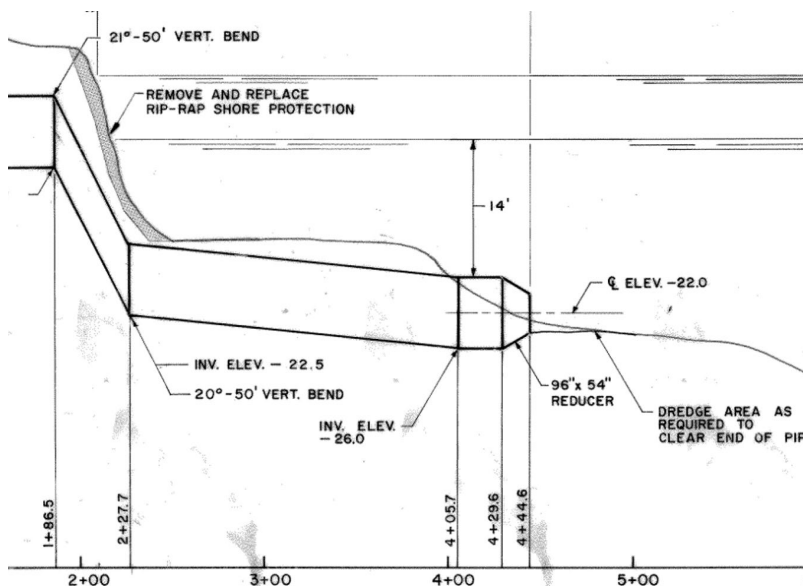


Figure 2: Design drawing of North WWTP Outfall 001.

Additional Site-Specific Concerns

In 2007, six Capital Region communities known as the “Albany Pool Communities”— the cities of Albany (NY0025747), Troy (NY0099309), Rensselaer (NY0026026), Cohoes (NY0031046), and Watervliet (NY0030899), and the Village of Green Island (NY0033031) – came together to develop a regional approach to CSO controls. The Albany County Water Purification District (ACWPD) North and South WWTPs (NY0026875 & NY0026867) and Rensselaer County Sewer District (RCSD) WWTP (NY0087971) assisted and supported the development of the long-term solution to address the CSO discharges from the Albany Pool Communities.

The Albany Pool area originally had 92 CSO outfalls, reduced to 85 as of 2021. The regional Long-term Control Plan (LTCP) addresses the CSOs discharging to the Hudson and Mohawk rivers and improves water quality in a way that is more cost-effective than if each municipality developed its own LTCP. These 6 communities, along with the county sewer districts, are implementing the 15-year plan, with most of the improvement realized in the first 10 years. More information regarding the Albany Pool LTCP can be found at <https://www.albanypoolcso.org/>.

The initial LTCP was submitted on June 30, 2011, but was disapproved by NYSDEC on December 12, 2012. Subsequently, on January 15, 2014, the Department, the Albany Pool Communities, the ACWPD and RCSD, entered into an Order on Consent (CO4-20120911-01) that required submission of an approvable LTCP, in accordance with the Guidance for Long-Term Control Plan, EPA, September 1995 and implementation of the LTCP following approval. A Supplemental Document to the initial LTCP was submitted in October 2013. The 2011 LTCP and October 2013 Supplement were approved together as the LTCP by letter by NYSDEC on January 15, 2014.

Enforcement History

The facility is operating under the Albany Pool Order on Consent (CO4-20120911-01) dated 1/15/2013. The Order requires the following compliance actions of the Albany Pool communities:

- Submit an approvable Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP),
- Implement, Construct, Maintain and Monitor facilities and projects in the approved LTCP.

The Order requires the following compliance actions of the ACWPD specifically:

Permittee: Albany County Water Purification District
Facility: Albany County North WWTP
SPDES Number: NY0026875
USEPA Major/Class 05 Municipal

Date: June 11, 2024 v.1.13

Permit Writer: Steve Wood

Water Quality Reviewer: Steve Wood

Full Technical Review

- Fully cooperate in the development of the Albany Pool LTCP and provide information requested by the Albany Pool,
- Participate in the evaluation of all alternatives assessed by the Albany Pool LTCP, and
- Implement or construct any projects and complete such other functions as expressly required of them under the approved LTCP.

Compliance and enforcement information can be found on the EPA's [Enforcement and Compliance History Online \(ECHO\)](#) website.

Existing Effluent Quality

The [Pollutant Summary Table](#) presents the existing effluent quality and effluent limitations. The existing effluent quality was determined from Discharge Monitoring Reports and the application submitted by the permittee for the period 9/1/2017 to 9/30/2022. [Appendix Link](#)

Receiving Water Information

The facility discharges via the following outfalls:

Outfall No.	SIC Code	Wastewater Type	Receiving Water
001	4952	Treated sanitary, stormwater, and industrial wastewater	Hudson River, Class C

The facility also discharges stormwater in accordance with the Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP), Sector T, under SPDES ID NYR00B263.

Outfall No.	SIC Code	Wastewater Type	Receiving Water
001	4952	Stormwater	Hudson River, Class C
002	4952	Stormwater	Hudson River, Class C
003	4952	Stormwater	Hudson River, Class C

Reach Description: The submerged outfall is located in the Hudson River, between Menands and North Greenbush. Within the 9 miles upstream of this outfall, there are several other SPDES permitted dischargers, including CSOs from Troy (NY0099309), Watervliet (NY0030899), Green Island (NY0033031), and Cohoes (NY0031046). The closest, approximately 0.75 mi upstream, is the Rensselaer County SD #1 STP. Additional dischargers considered for model development were US Army Watervliet Arsenal (NY0023361), America Rock Salt Company (NY0260843), Norlite (NY0004880), Town of Waterford WWTP and CSOs (NY0029173), and Mohawk Fine Paper (NY0006912). Downstream of the North WWTP, additional dischargers were considered for 2 miles, until the Dunn Memorial Bridge. These included the NYS Empire State Plaza (NY0104060) and CSOs from Albany (NY0025747) and Rensselaer (NY0026026). However, due to the significant size of the receiving water and the distance between this facility and the upstream continuous discharges, the upstream contributions were found to have negligible impact in the water quality model.

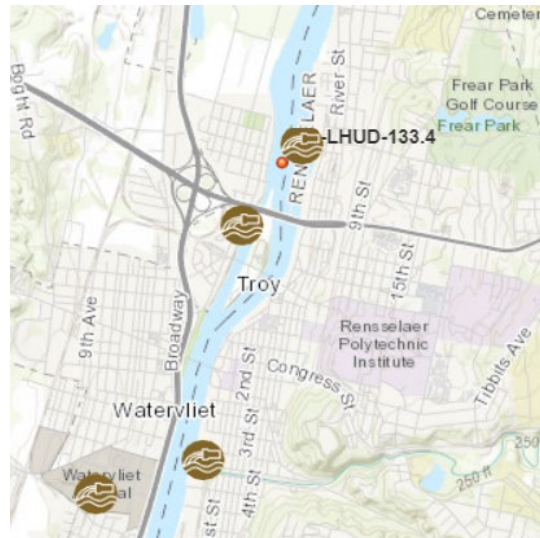


Figure 3: GIS map showing other SPDES permitted facilities (brown icons) and RIBS data station 13-LHUD-133.4 (orange dot), selected for ambient hardness data, all upstream of the ACWPD North WWTP.

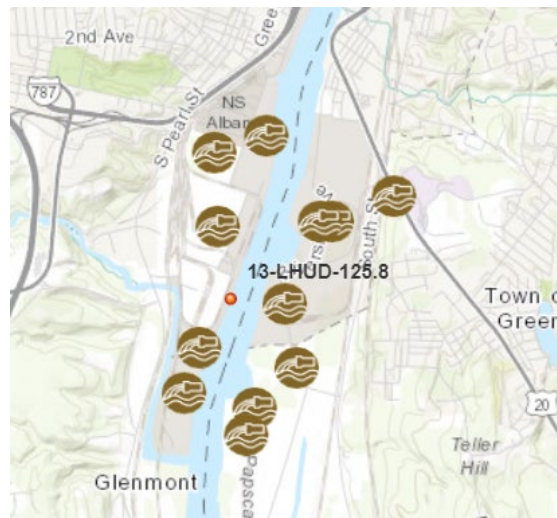


Figure 4: GIS map showing SPDES permitted facilities (brown icons) and RIBS data station 13-LHUD-125.8 (orange dot), selected for ambient pH data, all downstream of the ACWPD North WWTP.

See the [Outfall and Receiving Water Summary Table](#) and [Appendix](#) for additional information.

Impaired Waterbody Information

The Hudson River segment (PWL No. 1301-0002) was first listed on the 1998 [New York State Section 303\(d\) List](#) of Impaired/TMDL Waters as impaired due to Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) from contaminated sediment. The segment continues to be listed as of the 2018 NYS Section 303(d) List, in Part 2b. A TMDL has not been developed to address the impairment, and therefore, there are no applicable wasteload allocations (WLAs) for this facility.

Critical Receiving Water Data & Mixing Zone

The facility discharges to the Hudson River, which is a tidal waterbody. The low flow condition for the Hudson River was obtained from USGS Gage Station 01358000, Hudson River at Green Island, located approximately 6 miles upstream of Outfall 001. The 1Q10, 7Q10, and 30Q10 flows at the gage were found using the USGS SW Toolbox software and an analysis of data from 1946 to 2022.

