Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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July 5, 2022

Kristine Trierweiler, Town Administrator
459 Main Street
Medfield, MA 02052

Re: Medfield – BWR – MA01009787
314 CMR 12.00, Operations
Compliance Inspection

Dear Ms. Trierweiler:

On June 30, 2022, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection ("MassDEP") conducted a compliance inspection of the town's wastewater treatment facility (WWTF). A copy of the inspection report is included for your records. In attendance were your contract chief operator from Weston & Sampson along with town employed operators.

A review of the past eighteen month's discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) indicates that the WWTF is performing poorly. Between January 1, 2021 and May 31, 2022 the town has violated the monthly average (0.1/0.3 mg/l) of total phosphorus limits approximately 11 times, weekly average (25 mg/l) of total suspended solids 8 times, monthly average (447 ug/l) of aluminum 7 times, daily maximum (409 cfu/100 ml) of E.coli 4 times, along with other less frequent violations.

As you know, in 2018 MassDEP and the town executed an Administrative Consent Order with Penalty (ACOP-CE-18-1N001, #00004655) to address total phosphorus permit violations that occurred during 2017 and 2018. The ACOP required the town to perform an evaluation of the WWTF's ability to meet its seasonal total phosphorus effluent limits. The evaluation was performed by the town's consultant, Weston & Sampson, and approved by MassDEP on January 7, 2019. It appears that efforts taken to improve performance of the WWTF in order to comply with the town's effluent limits for total phosphorus, amongst other parameters, have been unsuccessful.

Overall, the WWTF is in unsatisfactory condition. Permit violations continue since execution of the ACOP. MassDEP noted the following during its inspection that require your attention:

1. Mechanical bar screen unit is missing numerous teeth used for cleaning the screen.
2. The lower level of the headworks building does not have functioning lights and has significant amount of debris on the floor. Also, lighting is not functioning in dry well area of main influent pumps.

3. ISCO 4700 composite samplers need a calibrated thermometer to verify proper holding temperatures.
4. One primary clarifier is not in operation due to repairs needed for downstream secondary clarifier.
5. One of the secondary clarifiers is inoperable due to a blocked sludge line.
6. Dynasand filter is inoperable due to plastic shield discs causing blockages along with the inoperable secondary clarifier.
7. Approximately 6 ultraviolet disinfection bulbs are nonfunctioning and need replacement.
8. pH meter in laboratory needs professional calibration.
9. Eye wash in area of chemical storage is outdated. MassDEP recommends installation of a potable eye wash station immediately adjacent to the chemical storage.
10. A staffing plan is needed pursuant to 314 CMR 12.00.
11. Overall house keeping needs improvement as previously discussed in prior inspections. Unused or outdated materials/debris should be removed and discarded.
12. Corroded concrete work of steps into the headworks building.

It is MassDEP's intention to schedule a meeting in the near future to discuss a timeframe for the town to return to compliance with its effluent permit limits and the appropriate enforcement mechanism in order to do so.

If you should have any questions concerning these matters, please feel free to contact me at David.boyer@mass.gov.

Sincerely,



David Boyer, P.E.
Section Chief
Wastewater Program

Cc: Doug Koopman, EPA

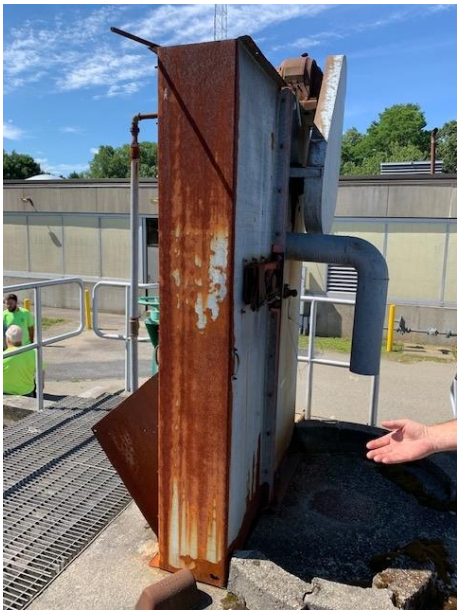
Maurice Goulet, Medfield DPW



Screening unit with broken teeth



Headworks building with peeling paint



Outdated grit removal equipment



Final effluent channel with poor quality effluent



Waste oil drums and materials should be discarded if not needed or used.