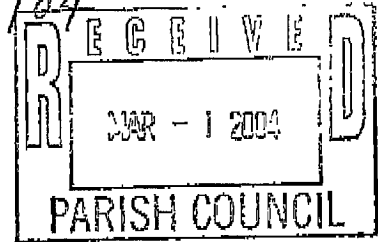


One: (Persons to address the Council); SPW (Luling Oxidation Pond)  
**PETITION TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

2004-0083

St. Charles Parish Council Chairman  
P. O. Box 302  
Hahnville, LA 70057  
(985) 783-5000

Today's Date: 3/1/04



Dear Chairman:

Please place my name to address the Council on:

DATE:

3/8/04

SPECIFIC TOPIC:

Luling Oxidation Pond (continued)

one subject only

(\*see specific guidelines on reverse and refer to

Parish Charter-- Article VII., Sec. I.)

DOCUMENTS, IF ANY: YES / NO

NAME:

Caron Diferre

ADDRESS:

3557 Hwy. 306  
Bayou Gadeke, LA 70030

PHONE:

(985) 758-7570

SIGNATURE:

Caron Diferre

Dear Constituent:

Thank you for your active participation. Your views and comments will be considered by the Council in making our decisions. The Council has a considerable amount of business to conduct in a limited amount of time, therefore, please note the following items that are expected of you:

- The Home Rule Charter provides for citizens to address the Council. It makes no provision for initiating debate, discussion, or question and answer sessions with Councilmembers or Administration Officials. Your right is also guaranteed to examine public documents as you prepare your presentation. Should you have any questions for Councilmembers and/or Department Heads as you prepare, please forward such inquiries to the Council Office to insure a timely response. Should you wish to speak to any Official or Department personally, a complete list of contact information will be furnished at your request.
- Please be brief and limit your comments to the specific subject matter on which you have requested to address the Council.
- Please forward supporting documents to the Council Secretary for distribution to the Parish Council before your scheduled appearance in order for the Council to prepare themselves, if necessary.
- Upon completion of your allotted time to address the Council, please respect the time given to Councilmembers to respond to your comments by not interrupting or interjecting remarks.
- **Slanderous remarks and comments will not be tolerated.** If slanderous remarks or comments are made, your opportunity to address the Council will end, regardless of the remaining time left to address the Council.
- Repetitious comments and subject matter will be strictly limited.

A confirmation letter will follow when your name is placed on the agenda.

Sincerely,

LANCE MARINO  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

(OVER)

ST. CHARLES PARISH COUNCIL  
SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE MEETING  
FEBRUARY 2, 2004  
LULING OXIDATION POND & WASTEWATER REGIONALIZATION

Committee Chairman Faucheaux-“ Matters before the Special Committee, First we have the LA. Congressional Priority List and I like to call your attention to this. We really need to make a decision on this tonight because we have to forward this to the council and get it approved as soon as possible, because the delegation has a requirement now since 911 incident that they have to get a list of why we’re going to speak to them and the topics before they’ll approve it. So if you look at Resolution No. 2004-0057 I took a poll of the Council members and these five um actually made the poll in some form or fashion. Most people had just four or three um but everybody just added one.” The one that made everybody’s list was of course the first. **The Eastbank Hurricane Protection Levee and pumps and the Westbank Hurricane Protection Levee Phases 1 and (excuse me) 2 and 3 and phase 1 pumps, uh, We’re also looking at the Luling Oxidation Pond and the Wastewater Regionalization. The last time that we were in D. C., Mary Landrieu asked us to do a report. And that report to show that St. Charles Parish did have the highest sewer rates in um the state of Louisiana, which CDM did do a survey for us and forward that information to Mary Landrieu.**

.....

.....

Councilman Duhe-“Three of them that are pertaining to hurricane protection and drainage and **of course the Luling Oxidation Pond and Wastewater Regionalization, that’s very important also, but we have three, like I said drainage , we sure want to keep those on there, but just do and option discussion.**

Councilwoman Black-.....”Also, maybe I’m just missing something or maybe I don’t understand completely about the **Luling Oxidation Pond in with all the um orders that we have and knowing that we have to shut it down by 2006 and that its basically a definite. Do you think we need it on here. I mean, I know that its very important but we all know that by 2006 that I mean it will be closed. That’s not a wish list that’s just the fact.**