RESULTS: USGS 01358000 HUDSON RIVER AT GREEN ISLAND NY			
File Edit View Help			
All available years of data are included in analysis.			Display Options: 01358000
Season defined as Jan 1 - Dec 31. Biological flow is calculated for full climatic year starting at Jan 1.			
Seasonal Calculation?	No		
Season Or Year Start	1-Jan		
Season Or Year End	31-Dec		
Years Included in Calculations	1946-2022		
Start	1946		
End	2022		
Flow Statistic	Flow Value	Percentile	x-day avg. Excur. per 3 yr.
1B3	1,707.1	0.10%	0.94737
4B3	2,655.5	1.11%	0.94737
30B3	3,859.4	5.87%	0.98684
Flow Statistic	Flow Value	Percentile	1-day Excur. per 3 yr.
1Q10	1,468	0.03%	0
7Q10	2,816.8	1.46%	1.0263
30Q10	3,314.8	3.11%	2.0132
Harmonic Mean	8,585	40.41%	N/A
Harmonic Mean, Adjusted	8,284.1	38.76%	N/A

Figure 5: USGS SW Toolbox Output. Flow Values stated in units of cubic feet per second (CFS).

The critical flow conditions were adjusted using a drainage area comparison, accounting for additional flow from tributaries prior to the point of discharge. Drainage areas were estimated using USGS Streamstats. The calculated critical low flows are shown below and in the [Outfall And Receiving Water Summary Table](#) at the end of this factsheet.

DRAINAGE BASIN RATIO	1Q10	7Q10	30Q10	
Gage Name		Hudson River at Green Island		
Gage ID Number		"013580000"		
Low Flow at Gage (cfs)	1468	2816	3314	SW Toolbox 01358000
Drainage Area at Gage (mi ²)	8100	8100	8100	USGS Streamstats
Drainage Area at Facility (mi ²)	8250	8250	8250	USGS Streamstats
Drainage Basin Ratio (facility / gage)	1.0	1.0	1.0	
Calculated Flow at Facility (cfs)	1495.19	2868.15	3375.37	

The dilution ratio is calculated as the sum of the critical low flow and the critical effluent flow (35 MGD, 54 CFS), divided by the critical effluent flow. Therefore, a chronic dilution ratio of 54:1 is applicable. The acute dilution ratio of 29:1 was also applied.

Outfall No.	Acute Dilution Ratio A(A)	Chronic Dilution Ratio A(C)	Human, Aesthetic, Wildlife Dilution Ratio (HEW)	Basis
001	29:1	54:1	63:1	TOGS 1.3.1

Critical receiving water data are listed in the [Pollutant Summary Table](#) at the end of this fact sheet. [Appendix Link](#)

Permit Requirements

The technology based effluent limitations ([TBELs](#)), water quality-based effluent limitations ([WQBELs](#)), [Existing Effluent Quality](#) and a discussion of the selected effluent limitation for each pollutant present in the discharge are provided in the [Pollutant Summary Table](#).

Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing

An evaluation of the discharge indicates the potential for toxicity based on the following criteria: [Appendix Link](#)

- There is the presence of substances in the effluent for which ambient water quality criteria do not exist. (#1)
- There is the possibility of complex synergistic or additive effects of chemicals, typically when the number of metals or organic compounds discharged by the permittee equals or exceeds five. (#4)
- Treatment plants which equal or exceed a discharge of 1MGD. (#7)

Consistent with TOGS 1.3.2, a reasonable potential analysis was performed using the existing WET data for this facility (see data below). It was determined that while the analysis indicated no potential for toxicity in the effluent, WET testing is required based on the criteria listed above and WET action levels are being continued in the permit. Given the dilution available and location outside of the Great Lakes basin, the permit requires acute and if necessary chronic WET testing. Samples will be collected quarterly in years ending in 0 and 5. WET testing action levels of 8.7 TUa and 54 TUc have been included in the permit for each species. These action levels are reduced from those included in the 2009 permit to correct a technical error in the calculation. The acute action level for each species represent the acute dilution ratio times a factor of 0.3. The chronic action levels represent the chronic dilution ratio.

Test Date	¹ MSS 48H LC50 (%Effluent)	² MSS TUa	³ TUa Action Level	⁴ MSS Survival 100% Effluent	⁵ Acute Test Result	⁶ MSS RPD TUa	⁷ Acute WET Limit Required	⁸ Predicted MSS TUc	⁹ TUc Action Level	¹⁰ Chronic Test Result	¹¹ MSS RPD TUc	¹² Chronic WET Limit Required
02/20	> 100% (FI)	< 0.3 (FI)	8.6	95% (F)	Pass	< 0.8	No	< 10.0 (FI)	56.4	Pass	< 26.0	No
05/20	> 100% (FI)	< 0.3 (FI)	8.6	90% (I)	Pass	< 0.8	No	< 10.0 (FI)	56.4	Pass	< 26.0	No
08/20	> 100% (FI)	< 0.3 (FI)	8.6	100% (FI)	Pass	< 0.8	No	< 10.0 (FI)	56.4	Pass	< 26.0	No
11/20	> 100% (FI)	< 0.3 (FI)	8.6	100% (FI)	Pass	< 0.8	No	< 10.0 (FI)	56.4	Pass	< 26.0	No

¹Most Sensitive Species 48-hour Lethal Concentration: (F=Fish; I=Invertebrate) is the concentration or percentage of effluent that is lethal to 50% of the exposed organisms over a 48-hour period, and often indicates one species is more sensitive than the other during effluent testing.

²Most Sensitive Species Toxic Units Acute: is calculated as $(100 / \text{MSS 48H LC50})$. However, because ≤ 0.3 TUa is defined as the acceptable amount of acute toxicity at the edge of the acute mixing zone, and mathematically $100 / 100 = 1.0$ (i.e. a "failing result"), non-toxic acute test results are indicated as < 0.3 .

³Toxic Unit Acute Action Level/Limit: is calculated as $[(\text{Acute Dilution Factor} + 1) \times 0.3 \text{ TUa}]$ representing the maximum allowable effluent TUa at the edge of the acute mixing zone using the seven-day once-in-ten year low flow (7Q10) ensuring acute protection of the receiving water. When the Acute Dilution Factor is < 3.3 , the default Acute Action Level of 0.3 TUa is used representing the maximum allowable effluent TUa at the end of pipe.

⁴Most Sensitive Species Survival in 100% Effluent: is the lowest percentage of surviving organisms in 100% effluent, providing additional evidence of unacceptable acute toxicity when the necessary 50% or greater mortality required to generate an LC50 has not been attained. *Denotes statistically significant mortality as compared to the control.

⁵Acute Test Result: $\text{MSS TUa} \leq \text{TUa Action Level/Limit}$ for passing effluent test result and $\text{MSS TUa} > \text{TUa Action Level/Limit}$ for a failing effluent test result. If unacceptable mortality (i.e. statistically significant as compared to the control), this may also be considered a failing test result.

⁶Most Sensitive Species Reasonable Potential Determination Toxic Units Acute: is calculated as $(\text{MSS TUa} \times 2.6)$, the Reasonable Potential Multiplier when four quarterly tests have been completed, taking into account the statistical potential for effluent variability to occur causing an exceedance of the toxicity-based action level.

⁷Acute Whole Effluent Toxicity Limit Required: $\text{MSS RPD TUa} \leq \text{TUa Action Level}$, then no toxicity-based limit is required and the action level remains in place. If $\text{MSS RPD TUa} > \text{TUa Action Level}$, then a toxicity-based limit is required and the action level becomes the limit. **In low dilution situations, the application of the RPD to the acute results often mathematically suggests the need for acute WET limits even when there is no toxicity evident in 100% effluent (a non-detect). Therefore, this data cannot be used to implement a WET limit.

⁸Predicted Most Sensitive Species Toxic Units Chronic: is calculated as $(\text{MSS TUa} \times 10)$ the default Acute:Chronic ratio used to predict chronic toxicity from acute test results in the absence of chronic testing. When MSS TUa is < 0.3 , < 1.0 should be used for the calculation, since this is defined as the acceptable amount of chronic toxicity at the edge of the chronic mixing zone. In Class A/SA, B/SB and C/SC waters, we must ultimately protect for chronic toxicity.

⁹Toxic Unit Chronic Action Level/Limit: is calculated as $[(\text{Chronic Dilution Factor} + 1) \times 1.0 \text{ TUc}]$ representing the maximum allowable effluent TUc at the edge of the chronic mixing zone using the seven-day once-in-ten year low flow (7Q10) ensuring chronic protection of the receiving water.

¹⁰Chronic Test Result: $\text{MSS TUc} \leq \text{TUc Action Level/Limit}$ for passing effluent test result and $\text{MSS TUc} > \text{TUc Action Level/Limit}$ for a failing effluent test result.

¹¹Most Sensitive Species Reasonable Potential Determination Toxic Units Chronic: is calculated as $(\text{MSS TUc} \times 2.6)$, the Reasonable Potential Multiplier when four quarterly tests have been completed, taking into account the statistical potential for effluent variability to occur causing an exceedance of the toxicity-based action level.

¹²Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Limit Required: $\text{MSS RPD TUc} \leq \text{TUc Action Level}$, then no toxicity-based limit is required and the action level remains in place. If $\text{MSS RPD TUc} > \text{TUc Action Level}$, then a toxicity-based limit is required and the action level becomes the limit. ***In low dilution situations, the combined application of the default ACR and RPD to the acute results often mathematically suggests the need for chronic WET limits even when there is no toxicity evident in 100% effluent (a non-detect). Therefore, this data cannot be used to implement a WET limit.

Anti-backsliding

The limitations contained in the permit are at least as stringent as the previous permit limits and there are no instances of backsliding.

[Appendix Link](#)

Antidegradation

The permit contains effluent limitations which ensure that the best usages of the receiving waters will be maintained. The Notice of Complete Application published in the Environmental Notice Bulletin contains information on the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR)² determination.

[Appendix Link](#)

Discharge Notification Act Requirements

In accordance with the Discharge Notification Act (ECL 17-0815-a), the permittee is required to post a sign at each point of wastewater discharge to surface waters, unless a waiver is obtained. This requirement is being continued from the previous permit.

