

Council (Person to Address the Council)

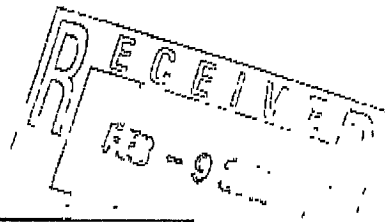
PETITION TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

ok per  
Lance Marino  
2-10-04

2004-0077

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

Today's Date: 2/9/04



Dear Chairman:

Please place my name to address the Council on:

DATE: 2/16/04

SPECIFIC TOPIC: Luling Oxidation Pond  
one subject only

(\*see specific guidelines on reverse and refer to Parish Charter- Article VII., Sec. I.)

DOCUMENTS, IF ANY: YES NO

NAME: Queen Dufrene

ADDRESS: 3557 Hwy. 306  
Bayou La Batre, LA 70030

PHONE: (985) 758-7510

SIGNATURE: Queen Dufrene

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:

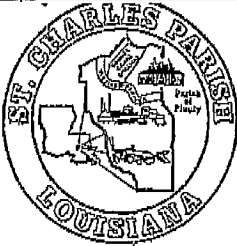
- > The Home Rule Charter provides for citizens to address the Council. It makes no provision for initiating debate, discussion, or question and answer sessions with Councilmembers or Administration Officials. Your right is also guaranteed to examine public documents as you prepare your presentation. 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

## 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

November 25, 2002

TO: Mr. Sammy J. Accardo ✓  
Assistant Director of Wastewater

FROM: Gregory E. Bush, LTC, USA, Retired ✓  
Director of Public Works/Wastewater

SUBJECT: Administrative Order Docket No. CWA-06-2003-1758 ✓  
NPDES Permit LA0032131

Please find attached the newest Administrative Order dated November 19, 2002. This Administrative Order specifically orders us to accomplish specific activities with due dates. It also orders quarterly progress reports and activity compliance reports.

Please insure that all requirements of this Administrative Order are complied with. Should you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please feel free to contact me.

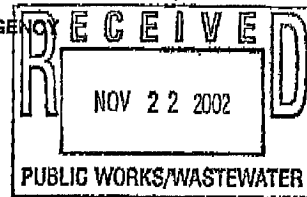
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Attachment

cc: Mr. Albert D. Laque, Parish President  
Mr. Timmy Vial, Administrative Officer  
Ms. Barbara J. Jacob, Council Secretary  
Mr. Dan Gerrity, P.E, Camp Dresser & McKee, Inc.  
Ms. Janet Evans, P.E., Hartman Engineering, Inc.  
Mr. L.J. Brady, Superintendent of Wastewater  
Ms. Diane Troxler, Lab Coordinator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733



NOV 19 2002

CERTIFIED MAIL: RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED (7099 3220 0001 4432 6086)

Mr. Gregory E. Bush  
St. Charles Parish  
P.O. Box 705  
Luling, LA 70070

Re: Administrative Order Docket No. CWA-06-2003-1758  
NPDES Permit LA0032131

Dear Mr. Bush:

Recent review of your National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) file indicates that your facility is not in compliance with your NPDES permit and/or the Clean Water Act (CWA). In order to ensure continued protection of public health and the environment, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must take necessary steps to ensure compliance with applicable regulations and statutes.

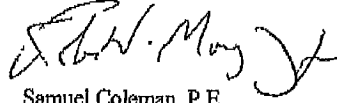
Pursuant to the CWA (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.), the enclosed Administrative Order (AO) sets forth the findings of fact and how you violated the Act. The Order also provides a mechanism for resolving these violations. All responses and reports required by the Order should be submitted within the time frames provided. In all responses, please reference AO Docket No. CWA-06-2003-1758 and your NPDES permit number, and send correspondence to the attention of Ms. Judy Sullivan (6EN-WC).

The violations cited in the attached Order should be corrected within a reasonable time period. Our staff will assist you in any way possible to ensure that your facility returns to compliance.

As part of the enforcement process, EPA is authorized to require corrective action and, possibly, assess appropriate penalties. If penalties are assessed, the Agency will consider a number of factors, including the nature and magnitude of the violations, the period of noncompliance and the impact of the violations on human health, or the environment. By statute, the penalties assessed can be as much as \$27,500 per day. In order to avoid any such action, or to minimize the amount of penalties you may be assessed if further action is warranted, noncompliance should be corrected as soon as possible.