Councilman Fauchaux-“While that’s very true Ms. Black uh because there is a possibility we will be getting out of the oxidation Pond. uh We still do need to review the information from Comite Resources, But the Oxidation Pond wording that we have in the Federal Budget, the Federal line item, also now includes the wastewater regionalization, uh. In order for us to be removed or get out of the Luling Oxidation Pond uh, we do have a series of four phases, that need to be completed. Uh, these phases probably will not be completed until 2008 or 2009. The AO from the DEQ and EPA states that we need to target 06 to be out of the oxidation Pond, which means we need to start getting some of these projects designed and bid, um Right now the Parish can not afford even if we did the design work, to bid any of these projects to (?), so we do need help with our sewer rates, um we need help with the capital improvements that its going to take to get out of the oxidation pond, and we many need help with the project the Comite Resources um long term intends to implement that has to do with the pond. Um, so I mean, I feel its as important as any of the other ones. “

.....  
.....  
Fauchaux “We also received money, uh the last three years in a row for the Luling Oxidation Pond and Water Wastewater Regionalization. So I mean we’re receiving money for those two items right now, number 3 and 4. We’re receiving money for the East Bank Hurricane Protection Levee and Pumps, We have a \$9.7 million credit for the Bayou Trepainga pump, and um we’re going to have to get approval from the Corps of Engineers in order to be able to use that \$9 .7 million credit on the next pump. Its going to have to be a Corps project. So, I mean, those three are very important. Um, as is the permitting for the phase 2 and phase 3 of the West Bank Hurricane Protection Levee.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS

R.O. BOX 80267

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70180-0267

APR 26 2002

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

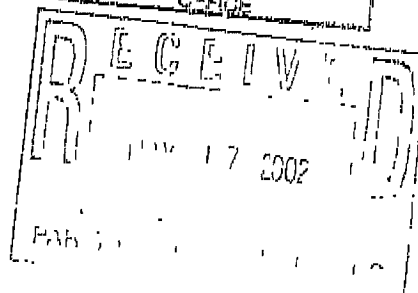
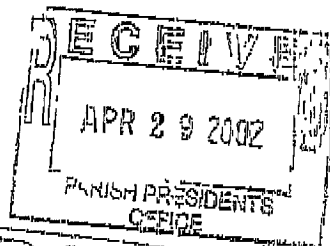
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Project Management Branch - West

Honorable Albert Laque  
President  
St. Charles Parish Council  
Post Office Box 302  
Hahnville, Louisiana 70057

Dear Mr. Laque:

I am writing this letter in reference to the Luling Oxidation Pond, St. Charles Parish, Louisiana, Section 206, Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Study, which is being completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), New Orleans District (NOD). This study was initiated following the reception of a letter-of-intent from the parish, dated October 1999. Following receipt of initial funding, a Preliminary Restoration Plan (PRP) was completed in September 2000. Our Division office approved the PRP in February 2001. On February 22, 2001, we met with members of the Parish Council and the Wastewater Office to discuss the plans for continuation of the study.

At this meeting, I explained that the PRP was a quick decision document prepared by NOD in order to gain Division approval to proceed with the 12-month feasibility study. Upon completion of the feasibility study, the NOD proceeded with plans and specifications for the proposed wetland assimilation efforts; using treated wastewater to revitalize and restore the degraded wetland unit near the Luling Pond. It is at this time that the parish would have been requested to enter into a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with the USACE. Following the meeting, I was requested to proceed with the study and to coordinate the study efforts with Messrs. Steven Fall and Sammy Accardo of the Wastewater Office. To date, these study efforts have been coordinated with the appropriate personnel at the



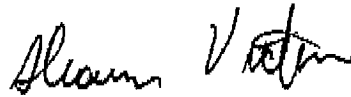
parish. We are nearing the end of our plans and specifications phase. Construction was slated for fiscal year 2003.

Recently, I had a conversation with Messrs. Greg Bush, Sammy Accardo, and a team of consultants regarding the regionalization of the wastewater treatment for the west bank of St. Charles Parish. During this conversation, it was apparent that the Luling Oxidation Pond would be non-operational in the near future with the consolidation of all west bank sewerage at the Hahnville Plant. This new information has caused me to request termination of the current project. The Luling Plant is critical to the implementation of the wetland assimilation project. Without the guarantee of the continued use of this plant, the USACE cannot participate in the project. According to Mr. Greg Bush, consolidation of the west bank sewerage is eminent, and the Luling Plant could be shut down in 3 to 5 years. I cannot support the construction of this project due to the short-term project life. Please inform me by May 13, 2002, if my information is inaccurate, and the parish wishes to continue with the project. Continuation of the project would require a letter of commitment to the current project. Please send your response to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
Post Office Box 60267  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267  
ATTN: Mr. Shawn Vicknair (CEMVN-PM-W)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself at (504) 862-2024. Your response is greatly appreciated.