Additionally, the permit contains a requirement to make the DMR sampling data available to the public upon request. This requirement is being continued from the previous permit.

Requirements for Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs)

[Appendix Link](#)

Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs)

The BMPs for CSOs require the permittee to implement operation and maintenance procedures³; use the existing treatment plant and collection system to the maximum extent practicable; effect sewer design replacement and drainage planning; maximize pollutant capture; and minimize water quality impacts from combined sewer overflows. The submittal requirements are summarized in the [Schedule of Additional Submittals](#). Several of the requirements are being continued from the previous permit, with some additional requirements being added follow re-evaluation of the conditions applicable to the permittee. The specific intentions and justifications for each BMP, with respect to applicability to the permittee, are below.

#1: CSS Maintenance & Inspection – The intent of this BMP is to ensure proper maintenance and inspection of the combined sewer system and associated structures. For all permittees that own or operate these appurtenances, routine inspections, repair, cleaning and maintenance must be performed.

#2: Maximize Use of Collection System for Storage – The intent of this BMP is to ensure that the flows the POTW is required to treat during wet weather can be conveyed. Per TOGS 1.6.3, “systems with potential for significant collection system storage, consideration should be given to in-line storage technologies such as inflatable dams or sluice gates which can be controlled from the host POTW via telemetry.” Given the permittee owns the interceptor immediately tributary to the WWTP, the permittee is responsible to ensure, in conjunction with the other BMPs, the minimum required capacity of the interceptor is available during wet weather events. Further, the permittee’s ability to modulate influent flows to the WWTP and thereby lead to the commencement of CSO discharges, this BMP should be applicable. The operations of such a gate are to be included in the Wet Weather Operating Plan (WWOP) per BMP #5. The requirements of this BMP have been consolidated into the language for BMP #1.

² As prescribed by 6 NYCRR Part 617

³ See 6 NYCRR 750-2.8(a)(2)

#3: Industrial Pretreatment – The intent of this BMP is to ensure that the Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) considers and evaluates industrial user discharges that are upstream of CSO outfalls. Since the permittee has an IPP that is EPA approved, this BMP must be included in the SPDES permit. This BMP serves to tie the IPP and CSO program together. Since approval of new IUs are the responsibility of the permittee, and potentially also the POSS, this BMP must be incorporated to ensure that the IPP considers if or when industrial wastewaters have the potential to be discharged from a CSO.

#4: Maximize Flow to POTW – The intent of this BMP is to maximize flow to the WWTP and maximize treatment of peak wet weather flows. This BMP sets forth the required wet weather flows through each treatment process and when bypasses of secondary treatment are acceptable.

#5: Wet Weather Operating Plan – This BMP requires the development of an approvable written operating plan that details the required operations of the WWTP prior to, during, and following wet weather events. The WWOP must be approved by NYSDEC and when the POTW is substantially replaced or modified, the WWOP must be revised and submitted for NYSDEC approval. This BMP is required for all WWTPs serving combined sewer systems.

#6: Prohibition of Dry Weather Overflow – This BMP prohibits all discharges from combined sewers during dry weather, this includes activations of the secondary bypass at flows below the required flows specified in the permit under BMP #4. This also requires that all dry weather overflows must be promptly reported and abated in accordance with 6 NYCRR 750-2.7.

#7: Control of Floatable & Settleable Solids – The intent of this BMP is to prevent aesthetic issues and other floating substances from being discharged during wet weather conditions. Since the permittee is allowed to operate a secondary treatment bypass, in accordance with BMP #4, the permittee's WWOP and continued operation of the bypass must minimize the discharge of these pollutants.

#8: Combined Sewer System Replacement – This BMP requires that NYSDEC approves all replacements of existing combined sewers. Since the permittee-owned interceptor conveys combined sewage, it is considered a combined sewer and therefore this BMP must apply.

#9: Combined Sewer/Extension – The permittee jointly reviews and approves sewer extensions with the POSSs contributing flow to the POTW and therefore must consider the impact these extensions may/will have on the contribution to CSO discharges. This BMP also includes a component specifically related to approval of extensions being subject to an evaluation of the treatability of the increased dry-weather flows to the WWTP. Therefore, this BMP must be included.

#10: Sewage Backups – This BMP is required to indicate the NYSDEC's ability to prohibit further connection to the POTW system which may exacerbate sewer backups (SBUs) and surcharging in the system. While these SBUs and surcharges may not occur within the permittee-owned system, the permittee would still be subject to such a moratorium as the WWTP holds the final regulating gate for influent flows. This BMP ensures that operation of the throttling gate, in accordance with the WWOP in BMP #5, interceptor maintenance in accordance with BMP #1, nor maximizing storage in the collection system in accordance with BMP #2 does not cause or contribute to SBUs or surcharge problems in the collection system. Per existing inter-municipal agreements (IMAs), the permittee maintains authority over the POSSs, to accept or deny the conveyance of wastewater.

#11: Septage and Hauled Waste – This BMP is a prohibition of the discharge of septage or hauled waste upstream of a CSO outfall. While septage is currently only received at the North WWTP, this BMP is required as a general prohibition that shall always apply to combined sewer systems and associated WWTPs to ensure that septage will be treated by the WWTP.

#12: Control of Runoff – This BMP is intended to prevent additional contamination in runoff to the combined sewer system, including the interceptor, by requiring compliance with Erosion and Sediment Control requirements of the Stormwater design manual for development areas in the combined sewer shed. Given the permittee only owns the interceptor and there are no direct catch basin connections to the interceptor, this BMP was determined to be not applicable and was not included in the permit.

#13: Public Notification – This BMP requires outfall signage in accordance with the Discharge Notification Act and reporting of CSO discharges and non-compliance events (operation of the WWTP inconsistent with the WWOP), in accordance with Part 750. Given the permittee does not own any CSO outfalls, signage requirements of this BMP have not been included in the permit.

#14: Characterization & Monitoring – This BMP is intended for the development of the LTCP and any future revision of the LTCP required. Since the permittee is required to cooperate with development and implementation of the LTCP, this condition must remain.

#15: Annual Report – This BMP requires submission of an annual report and is required for all permittees associated with combined sewer systems and CSOs. The previous permit's requirement to submit a data summary of the bypass flows at the WWTP, including volume and frequency, has been removed from this BMP requirement and included as a required attachment to the discharge monitoring report.

Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP)

The permittee does not own or operate any CSOs in the collection system. CSOs are owned and operated by each of the Albany Pool communities. As described above, Albany Pool CSO discharges are being addressed under the LTCP approved by the Department on 1/15/2014. LTCP requirements are required under Order on Consent CO4-20120911-01.

Post-Construction Compliance Monitoring (PCCM)

PCCM is required by all CSO communities to verify compliance with the EPA National CSO Control policy and evaluate attainment of NYS water quality standards. A PCCM plan was approved in 2015 for the Albany Pool Communities. Baseline PCCM sampling was conducted from 2015-2017. PCCM requirements are not included in this SPDES permit as the Albany Pool Communities are responsible for PCCM, as required under Order on Consent CO4-20120911-01.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Requirements

The facility is a publicly owned treatment works ≥ 1 MGD that requires SPDES permit coverage under 40 CFR 122.26 (b)(14)(ix). The permittee had previously obtained coverage of their stormwater outfalls separately under the SPDES Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity (MSGP) Sector [T] (GP-0-17-004) and has obtained coverage under the recently re-issued MSGP (GP-0-23-001). See the [Receiving Water Information](#) section above for the list of stormwater outfalls and MSGP ID.

Mercury⁴

The multiple discharge variance (MDV) for mercury provides the framework for NYSDEC to require mercury monitoring and mercury minimization programs (MMPs), through SPDES permitting. [Appendix Link](#)

The facility is an EPA Major, Class 05 POTW and the permit includes requirements for the implementation of MMP Type I. These requirements are new to the permit. The permittee has been collecting quarterly low-level mercury samples of the WWTP effluent since 2018. While this permit has not previously included any MMP requirements, the permittee began effluent sampling after negotiating with each of the Albany Pool communities to implement the MMP required by each community's SPDES permit.

The facility has ≥ 10 effluent mercury data points and the existing effluent quality (EEQ) of 2.9 ng/L was calculated from the lognormal 95th percentile of 11 mercury effluent samples collected from June 2017 to October 2022. The draft permit includes a new daily maximum total mercury effluent limitation of 50 ng/L. The facility is located outside the Great Lakes Basin and the EEQ ≤ 12 ng/L; therefore, the permit includes a 12-month rolling average total mercury effluent limitation equal to 12 ng/L.

A mercury minimization program consisting of the following is also required:

- Additional monitoring
- Control strategy for implementation of the MMP
- Annual status report (maintained onsite)

As the EEQ is ≤ 12 ng/L, the permittee qualifies for the MMP "decreased monitoring requirements." Thus, the sampling frequency in the permit will be quarterly. The permit language reflects additional reductions in the MMP requirements.

Biennial Pollutant Scan

Three effluent samples for applicable parameters must be submitted with an NY-2A Application⁵. The permit includes a requirement to perform biennial sampling (once every two years) of the WWTP effluent for the parameters in the NY-2A Application, Tables A – D. This requirement ensures the data is representative of effluent conditions over the permit term and will be available for the next application submittal and permit review. This requirement is new.

Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP)

The permittee is required to continue implementation of a USEPA-approved pretreatment program in accordance with 40 CFR Part 403 and TOGS 1.3.3. The program specifies continued implementation of an industrial user compliance program, submission of user information, modification of local sewer use law (if necessary), and periodic reporting.

Emerging Contaminant Monitoring

Emerging Contaminants, such as Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), and 1,4-Dioxane (1,4-D), have been used in a wide variety of consumer and industrial product as well as in manufacturing processes for decades. These contaminants do not break down easily, therefore their presence in wastewater can remain a concern for years following their discontinued use. As the science surrounding these contaminants is still evolving, additional monitoring is needed to better understand potential sources and background levels. For more

⁴ In accordance with DOW 1.3.10 Mercury – SPDES Permitting & Multiple Discharge Variance (MDV), December 30, 2020.

⁵ Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.21(j)(4)(vi).

information on emerging contaminants, please see the NYSDEC Division of Water web page: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/127939.html>.

Pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 750-1.13(b), the permit includes a short-term monitoring program listed in the Schedule of Additional Submittals to evaluate the influent and effluent discharge levels of Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and 1,4-Dioxane. This monitoring program is consistent with PFAS guidance released in EPA guidance memos dated April 28, 2022, and December 5, 2022.

The Department will review the monitoring results and pursuant to 6 NYCRR 750-2.1(i) may notify the permittee of the need for further monitoring to identify potential sources as specified in the Emerging Contaminants Investigation Checklist for POTWs to determine whether cause exists to modify the permit to incorporate a pollutant minimization program per 6 NYCRR 750-1.14(f).

The Department will consider this information and progress made to track down and reduce or eliminate the source of the identified pollutants in determining if a permit modification is needed.

Schedule(s) of Additional Submittals

A schedule of additional submittals has been included for the following ([Appendix Link](#)):

- Water Treatment Chemical Annual Report
- Annual Flow Certification
- Biennial Pollutant Scan
- WET Testing Reports
- Updated Wet Weather Operating Plan
- CSO BMP Annual Report
- MMP Annual Status Reports
- IPP Annual Report
- Emerging Contaminant Short Term Monitoring

Evaluation of Permittee-Requested Modifications

On November 1, 2022, following submission of the SPDES Application Form NY-2A, the permittee submitted an email request for modifications to specific conditions of the 2015 permit. A summary of each of these requests and the Department's evaluation and determination, are below.

1. Wet-Weather Minimum Flow Requirements: The permittee requested a re-evaluation of the CSO BMP #5 minimum required wet-weather flows at the WWTP. Specifically, the permittee requested the flows be revised consistent with the capacities stated in the 2011 WWTP Hydraulic Study. The permittee and Department had several technical discussions during permit development regarding the justification for this request. The WWTP has peak capacity to accept 88 MGD through the headworks, primary treatment, and disinfection, while secondary treatment capacity is limited to 55 MGD. As a result, the draft permit contains the Department's final determination for acceptable minimum wet-weather flow capacities.
2. Sampling Frequencies: The permittee requested a reduction in sampling frequency for several parameters, in accordance with the USEPA's April 1996 *Interim Guidance for Performance-based Reductions of NPDES Permit Monitoring Frequencies*, as cited in TOGS 1.3.3. The permittee requested reduction from 1/day to 3/week for CBOD₅, Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN), and Fecal Coliform. The permittee requested a reduction from 6/day to 3/day for pH, Temperature, Settleable Solids, and Total Residual Chlorine (TRC).

The referenced guidance specifies eligibility criteria that considers several factors including the facility's compliance history, parameter-by-parameter compliance history, parameter-by-parameter performance history. Once eligibility is determined, the guidance details procedures for determining reduced sampling frequencies of monthly average effluent limitations, utilizing performance data and the ratio of the long-term average (LTA) to the permit limitation. It should be noted that the referenced guidance does not apply for daily maximum effluent limitations, therefore reductions for pH, TRC, and Settleable Solids were not evaluated. As stated in the referenced guidance, the reduced frequencies recommended in the reference guidance are not guaranteed nor is the permitting authority required to grant such reductions. Further, reduced frequencies may be revoked should the permitting authority determine such frequencies are inadequate or if the facility no longer satisfies the eligibility criteria.

The Department has determined that the facility is eligible for consideration based on the compliance history requirements specified in the referenced guidance. Thus, the Department has evaluated each of the requests on a parameter-by-parameter basis for the period of 2/1/2021 through 2/28/2023. During the parameter-by-parameter compliance history evaluation, the Department determined that due to effluent limitation exceedances in the evaluation period, reductions are not eligible at this time for TSS (July 2021, December 2022), TKN (June 2021), Fecal Coliform (June-July 2021, May-September 2022), or Settleable Solids (October-December 2022). Thus, the remaining parameter for evaluation was CBOD₅. The LTAs were calculated for both reported monthly average concentrations and loads. The Department determined a maximum LTA/Permit limitation ratio of 22% and corresponding coefficient of variation of 0.52. Therefore, the requested sampling frequency reduction for CBOD₅, from 1/day to 3/week, is acceptable and has been included in the draft permit.

OUTFALL AND RECEIVING WATER SUMMARY TABLE

Outfall	Latitude	Longitude	Receiving Water Name	Water Class	Water Index No. / Priority Waterbody Listing (PWL) No.	Major / Sub Basin	Hardness (mg/l)	1Q10 (MGD)	7Q10 (MGD)	30Q10 (MGD)	Critical Effluent Flow (MGD)	Dilution Ratio		
												A(A)	A(C)	HEW
001	42° 40' 28.8" N	73° 43' 24.5" W	Hudson River	C	H (Portion 5) PWL: 1301-0002	13 / 01	81 ⁶	966	1,853	2,181	35	29:1	54:1	63:1

POLLUTANT SUMMARY TABLE

Outfall 001

Outfall #	001	Description of Wastewater: Treated sanitary, stormwater, and industrial wastewater													
		Type of Treatment: Mechanical Bar Screening, Grit Removal, Activated Sludge Treatment (Primary Clarification, Secondary Aeration & Clarification), Chlorine Disinfection, and Dechlorination													
Effluent Parameter	Units	Averaging Period	Existing Discharge Data			TBELs		Water Quality Data & WQBELs						ML	Basis for Permit Requirement
			Permit Limit	Existing Effluent Quality ⁷	# of Data Points Detects / Non-Detects	Limit	Basis	Ambient Bkgd. Conc.	Projected Instream Conc.	WQ Std. or GV	WQ Type	Calc. WQBEL	Basis for WQBEL		
General Notes: Existing discharge data from 9/1/2017 to 9/30/2022 was obtained from Discharge Monitoring Reports and additional data provided by the permittee. All applicable water quality standards were reviewed for development of the WQBELs. The standard and WQBEL shown below represent the most stringent. When indicated, Summer Season is defined as June 1 – October 31 and Winter Season is defined as November 1 – May 31.															
Flow Rate	MGD	Monthly Avg	35	21 Actual Average	58 / 0	35	Design Flow	Narrative: No alterations that will impair the waters for their best usages.					703.2	-	TBEL
Consistent with TOGS 1.3.3, a monthly average flow limitation equal to the average daily design capacity of the treatment plant is specified.															
pH	SU	Minimum	6.0	6.0 (Minimum)	61	6.0	TOGS 1.3.3	7.6 ⁸	7.6	6.5 – 8.5	Range	-	703.3	-	TBEL
		Maximum	9.0	8.0 (Maximum)	61	9.0									
Consistent with TOGS 1.3.3 for POTWs, TBELs reflect secondary treatment standards. Given the available dilution an effluent limitation equal to the TBEL is reasonably protective of the WQS.															

⁶ Ambient hardness data obtained from the average Hardness (as CaCO₃) of the 13 data points on record from ambient RIBS data station 13-LHUD-125.8, for the period of 2017-2020.

⁷ Existing Effluent Quality: Daily Max = 99% lognormal; Monthly Avg = 95% lognormal (for datasets with ≤3 nondetects); Daily Max = 99% delta-lognormal; Monthly Avg = 95% delta-lognormal (for datasets with >3 nondetects)

⁸ Ambient pH obtained from the average pH of the 22 data points on record from ambient RIBS data station 13-LHUD-133.4, for the period of 1997-2017.

Outfall #	Description of Wastewater: Treated sanitary, stormwater, and industrial wastewater														
	Type of Treatment: Mechanical Bar Screening, Grit Removal, Activated Sludge Treatment (Primary Clarification, Secondary Aeration & Clarification), Chlorine Disinfection, and Dechlorination														
Effluent Parameter	Units	Averaging Period	Existing Discharge Data			TBELs		Water Quality Data & WQBELs						ML	Basis for Permit Requirement
			Permit Limit	Existing Effluent Quality ⁷	# of Data Points Detects / Non-Detects	Limit	Basis	Ambient Bkgd. Conc.	Projected Instream Conc.	WQ Std. or GV	WQ Type	Calc. WQBEL	Basis for WQBEL		
Temperature	°F	Daily Max	Monitor	92 (Maximum)	61	Monitor	BPJ	25 °C	Narrative (Non-Trout): The water temperature at the surface of a stream shall not be raised to more than 90F at any point and... shall not be raised or lowered to more than 5F over the temperature that existed before the addition			704.2	-	TBEL	
	Consistent with 6 NYCRR 750-1.13(a), monitoring is required and may be used to inform future permitting decisions. This requirement is continued from the previous permit.														
Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	mg/L	Daily Min	No Existing Permit Requirement			-	-	7.5 (assumed)	4.5 Critical Point	(Non-Trout) 4.0 mg/L	Narrative	See TKN	703.3	-	No Limitation
	The downstream DO concentration was modeled using the Streeter-Phelps equations and the following assumptions: Effluent DO = 2.0 mg/l (assumed value consistent with TOGS 1.3.1D), Effluent UOD = 128 mg/L (Estimated from CBOD5 and NOD values), Effluent CBOD ₅ = 40 mg/L (Set at existing 7-day average limitation), Effluent NOD = 69 mg/L (converted from existing TKN limitation). A background concentration of 7.5 mg/L is assumed as 90% of DO saturation, given a background temperature of 25°C. The reach was modeled from the WWTP outfall to a point 2 miles downstream. The facilities contributing to this reach are listed in the Receiving Water Information section. The model showed that a WQBEL for NOD is necessary to maintain adequate downstream water quality. The existing TKN WQBEL of 15.2 mg/L, in conjunction with the existing CBOD ₅ TBEL, is sufficiently protective of the dissolved oxygen standard downstream and shall be continued. No effluent requirements for DO are required.														
5-day Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD ₅)	mg/L	Monthly Avg	25	4.5	61 / 0	25	TOGS 1.3.3	3.0 (assumed)	See Dissolved Oxygen	703.3	-	TBEL			
		7 Day Avg	40	11	61 / 0	40	TOGS 1.3.3								
	lbs/d	Monthly Avg	7300	840	61 / 0	7300	TOGS 1.3.3								
		7 Day Avg	12000	2600	61 / 0	12000	TOGS 1.3.3								
% Rem	Minimum	85	95	61 / 0	85	ECL 17-0509									
Consistent with TOGS 1.3.3 for POTWs, TBELs reflect secondary treatment standards. See justification for Dissolved Oxygen above. As stated above, the requested evaluation of existing performance has resulted in an acceptable reduction in sampling frequency from 1/day to 3/week. Consistent with the 2009 permit, a footnote is included for a percent removal exception is allowed for days when daily average flows exceed the monthly average flow limitation of 35 MGD. On these days, percent removals of CBOD ₅ and TSS are not required to be calculated and thus are not included in the monthly percent removal calculation to achieve 85%.															