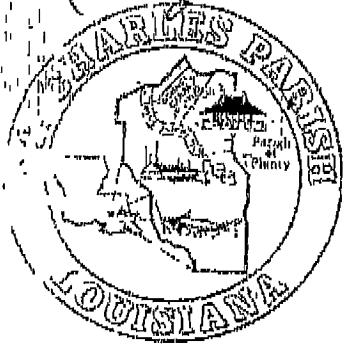
Sincerely,



Shawn Vicknair  
Project Manager

highlighted by Ms. Dukene

SPW (Luling Oxidation Pond)



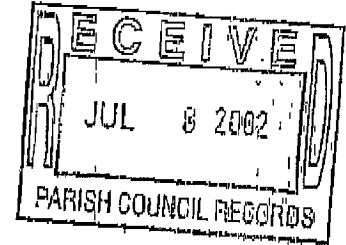
# ST. CHARLES PARISH

## OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

P.O. BOX 302 • HAHNVILLE, LOUISIANA 70057  
(985) 783-5000 • FAX (985) 783-5015

ALBERT D. LAQUE  
PARISH PRESIDENT

May 17, 2002



U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
ATTN: Mr. Shawn Vicknair, Project Manager (CEMVN-PM-W)  
Post Office Box 60267  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Mr. Vicknair:

I am in receipt of your letter dated April 26, 2002. This is to advise that on November 20, 2002, our Parish Council adopted Ordinance No. 00-11-16 approving and authorizing the execution of a contract with Comite Resources, LLP, to conduct a Use Attainability Analysis relative to Effluent discharge for the Luling Oxidation Pond into adjacent wetlands.

Our position now is the same as it was then - "When the study is completed and results are reported by Comite Resources we will make a decision as to the options available for the Luling Oxidation Pond discharge."

We will cooperate with the Corps in any way possible; but we cannot state at this time whether or not we will be able to transport all Westbank area sewerage to the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant or upgrade the Luling Oxidation Pond.



As always it is a pleasure doing business with your office; however, until we receive commitments for the necessary monies available and needed to achieve either one of these projects we cannot obligate ourselves to any particular project.

I will keep you advised as to our feasibility study results being analyzed by Comite Resources, LLP. Current information suggests that it will take approximately 12 to 18 months from this date before any results are forthcoming.

As always, I appreciate the Corps working with St. Charles Parish. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 985-783-5000 if further information is needed.

Sincerely,

Albert D. Laque,  
Parish President




**ST. CHARLES PARISH**  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS / WASTEWATER  
P.O. BOX 705 LULING, LOUISIANA 70070  
(985) 783-5100 FAX (985) 785-6503

ALBERT D. LAQUE  
PARISH PRESIDENT

STEVEN M. FALL, P.E.  
DIRECTOR

04/25/2001

TO: The Honorable Mr. Albert Laque  
Parish President

FROM: Mr. Steven M. Fall, P.E.   
Director of Public Works/Wastewater

Subject: Memorandum - Luling oxidation pond

Dear Mr. Laque:

The Parish Council did not approve the full sewer rate increase that was recommended by Gulf South Engineers. In doing so this has cut the capital-operating portion of the wastewater budget down to zero. We are rapidly approaching the summer months and have not been able to correct any problems at the Luling oxidation pond. The problems associated with the pond detailed below will cost well in excess of \$100,000. The wastewater Department is not adequately staffed to perform capital projects (expenditures under \$100,000) in house. Any Capital project exceeding \$100,000 must be bid out in accordance with public bid laws. To correct some or all of the ~~problems~~ we need a set of contract documents to bid with. Hartman Engineering is currently performing an analysis of the pond to help with any permitting or corrective action needed under environmental compliance. Hartman however, can not prepare a set of contract documents or do the design work needed for the pond under their program management contract. CDM has offered to perform the corrective design for under \$40,000 using supplemental services under the sewer regionalization program. Since the pond is part of the regionalization effort I don't see a problem with this. At the last council meeting some of the council members objected to this idea, therefore I think we need to have the Parish Attorney review this. Attached is the background information on the pond and a list problems, which need to be corrected immediately.

V  
d F

**Background:**

Facultative Lagoons (Ponds) treat waste by utilizing algae and bacteria to degrade organic matter. The algae and bacteria eat wastes and nutrients and produce certain by-products from the digestion.

Facultative Lagoons (Ponds) treat waste inconsistently depending on climate conditions. Ponds depend upon the vagaries of nature for operating conditions.