Outfall #	001	Description of Wastewater: Treated sanitary, stormwater, and industrial wastewater													
		Type of Treatment: Mechanical Bar Screening, Grit Removal, Activated Sludge Treatment (Primary Clarification, Secondary Aeration & Clarification), Chlorine Disinfection, and Dechlorination													
Effluent Parameter	Units	Averaging Period	Existing Discharge Data			TBELs		Water Quality Data & WQBELs						ML	Basis for Permit Requirement
			Permit Limit	Existing Effluent Quality ⁷	# of Data Points Detects / Non-Detects	Limit	Basis	Ambient Bkgd. Conc.	Projected Instream Conc.	WQ Std. or GV	WQ Type	Calc. WQBEL	Basis for WQBEL		
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	Monthly Avg	30	8.6	59 / 0	30	TOGS 1.3.3	0	Narrative: None from sewage, industrial wastes or other wastes that will cause deposition or impair the waters for their best usages.	703.2	-	TBEL			
		7 Day Avg	45	28	60 / 0	45	TOGS 1.3.3								
	lbs/d	Monthly Avg	8800	1600	61 / 0	8800	TOGS 1.3.3								
		7 Day Avg	13000	6800	61 / 0	13000	TOGS 1.3.3								
	% Rem	Minimum	85	88 (Minimum)	61 / 0	85	ECL 17-0509								
Consistent with TOGS 1.3.3 for POTWs, TBELs reflect secondary treatment standards. Given that adequate dilution is available, an effluent limitation equal to the TBEL, and consistent with TOGS 1.3.3, is reasonably protective of water quality standards. Consistent with the 2009 permit, a footnote is included for a percent removal exception is allowed for days when daily average flows exceed the monthly average flow limitation of 35 MGD. On these days, percent removals of CBOD ₅ and TSS are not required to be calculated and thus are not included in the monthly percent removal calculation to achieve 85%.															
Settleable Solids	mL/L	Daily Max	0.3	9.6	22 / 39	0.3	TOGS 1.3.3	0	Narrative: None from sewage, industrial wastes or other wastes that will cause deposition or impair the waters for their best usages	703.2	-	TBEL			
A review of DMR indicated that all data were at or below the existing effluent limitation of 0.3 mL/L, except for 2 months (October 2020 @ 6 mL/L and October 2021 @ 120 mL/L). Consistent with TOGS 1.3.3, the effluent limitation is equal to the TBEL of 0.3 mL/L for POTWs providing secondary treatment without filtration. Given that adequate dilution is available the TBEL is reasonably protective of WQS.															
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl (as N) Summer	mg/L	Monthly Avg	15.2	9.5	19 / 5	15	Antibacksliding	0	0.28	Narrative: None in amounts that will result in growths of algae, weeds and slimes that will impair the waters for their best usages.	15	40CFR 122.44 (RSAT)	-	WQBEL	
There were 2 months of DMR data excluded from the EEQ calculation as outliers. As described above under Dissolved Oxygen, the existing TKN WQBEL is necessary to protect downstream water quality for dissolved oxygen. In accordance with Department practice, the effluent limitation has been changed from 15.2 mg/L to 15 mg/L, using 2 significant figures.															

Outfall #	001	Description of Wastewater: Treated sanitary, stormwater, and industrial wastewater													
		Type of Treatment: Mechanical Bar Screening, Grit Removal, Activated Sludge Treatment (Primary Clarification, Secondary Aeration & Clarification), Chlorine Disinfection, and Dechlorination													
Effluent Parameter	Units	Averaging Period	Existing Discharge Data			TBELs		Water Quality Data & WQBELs						ML	Basis for Permit Requirement
			Permit Limit	Existing Effluent Quality ⁷	# of Data Points Detects / Non-Detects	Limit	Basis	Ambient Bkgd. Conc.	Projected Instream Conc.	WQ Std. or GV	WQ Type	Calc. WQBEL	Basis for WQBEL		
Nitrogen, Ammonia (as N)	mg/L	Monthly Avg (Summer)	No Existing Permit Requirement			-	-	0.082 (assumed)	1.1	1.2	A(C)	No Reasonable Potential	-	-	No Limitation
	mg/L	Monthly Avg (Winter)	No Existing Permit Requirement			-	-		1.1	1.9	A(C)	No Reasonable Potential	-	-	No Limitation
<p>The permittee reported 1 sample of Ammonia (as N) in the NY-2A application form, with a result of 10.6 mg/L. The WQS for Ammonia was determined from TOGS 1.1.1 from a summer pH of 7.5 and a temperature of 25 C. The pH and temperature of the receiving waterbody were assumed values and consistent with TOGS 1.3.1E. The projected instream concentration was calculated using the maximum reported effluent concentration of 10.6 mg/L and an assumed ambient upstream concentration of 82 µg/L. A multiplier⁹ of 6.2 was applied to the maximum effluent concentration to account for the number of samples. In accordance with TOGS 1.3.1E, the HEW dilution ratio was applied to calculate the projected instream concentration. A comparison of the projected instream concentration to the WQS indicates no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a WQS violation. Further, if an Ammonia WQBEL were necessary, the WQBEL would be at least 73 mg/L (as N). Converting this value to Nitrogenous Oxygen Demand (NOD) results in a concentration over 530 mg/L. This is far exceeding to the NOD concentration calculated from conversion of the existing TKN effluent limitation of 15.2 mg/L. Therefore, seeing as there is no reasonable potential for Ammonia and the existing TKN effluent limitation is adequately protective of water quality, no additional effluent limitation for Ammonia is necessary at this time.</p>															
Coliform, Fecal	#/100 ml	30d Geo Mean	200	52 (Average)	23 / 1	200	TOGS 1.3.3	-	Narrative: The monthly geometric mean, from a minimum of five examinations, shall not exceed 200.			703.4	-	TBEL	
		7d Geo Mean	400	120 (Average)	22 / 0	400	TOGS 1.3.3	-							
<p>The EEQ data reported above is the arithmetic mean of reported DMR results for both averaging periods. During review of the 31 months of DMR data, the permittee indicated several months where results were Too Numerous to Count (TNTC) due to dilution restrictions with the analytical method being utilized. There were 7 months (for 30-d GM) and 9 months (for 7-d GM) for which the permittee reported TNTC. The permittee has been working the NYS Department of Health to gain Environmental Laboratory Approval Program (ELAP) certification for an alternative analytical method that will allow for better analysis and reporting of effluent quality data moving forward.</p> <p>Consistent with TOGS 1.3.3, effluent disinfection is required seasonally from May 1st - October 31st, due to the class of the receiving waterbody. Fecal coliform limits equal to the TBEL are specified.</p>															

⁹ As recommended from EPA's Technical Support Document, Chapter 3.3

Outfall #	Description of Wastewater: Treated sanitary, stormwater, and industrial wastewater														
	Type of Treatment: Mechanical Bar Screening, Grit Removal, Activated Sludge Treatment (Primary Clarification, Secondary Aeration & Clarification), Chlorine Disinfection, and Dechlorination														
Effluent Parameter	Units	Averaging Period	Existing Discharge Data			TBELs		Water Quality Data & WQBELs						ML	Basis for Permit Requirement
			Permit Limit	Existing Effluent Quality ⁷	# of Data Points Detects / Non-Detects	Limit	Basis	Ambient Bkgd. Conc.	Projected Instream Conc.	WQ Std. or GV	WQ Type	Calc. WQBEL	Basis for WQBEL		
Total Residual Chlorine (TRC)	mg/L	Daily Max	0.6	0.6 (Maximum)	30 / 1	0.6	Antibacksliding	-	11	0.005	A(C)	0.6	703.5	-	WQBEL
Effluent disinfection is currently required seasonally and will remain a permit requirement. The projected instream concentration was calculated using the existing effluent limitation concentration of 0.6 mg/L and assumed no ambient upstream concentration. A multiplier, as recommended in EPA's Technical Support Document Chapter 3.3, of 1.0 was applied to the projected effluent to account for the number of samples. A comparison of the projected instream concentration to the WQS indicates reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a WQS violation. Therefore, a WQBEL is specified. The WQBEL was previously established as part of the 2009 permit negotiation and considered potential TRC contributions to the receiving water from the Albany County South WWTP and the Rensselaer County STP. While both of these other facilities have UV disinfection and do not utilize chlorine in their treatment process, the exiting WQBEL shall remain per antibacksliding requirements.															
Total Copper	µg/L	Daily Max	<i>No Existing Permit Requirement</i>			Monitor	750-1.13	-	0.14	7.5	A(C)	No Reasonable Potential	-	-	Monitor
	lbs/d	Daily Max	4.0 - AL	4.7	61 / 0	4.0 - AL	BPJ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Action Level
Of data submitted in the NY-2A Application, the maximum concentration of the most recent 13 samples was 0.011 mg/L. However, the projected instream concentration was calculated using the existing loading action level (4.0 lbs/d) and the facility design flow (35 MGD) to estimate an effluent concentration of 14 µg/L. No ambient upstream concentration was considered. A multiplier, as recommended in EPA's Technical Support Document Chapter 3.3, of 1.0 was applied to the projected effluent to account for the number of samples. A comparison of the projected instream concentration to the WQS indicates no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a WQS violation. Therefore, no WQBEL is specified. Due to consistent continued detections, the 4.0 lbs/day action level shall continue. Monitoring and reporting of the effluent concentration has been added for future permitting decision purposes.															
Total Zinc	µg/L	Daily Max	<i>No Existing Permit Requirement</i>			Monitor	750-1.13	-	0.39	69	A(C)	No Reasonable Potential	-	-	Monitor
	lbs/d	Daily Max	12.4 - AL	12	61 / 0	12 - AL	BPJ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Action Level
Of data submitted in the NY-2A Application, the maximum concentration of the most recent 13 samples was 0.046 mg/L. However, the projected instream concentration was calculated using the existing loading effluent limitation (12.4 lbs/d) and the facility design flow (35 MGD) to estimate an effluent concentration of 42 µg/L. No ambient upstream concentration was considered. A multiplier, as recommended in EPA's Technical Support Document Chapter 3.3, of 1.0 was applied to the projected effluent to account for the number of samples. A comparison of the projected instream concentration to the WQS indicates no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a WQS violation. Therefore, no WQBEL is specified. Due to antibacksliding, the 12.4 lbs/day effluent limitation shall continue, but has been changed to 12 lbs/day in accordance with Department practice using two significant digits. Monitoring and reporting of the effluent concentration has been added for future permitting decision purposes.															

Outfall #	001	Description of Wastewater: Treated sanitary, stormwater, and industrial wastewater													
		Type of Treatment: Mechanical Bar Screening, Grit Removal, Activated Sludge Treatment (Primary Clarification, Secondary Aeration & Clarification), Chlorine Disinfection, and Dechlorination													
Effluent Parameter	Units	Averaging Period	Existing Discharge Data			TBELs		Water Quality Data & WQBELs						ML	Basis for Permit Requirement
			Permit Limit	Existing Effluent Quality ⁷	# of Data Points Detects / Non-Detects	Limit	Basis	Ambient Bkgd. Conc.	Projected Instream Conc.	WQ Std. or GV	WQ Type	Calc. WQBEL	Basis for WQBEL		
Additional Pollutants Detected															
Total Mercury	ng/L	Daily Max	N/A	2.9	11 / 0	50	GLCA	-	-	0.7	H(FC)	0.7	703.5	-	DOW 1.3.10
		12 MRA	No Existing Permit Requirement			12	DOW 1.3.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
While the permit did not require sample collection and analysis, the permittee began collecting effluent samples following implementation of the MMP on behalf of the POSS's tributary to the WWTP. The permittee provided this data during permit development. Data included 11 effluent sampling results from June 2017- October 2022. The 95 th lognormal percentile of available data was 2.9 ng/L. See Mercury section of this factsheet .															
Nitrite	mg/L	PPS	-	0.273	1 / 0	-	-	-	31	0.10	A(C)	No Reasonable Potential	703.5	-	No Limitation
		The projected instream concentration was calculated using the reported concentration of 273 µg/L. An ambient concentration was not considered. As recommended from EPA's Technical Support Document, Chapter 3.3, a multiplier of 6.2 was applied to the effluent concentration to account for the number of samples. A comparison of the projected instream concentration to the WQS indicates no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a WQS violation. No limitations are specified, but continued monitoring in the biennial priority pollutant scan (PPS) is required.													
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	PPS	-	570	1 / 0	-	-	-	65	500	A(C)	No Reasonable Potential	703.3	-	No Limitation
		The projected instream concentration was calculated using the reported concentration of 570 mg/L. An ambient concentration was not considered. As recommended from EPA's Technical Support Document, Chapter 3.3, a multiplier of 6.2 was applied to the effluent concentration to account for the number of samples. A comparison of the projected instream concentration to the WQS indicates no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a WQS violation. No limitations are specified, but continued monitoring in the biennial PPS is required.													
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	PPS	-	14.5	1 / 0	-	-	-	1.6	Narrative: None in amounts that will result in growths of algae, weeds and slimes that will impair the waters for their best usages.			703.2	-	No Limitation
Total Phosphorus	mg/L	PPS	-	1.1	1 / 0	-	-	-	0.13					-	No Limitation
Total Nitrogen (14.5 mg/L) and Total Phosphorus (1.1 mg/L) were both detected in the in the PPS submitted with the NY-2A application. The projected instream concentration was calculated using the reported concentration. An ambient concentration was not considered. As recommended from EPA's Technical Support Document, Chapter 3.3, a multiplier of 6.2 was applied to the effluent concentration to account for the number of samples. A comparison of the projected instream concentration to the WQS indicates no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a WQS violation for either pollutant. No limitations are specified, but continued monitoring in the biennial PPS is required.															
Lead, Total	µg/L	PPS	-	2	1 / 0	-	-	-	0.09	3.0	A(C)	No Reasonable Potential	-	-	No Limitation
		The projected instream concentration was calculated using the reported concentration of 2 µg/L. An ambient concentration was not considered. As recommended from EPA's Technical Support Document, Chapter 3.3, a multiplier of 6.2 was applied to the effluent concentration to account for the number of samples. A comparison of the projected instream concentration to the WQS indicates no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a WQS violation. No limitations are specified, but continued monitoring in the biennial PPS is required.													

Permittee: Albany County Water Purification District
 Facility: Albany County North WWTP
 SPDES Number: NY0026875
 USEPA Major/Class 05 Municipal

Date: June 11, 2024 v.1.13
 Permit Writer: Steve Wood
 Water Quality Reviewer: Steve Wood
 Full Technical Review

Outfall #	001	Description of Wastewater: Treated sanitary, stormwater, and industrial wastewater													
		Type of Treatment: Mechanical Bar Screening, Grit Removal, Activated Sludge Treatment (Primary Clarification, Secondary Aeration & Clarification), Chlorine Disinfection, and Dechlorination													
Effluent Parameter	Units	Averaging Period	Existing Discharge Data			TBELs		Water Quality Data & WQBELs						ML	Basis for Permit Requirement
			Permit Limit	Existing Effluent Quality ⁷	# of Data Points Detects / Non-Detects	Limit	Basis	Ambient Bkgd. Conc.	Projected Instream Conc.	WQ Std. or GV	WQ Type	Calc. WQBEL	Basis for WQBEL		
Nickel, Total	µg/L	PPS	-	2	1 / 0	-	-	-	0.18	44	A(C)	No Reasonable Potential	-	-	No Limitation
The projected instream concentration was calculated using the reported concentration of 2 µg/L. An ambient concentration was not considered. As recommended from EPA's Technical Support Document, Chapter 3.3, a multiplier of 6.2 was applied to the effluent concentration to account for the number of samples. A comparison of the projected instream concentration to the WQS indicates no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a WQS violation. No limitations are specified, but continued monitoring in the biennial PPS is required.															
Methylene Chloride	µg/L	PPS	-	1.0	1 / 0	-	-	-	0.1	200	H(FC)	No Reasonable Potential	-	-	No Limitation
The projected instream concentration was calculated using the reported concentration of 1 µg/L. An ambient concentration was not considered. As recommended from EPA's Technical Support Document, Chapter 3.3, a multiplier of 6.2 was applied to the effluent concentration to account for the number of samples. A comparison of the projected instream concentration to the WQS indicates no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a WQS violation. No limitations are specified, but continued monitoring in the biennial PPS is required.															
Additional PPS Detects	µg/L	PPS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Biennial PPS
The following pollutants were detected in the PPS submitted with the NY-2A application, however no applicable WQS exists: Nitrate and Chloroform. Therefore, since no WQS exists, a reasonable potential determination cannot be made. No limitations are specified, but continued monitoring in the biennial priority pollutant scan is required.															

Appendix: Regulatory and Technical Basis of Permit Authorizations

The Appendix is meant to supplement the factsheet for multiple types of SPDES permits. Portions of this Appendix may not be applicable to this specific permit.