The Ponds have three operating zones- (1) a surface zone which utilizes aerobic bacteria (bacteria that use oxygen to degrade organic matter) and algae to remove wastes (BOD5). Atmospheric diffusion (entrained oxygen) is important in this layer along with sunlight (algal photosynthesis). During summer months ponds can treat more waste in this zone because of larger algae blooms. (2) An intermediate zone that utilizes facultative bacteria (bacteria that are indifferent to the use of oxygen to degrade organic matter). This zone is part aerobic and part anaerobic. (3) A bottom zone where accumulated solids (sludge, etc.) are actively decomposed by anaerobic bacteria (bacteria that don't use oxygen to degrade organic matter).

The surface zone of the pond contains aquatic vegetation (water hyacinth). Water hyacinth remove algae from the effluent. The hyacinth remove nutrients and block energy (sunlight) from reaching algae. Thus, without nutrients and energy, the algae become inactive and settle to the bottom of the pond.

#### Problems with the Luling pond:

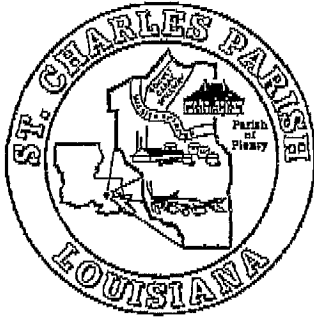
- (1) Sludge accumulation - Organic material (BOD5) is stored at the bottom of the pond. This occurs when aquatic vegetation (hyacinth) dies during the winter months (cold weather kills), or when maintenance spraying occurs (herbicides). During the summer the temperature of the water increases and the organic material stored in the bottom layer begins to be broken down anaerobically and at higher levels. This becomes a problem when the oxygen demand on the surface of the pond is greater than the aerobic surface can produce. This causes discharge violations. More aerators are needed. About 340 HP (Big Bucks).
- (2) Hyacinth culture units needed in last cells of the pond - The hyacinth are free floating vegetation that mass together with heavy winds and blow through separation curtains and equipment causing damage. The hyacinth are needed to remove algae but only in the last portion of the treatment process. Hyacinth also need to be mechanically harvested on a five-week cycle to keep organic matter to a minimum and not sprayed with herbicides, which cause the dead plants to sink to the bottom of the pond.
- (3) Smaller cells with equalization conduits are needed for easy maintenance- the pond is one large cell over 60 acres. It is very hard to maintain and is a safety concern if a levee fails.
- (4) Recirculation of a portion of the effluent will help with overloads- no recirculation piping exists.

If you have any questions or comments please contact me.

Cc: Sammy Accardo  
ADWW  
Jan Evans  
Hartman Engineering

SMF:smf





# ST. CHARLES PARISH

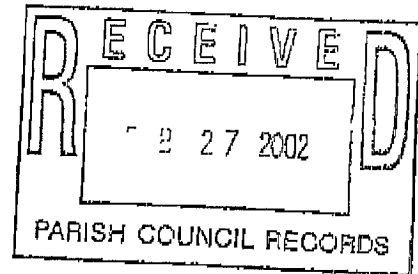
## DEPARTMENT OF WASTEWATER

P.O. BOX 705 • LULING, LOUISIANA 70070  
(985) 783-5100 • (985) 783-5102 • FAX (985) 785-6503

ALBERT D. LAQUE  
Parish President

GREGORY E. BUSH, LTC, USA, Retired  
Director

January 22, 2002



To: Samuel J. Accardo  
Assistant Director of Wastewater

From: Gregory E. Bush, LTC, USA, Retired  
Director of Public Works and Wastewater

RE: FINAL 2001 EXPENDITURES

This is to commend you for your outstanding performance in managing the Wastewater Departments financial resources for fiscal year 2001.

Although final 2001 accounting entries will modify the bottom line slightly, the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Expenditure Report shows that of \$10,415,478 budgeted, only \$7,400,933 or 71% of the budget was expended.

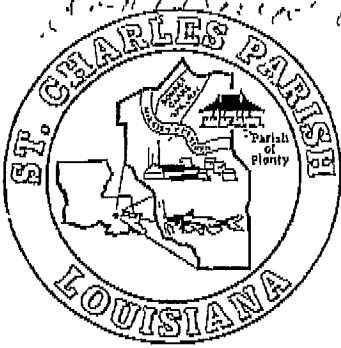
This is a tremendous accomplishment considering the fact that the expenditures include:

- The onset of operations of two new plants,
- Repair of several demolished lift stations with in-house personnel,
- Repair of several force mains with in-house personnel,
- Overtime expenses for several rainstorms,
- The additional expense of hauling sludge from the new plants to the landfill,
- Inflow and infiltration inspections, investigations and repairs, and
- Training of employees for new plants and transmission system.