Regulatory References

The provisions of the permit are based largely upon 40 CFR 122 subpart C and 6 NYCRR Part 750 and include monitoring, recording, reporting, and compliance requirements, as well as general conditions applicable to all SPDES permits. Below are the most common citations for the requirements included in SPDES permits:

- Clean Water Act (CWA) 33 section USC 1251 to 1387
- Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) Articles 17 and 70
- Federal Regulations
 - 40 CFR, Chapter I, subchapters D, N, and O
- State environmental regulations
 - 6 NYCRR Part 621
 - 6 NYCRR Part 750
 - 6 NYCRR Parts 700 - 704 – Best use and other requirements applicable to water classes
 - 6 NYCRR Parts 800 – 941 - Classification of individual surface waters
- NYSDEC water program policy, referred to as Technical and Operational Guidance Series (TOGS)
- USEPA Office of Water Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control, March 1991, Appendix E

The following is a quick guide to the references used within the factsheet:

SPDES Permit Requirements	Regulatory Reference
Anti-backsliding	6 NYCRR 750-1.10(c)
Best Management Practices (BMPS) for CSOs	6 NYCRR 750-2.8(a)(2)
Environmental Benefits Permit Strategy (EBPS)	6 NYCRR 750-1.18, NYS ECL 17-0817(4), TOGS 1.2.2 (revised January 25,2012)
Exceptions for Type I SSO Outfalls (bypass)	6 NYCRR 750-2.8(b)(2), 40 CFR 122.41
Mercury Multiple Discharge Variance	Division of Water Program Policy 1.3.10 (DOW 1.3.10)
Mixing Zone and Critical Water Information	TOGS 1.3.1 & Amendments
PCB Minimization Program	40 CFR Part 132 Appendix F Procedure 8, 6 NYCRR 750-1.13(a) and 750-1.14(f), and TOGS 1.2.1
Pollutant Minimization Program (PMP)	6 NYCRR 750-1.13(a), 750-1.14(f), TOGS 1.2.1
Schedules of Compliance	6 NYCRR 750-1.14
Sewage Pollution Right to Know (SPRTK)	NYS ECL 17-0826-a, 6 NYCRR 750-2.7
State Administrative Procedure Act (SAPA)	State Administrative Procedure Act Section 401(2), 6 NYCRR 621.11(l)
State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR)	6 NYCRR Part 617
USEPA Effluent Limitation Guidelines (ELGs)	40 CFR Parts 405-471
USEPA National CSO Policy	33 USC Section 1342(q)
Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing	TOGS 1.3.2
General Provisions of a SPDES Permit Department Request for Additional Information	NYCRR 750-2.1(i)

Outfall and Receiving Water Information

Impaired Waters

The [NYS 303\(d\) List of Impaired/TMDL Waters](#) identifies waters where specific best usages are not fully supported. The state must consider the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) or other strategy to reduce the input of the specific pollutant(s) that restrict waterbody uses, in order to restore and protect such uses. SPDES permits must include effluent limitations necessary to implement a WLA of an EPA-approved TMDL (6 NYCRR 750-1.11(a)(5)(ii)), if applicable. In accordance with 6 NYCRR 750-1.13(a), permittees discharging to waters which are on the list but do not yet have a TMDL developed may be required to perform additional monitoring for the parameters causing the impairment. Accurate monitoring data is needed to

determine the existing capabilities of the wastewater treatment plants and to assure that wasteload allocations (WLAs) are allocated equitably.

Existing Effluent Quality

The existing effluent quality is determined from a statistical evaluation of effluent data in accordance with TOGS 1.2.1 and the USEPA Office of Water, Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control, March 1991, Appendix E (TSD). The existing effluent quality is equal to the 95th (monthly average) and 99th (daily maximum) percentiles of the lognormal distribution of existing effluent data. When there are greater than three non-detects, a delta-lognormal distribution is assumed, and delta-lognormal calculations are used to determine the monthly average and daily maximum pollutant concentrations. Statistical calculations are not performed for parameters where there are less than ten data points. If additional data is needed, a monitoring requirement may be specified either through routine monitoring or a short-term high intensity monitoring program. The [Pollutant Summary Table](#) identifies the number of sample data points available.

Permit Requirements

Basis for Effluent Limitations

Sections 101, 301, 304, 308, 401, 402, and 405 of the CWA and Titles 5, 7, and 8 of Article 17 ECL, as well as their implementing federal and state regulations, and related guidance, provide the basis for the effluent limitations and other conditions in the permit.

When conducting a full technical review of an existing permit, the previous effluent limitations form the basis for the next permit. Existing effluent quality is evaluated against the existing effluent limitations to determine if these should be continued, revised, or deleted. Generally, existing limitations are continued unless there are changed conditions at the facility, the facility demonstrates an ability to meet more stringent limitations, and/or in response to updated regulatory requirements. Pollutant monitoring data is also reviewed to determine the presence of additional contaminants that should be included in the permit based on a reasonable potential analysis to cause or contribute to a water quality standards violation.

Anti-backsliding

Anti-backsliding requirements are specified in the CWA sections 402(o) and 303(d)(4), ECL 17-0809, and regulations at 40 CFR 122.44(l) and 6 NYCRR 750-1.10(c) and (d). Generally, the relaxation of effluent limitations in permits is prohibited unless one of the specified exceptions applies, which will be cited on a case-by-case basis in this factsheet. Consistent with current case law¹⁰ and USEPA interpretation¹¹ anti-backsliding requirements do not apply should a revision to the final effluent limitation take effect before the scheduled date of compliance for that final effluent limitation.

Antidegradation Policy

New York State implements the antidegradation portion of the CWA based upon two documents: (1) Organization and Delegation Memorandum #85-40, "Water Quality Antidegradation Policy" (September 9, 1985); and, (2) TOGS 1.3.9, "Implementation of the NYSDEC Antidegradation Policy – Great Lakes Basin (Supplement to Antidegradation Policy dated September 9, 1985) (undated)." The permit for the facility contains effluent limitations which ensure that the existing best usage of the receiving waters will be maintained. To further support the antidegradation policy, SPDES applications have been reviewed in accordance with the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) as prescribed by 6 NYCRR Part 617.

Effluent Limitations

In developing a permit, the Department determines the technology-based effluent limitations (TBELs) and then evaluates the water quality expected to result from technology controls to determine if any exceedances of water quality criteria in the receiving water might result. If there is a reasonable potential for exceedances of water quality criteria to occur, water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) are developed. A WQBEL is designed

¹⁰ American Iron and Steel Institute v. Environmental Protection Agency, 115 F.3d 979, 993 n.6 (D.C. Cir. 1997)

¹¹ U.S. EPA, Water Quality Standards; Establishment of Numeric Criteria for Priority Toxic Pollutants for the State of California; 65 Fed. Reg. 31682, 31704 (May 18, 2000); Proposed Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System, 58 Fed. Reg. 20802, 20837 & 20981 (April 16, 1993)

to ensure that the water quality standards of receiving waters are met. In general, the CWA requires that the effluent limitations for a particular pollutant are the more stringent of either the TBEL or WQBEL.

Technology-based Effluent Limitations (TBELs)

CWA sections 301(b)(1)(B) and 304(d)(1), 40 CFR 133.102, ECL section 17-0509, and 6 NYCRR 750-1.11 require technology-based controls, known as secondary treatment. These and other requirements are summarized in TOGS 1.3.3. Where the TBEL is more stringent than the WQBEL, the TBEL is applied as a limit in accordance with TOGS 1.3.3. Equivalent secondary treatment, as defined in 40 CFR 133.105, allow for effluent limitations of the more stringent of the consistently achievable concentrations or monthly/weekly averages of 45/65 mg/l, and the minimum monthly average of at least 65% removal. Consistently achievable concentrations are defined in 40 CFR 133.101(f) as the 95th percentile value for the 30-day (monthly) average effluent quality achieved by the facility in a period of two years. The achievable 7-day (weekly) average value is equal to 1.5 times the 30-day average value calculated above. Equivalent secondary treatment applies to those facilities where the principal treatment process is either a trickling filter or a waste stabilization pond; the treatment works provides significant biological treatment of municipal wastewater; and, the effluent concentrations consistently achievable through proper operation and maintenance of the facility cannot meet traditional secondary treatment requirements. There are no federal technology-based standards for toxic pollutants from POTWs. A statistical analysis of existing effluent data, as described in TOGS 1.2.1, may be used to establish other performance-based TBELs.

Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs)

In addition to the TBELs, permits must include additional or more stringent effluent limitations and conditions, including those necessary to protect water quality. CWA sections 101 and 301(b)(1)(C), 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1), and 6 NYCRR Parts 750-1.11 require that permits include limitations for all pollutants or parameters which are or may be discharged at a level which may cause or contribute to an exceedance of any State water quality standard adopted pursuant to NYS ECL 17-0301. Water quality standards can be found under 6 NYCRR Parts 700-704. The limitations must be stringent enough to ensure that water quality standards are met and must be consistent with any applicable WLA which may be in effect through a TMDL for the receiving water. These and other requirements are summarized in TOGS 1.1.1, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.5 and 1.3.6. The Department considers a mixing zone analysis, critical flows, and reasonable potential analysis when developing a WQBEL.

Mixing Zone Analyses

In accordance with TOGS 1.3.1., the Department may perform additional analysis of the mixing condition between the effluent and the receiving waterbody. Mixing zone analyses using plume dispersion modeling are conducted in accordance with the following:

“EPA Technical Support Document for Water Quality-Based Toxics Control” (March 1991); EPA Region VIII’s “Mixing Zones and Dilution Policy” (December 1994); NYSDEC TOGS 1.3.1, “Total Maximum Daily Loads and Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations” (July 1996); “CORMIX v11.0” (2019).

Critical Flows

In accordance with TOGS 1.2.1 and 1.3.1, WQBELs are developed using dilution ratios that relate the critical low flow condition of the receiving waterbody to the critical effluent flow. The critical low flow condition used in the dilution ratio will be different depending on whether the limitations are for aquatic or human health protection. For chronic aquatic protection, the critical low flow condition of the waterbody is typically represented by the 7Q10 flow and is calculated as the lowest average flow over a 7-day consecutive period within 10 years. For acute aquatic protection, the critical low flow condition is typically represented by the 1Q10 and is calculated as the lowest 1-day flow within 10 years. However, NYSDEC considers using 50% of the 7Q10 to be equivalent to the 1Q10 flow. For the protection of human health, the critical low flow condition is typically represented by the 30Q10 flow and is calculated as the lowest average flow over a 30-day consecutive period within 10 years. However, NYSDEC considers using 1.2 x 7Q10 to be equivalent to the 30Q10. The 7Q10 or 30Q10 flow is used with the critical effluent flow to calculate

the dilution ratio. The critical effluent flow can be the maximum daily flow reported on the permit application, the maximum of the monthly average flows from discharge monitoring reports for the past three years, or the facility design flow. When more than one applicable standard exists for aquatic or human health protection for a specific pollutant, a reasonable potential analysis is conducted for each applicable standard and corresponding critical flow to ensure effluent limitations are sufficiently stringent to ensure all applicable water quality standards are met as required by 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(i). For brevity, the pollutant summary table reports the results of the most conservative scenario.

Reasonable Potential Analysis (RPA)

The Reasonable Potential Analysis (RPA) is a statistical estimation process, outlined in the 1991 USEPA Technical Support Document for Water Quality-based Toxics Control (TSD), Appendix E. This process uses existing effluent quality data and statistical variation methodology to project the maximum amounts of pollutants that could be discharged by the facility. This projected instream concentration (PIC) is calculated using the appropriate ratio and compared to the water quality standard (WQS). When the RPA process determines the WQS may be exceeded, a WQBEL is required. The procedure for developing WQBELs includes the following steps:

- 1) identify the pollutants present in the discharge(s) based upon existing data, sampling data collected by the permittee as part of the permit application or a short-term high intensity monitoring program, or data gathered by the Department;
- 2) identify water quality criteria applicable to these pollutants;
- 3) determine if WQBELs are necessary (i.e. reasonable potential analysis (RPA)). The RPA will utilize the procedure outlined in Chapter 3.3.2 of EPA's Technical Support Document (TSD). As outlined in the TSD, for parameters with limited effluent data the RPA may include multipliers to account for effluent variability; and,
- 4) calculate WQBELs (if necessary). Factors considered in calculating WQBELs include available dilution of effluent in the receiving water, receiving water chemistry, and other pollutant sources.

The Department uses modeling tools to estimate the expected concentrations of the pollutant in the receiving water and develop WQBELs. These tools were developed in part using the methodology referenced above. If the estimated concentration of the pollutant in the receiving water is expected to exceed the ambient water quality standard or guidance value (i.e. numeric interpretation of a narrative water quality standard), then there is a reasonable potential that the discharge may cause or contribute to an exceedance of any State water quality standard adopted pursuant to NYS ECL 17-0301. If a TMDL is in place, the facility's WLA for that pollutant is applied as the WQBEL.

For carbonaceous and nitrogenous oxygen demanding pollutants, the Department uses a model which incorporates the Streeter-Phelps equation. The equation relates the decomposition of inorganic and organic materials along with oxygen reaeration rates to compute the downstream dissolved oxygen concentration for comparison to water quality standards.

A Watershed Maximum Daily Load (WMDL) may be developed by the Department to account for the cumulative effect of multiple discharges of conservative toxic pollutants to ensure water quality standards are met in downstream segments. The WMDL uses a simple dilution model, assuming full mix in the receiving stream, to calculate the maximum allowable pollutant load that can be discharged and still meet water quality standards during critical low flow in downstream segments such as those with sensitive receptors (e.g. public water supply) or higher water classification. WQBELs are established to ensure that the cumulative mass load from point source discharges does not exceed the maximum allowable load to ensure permit limits are protective of water quality.

Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing:

WET tests use small vertebrate and invertebrate species to measure the aggregate toxicity of an effluent. There are two different durations of toxicity tests: acute and chronic. Acute toxicity tests measure survival over a 96-hour test exposure period. Chronic toxicity tests measure reductions in survival, growth, and reproduction over a 7-day exposure. TOGS 1.3.1 includes guidance for determining when aquatic toxicity testing should be included in SPDES permits. The authority to require toxicity testing is in 6NYCRR 702.9. TOGS 1.3.2 describes the procedures which should be followed when determining whether to include toxicity testing in a SPDES permit and how to implement a toxicity testing program. Per TOGS 1.3.2, WET testing may be required when any one of the following seven criteria are applicable:

1. There is the presence of substances in the effluent for which ambient water quality criteria do not exist.
2. There are uncertainties in the development of TMDLs, WLAs, and WQBELs, caused by inadequate ambient and/or discharge data, high natural background concentrations of pollutants, available treatment technology, and other such factors.
3. There is the presence of substances for which WQBELs are below analytical detectability.
4. There is the possibility of complex synergistic or additive effects of chemicals, typically when the number of metals or organic compounds discharged by the permittee equals or exceeds five.
5. There are observed detrimental effects on the receiving water biota.
6. Previous WET testing indicated a problem.
7. POTWs which exceed a discharge of 1 MGD. Facilities of less than 1 MGD may be required to test, e.g., POTWs <1 MGD which are managing industrial pretreatment programs.

Minimum Level of Detection

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.44(i)(1)(iv) and 6 NYCRR 750-2.5(d), SPDES permits must contain monitoring requirements using sufficiently sensitive test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136. A method is "sufficiently sensitive" when the method's minimum level (ML) is at or below the level of the effluent limitation established in the permit for the measured pollutant parameter; or the lowest ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136. The ML represents the lowest level that can be measured within specified limitations of precision and accuracy during routine laboratory operations on most effluent matrices. When establishing effluent limitations for a specific parameter (based on technology or water quality requirements), it is possible that the calculated limitation will fall below the ML established by the approved analytical method(s). In these instances, the calculated limitation is included in the permit with a compliance level set equal to the ML of the most sensitive method.

Monitoring Requirements

CWA section 308, 40 CFR 122.44(i), 6 NYCRR 750-1.13, and 750-2.5 require that monitoring be included in permits to determine compliance with effluent limitations. Additional effluent monitoring may also be required to gather data to determine if effluent limitations may be required. The permittee is responsible for conducting the monitoring and reporting results on Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs). The permit contains the monitoring requirements for the facility. Monitoring frequency is based on the minimum sampling necessary to adequately monitor the facility's performance and characterize the nature of the discharge of the monitored flow or pollutant. Variable effluent flows and pollutant levels may be required to be monitored at more frequent intervals than relatively constant effluent flow and pollutant levels (6 NYCRR 750-1.13). For industrial facilities, sampling frequency is based on guidance provided in TOGS 1.2.1. For municipal facilities, sampling frequency is based on guidance provided in TOGS 1.3.3.

Requirements for Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs)

Pollution from combined sewer overflows is controlled with implementation of SPDES permit conditions in accordance with the Division of Water CSO Control strategy (TOGS 1.6.3) and the USEPA CSO Control Policy issued April 11, 1994.

CWA Section 402(q) requires that each permit for a discharge from a municipal combined storm and sanitary sewer shall conform to EPA's Combined Sewer Overflow Control Policy.^[1] The CSO Control Policy identifies specific requirements for Phase I and Phase II permits. Phase I permits must include requirements for the implementation of the Nine Minimum Controls (NMCs) and development of the Long-Term CSO Control Plan (LTCP).

The 15 CSO Best Management Practices (BMPs) required by NYS under TOGS 1.6.2 are equivalent to the "Nine Minimum Control Measures" required under the USEPA National Combined Sewer Overflow policy (33 USC section 1342(q)). BMPs are technology-based requirements developed in accordance with best professional judgement. These are largely non-structural measures which are designed to maximize pollutant capture and removal from the combined sewer system and the POTW as a whole.

Phase II permits must include requirements to implement the technology-based controls including the NMCs determined on a BPJ basis, as well as requirements which ensure that the selected CSO controls are implemented, operated, and maintained as described in the long-term CSO control plan (LTCP). These requirements are critical to meeting the objectives of the Policy, including to bring all CSO discharge points into compliance with the technology-based and water quality-based requirements of the CWA, and to minimize the water quality, aquatic biota, and human health impacts from CSOs.

Additionally, the 1994 CSO Control Policy requires permits include a requirement for CSO communities who have developed an approved LTCP to reassess overflows to sensitive areas in those cases where elimination or relocation of the overflows is not physically possible and economically achievable. The reassessment should be based on consideration of new or improved techniques to eliminate or relocate overflows or changed circumstance that influence economic achievability.

Other Conditions

Mercury

The multiple discharge variance (MDV) for mercury was developed in accordance with 6 NYCRR 702.17(h) "to address widespread standard or guidance value attainment issues including the presence of a ubiquitous pollutant or naturally high levels of a pollutant in a watershed." The first MDV was issued in October 2010, and subsequently revised and reissued in 2015; each subsequent iteration of the MDV is designed to build off the previous version, to make reasonable progress towards the water quality standard (WQS) of 0.7 ng/L dissolved mercury. The MDV is necessary because human-caused conditions or sources of mercury prevent attainment of the WQS and cannot be remedied (i.e., mercury is ubiquitous in New York waters at levels above the WQS and compliance with a water quality based effluent limitation (WQBEL) for mercury cannot be achieved with demonstrated effluent treatment technologies). The Department has determined that the MDV is consistent with the protection of public health, safety, and welfare. During the effective period of this MDV, any increased risks to human health are mitigated by fish consumption advisories issued periodically by the NYSDOH.

All surface water SPDES permittees are eligible for authorization by the MDV provided they meet the requirements specified in DOW 1.3.10.

Schedules of Compliance

Schedules of compliance are included in accordance with 40 CFR Part 132 Attachment F, Procedure 9, 40 CFR 122.47 and 6 NYCRR 750-1.14. Schedules of compliance are intended to, in the shortest reasonable time, achieve compliance with applicable effluent standards and limitations, water quality standards, and other applicable requirements. Where the time for compliance is more than nine months, the schedule of compliance must include interim requirements and dates for their achievement. If the time necessary to complete the interim milestones is more than nine months, and not readily divisible into stages for completion, progress reports must be required.

Schedule(s) of Additional Submittals

Schedules of Additional Submittals are used to summarize the deliverables required by the permit not identified in a separate Schedule of Compliance.

^[1] Available at <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-10/documents/owm0111.pdf>