Much has been achieved and as we realize, there is still much to do to get our aging infrastructure modernized. Thanks to your experience and the tireless effort of our Wastewater employees, we are well on our way.

Thank you again for a job well done.

cc: Albert D. Laque, Parish President  
Parish Council



# ST. CHARLES PARISH

## DEPARTMENT OF WASTEWATER

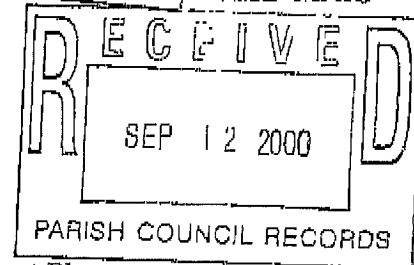
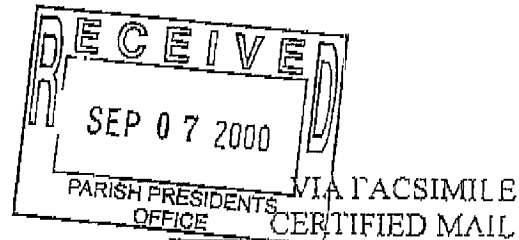
P.O. BOX 705 - LULING, LOUISIANA 70070  
(504) 783-5100 • (504) 783-5102 • FAX (504) 785-8503

ALBERT D. LAQUE  
PARISH PRESIDENT

STEVEN M. FALL, P.E.  
DIRECTOR  
September 6, 2000

Ms. Sonia Cantu  
Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WC)  
EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 75202  
214-665-2168

Subject: Luling Oxidation Pond and Ama Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Docket No. CWA-6-0022-00, NPDES Permit No. LA 0032131  
NPDES Permit No. LA 0080489



Dear Ms. Cantu,

At our last meeting in late July 2000, you requested that the Parish provide you with a clear direction on the method to be used to bring the Luling Oxidation Pond into compliance with the Clean Water Act. Two methods were generally discussed: 1) discharging the Pond effluent to the Mississippi River to take advantage of a higher permit limit, and 2) discharging to the adjacent wetlands under a wastewater reuse permit.

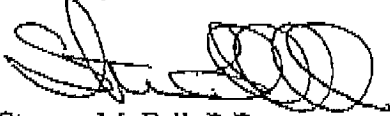
After reviewing the costs and advantages/disadvantages of both alternatives, the Parish has elected to obtain a wastewater reuse permit. Based on conversation with representatives of the Department of Environmental Quality, it is expected that this permit will increase the current discharge limits to at least 30 mg/L BOD and 30 mg/L TSS and will have the added benefit of improving the wetlands in the Parish. The Parish expects to sign a contract to begin the first step of the program, performing a use attainability analysis, in early October. The UAA is a 12-month intensive study of the wetlands habitat and forms the basis for the permit application.

The Parish is also taking steps to improve the Pond's operation in the interim. Two changes that should improve performance is the addition of polymer to the sand filter feed to improve filter's ability to remove solids. Also, the pre-chlorination point will be moved to provide better contact time prior to the sand filter. It is expected that this will provide a better kill of algal cells and

allow for better removal within the filter. As you may be aware, the inability of the sand filter to remove algae from the effluent has been a prime contributor in many of the Parish's previous violations.

Enclosed is an estimated completion schedule for your reference. Should you have any questions or comments regarding this correspondence, please feel free to contact me at my office.

Sincerely,



Steven M. Fall, P.E.  
Director, Public Works/Wastewater

cc    Albert Laque, Parish President  
      Samuel Coleman, P.E., Environmental Protection Agency  
      Kay Schwab, Environmental Protection Agency  
      Robert Raymond, Parish Attorney  
      Sammy Accardo, Assistant Director of Wastewater  
      Rob Martin, P.E., Hartman Engineering, Inc.  
      Dan Gerrity, P.E., Camp Dresser & McKee, Inc.

Luling Oxidation Pond Compliance Schedule  
St. Charles Parish

F-01	M-01	A-01	M-01	J-01	J-01	A-01	S-01	O-01	N-01	D-01	J-02	F-02	M-02	A-02	M-02	J-02	J-02	A-02	S-02	O-02	N-02
Complete Use Attainability Analysis																					
Obtain Wastewater Reuse Permit																					
Complete Outfall Design																					
Complete Bidding Process																					
Complete Construction of Outfall																					