Your cooperation and prompt attention will be appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Cecilia Kernodle, EPA, Dallas, Texas at (214) 665-6452.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Coleman", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Samuel Coleman, P.E.  
Director  
Compliance Assurance and  
Enforcement Division

cc: Ms. Cheryl Nolan  
Enforcement Program Manager  
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

UNITED STATES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 6

In the Matter of	§ Docket No. CWA-06-2003-1758
	§
ST. CHARLES PARISH, a	§
Louisiana political subdivision,	§
	§ FINDINGS OF VIOLATION
Permittee	§ AND
	§ ORDER FOR COMPLIANCE
NPDES Permit No. LA0032131	§

Statutory Authority

The following FINDINGS are made, and ORDER issued, under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), by Sections 308(a) and 309(a) of the Clean Water Act (herein "the Act"), 33 U.S.C. §§ 1318(a) and 1319(a). The Administrator of EPA has delegated the authority to issue this Order to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 6, who has further delegated this authority to the Director of the Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division.

Findings

1. St. Charles Parish (herein "Permittee") is a political subdivision of the state of Louisiana, and as such, the Permittee is a "person," as that term is defined at Section 502(5) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(5), and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.
2. At all times relevant to this Order, the Permittee owned or operated a wastewater treatment plant, located in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana (herein "the facility"), and was therefore an "owner or operator" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.

3. At all relevant times, the facility was a "point source" of a "discharge" of "pollutants" with its municipal wastewater, to the receiving waters of George Cousin Canal; thence to Lake Cataquatche in Segment No. 0203 of the Barataria Basin, which are "waters of the United States" within the meaning of Section 502 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362, and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.

4. Because the Permittee owned or operated a facility that is a point source of discharges of pollutants to waters of the U.S., the Permittee and the facility were subject to the Act and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program.

5. Under Section 301 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311, it is unlawful for any person to discharge any pollutant from a point source to waters of the United States, except with the authorization of, and in compliance with, an NPDES permit issued pursuant to Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342.

6. Section 402(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342(a), provides that the Administrator of EPA may issue permits under the NPDES program for the discharge of pollutants from point sources to waters of the United States. Any such discharge is subject to the specific terms and conditions prescribed in the applicable permit.

7. The Permittee applied for and was issued NPDES Permit No. LA0032131 (herein "the permit") under Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342, which became effective on October 23, 1993. At all relevant times, the Permittee was authorized to discharge pollutants from the facility to waters of the United States only in compliance with the specific terms and conditions of the permit.

8. Parts III.C. and III.D. of the permit require the Permittee to sample and test its effluent and monitor its compliance with permit conditions according to specific procedures in order to determine the facility's compliance or noncompliance with the permit and applicable regulations. They also require the Permittee to file with EPA certified Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) of the results of monitoring, and Noncompliance Reports when appropriate.

9. Part I.A of the permit places certain limitations on the quality and quantity of effluent discharged by the Permittee. The relevant discharge limitations are as follows:

<u>Effluent Characteristics</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>		
	(lbs/day) 30-day Avg.	Other Units 30-day Avg.	(Specify) daily max
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	83(183)	10 mg/l	15 mg/l
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	125(275)	10 mg/l	23 mg/l
Fecal Coliform Bacteria (colonoes/100ml)		200	400

10. Certified DMRs filed by the Permittee with EPA in compliance with the permit, show discharges of pollutants from the facility that exceed the permitted effluent limitations established in Part I.A of the permit, as specified below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Limit</u>
6/02	BOD, 30-day avg.	497.90 lbs/day	183 lbs/day
	BOD, 30-day avg.	40.30 mg/l	10 mg/l
	BOD, 7-day avg.	52. mg/l	15 mg/l
	TSS, 30-day avg.	629.18 lbs/day	275 lbs/day
	TSS, 30-day avg.	58.80 mg/l	15 mg/l
	TSS, 7-day avg.	101. mg/l	23 mg/l
7/02	BOD, 30-day avg.	401.11 lbs/day	183 lbs/day
	BOD, 30-day avg.	32.57 mg/l	10 mg/l
	BOD, 7-day avg.	49. mg/l	15 mg/l
	TSS, 30-day avg.	423.43 lbs/day	275 lbs/day
	TSS, 30-day avg.	38.29 mg/l	15 mg/l
	TSS, 7-day avg.	55. mg/l	23 mg/l
	Fecal Coliform, daily max.	680#/ml	400#/ml

8/02	BOD, 30-day avg.	424.83 lbs/day	183 lbs/day
	BOD, 30-day avg.	30.710 mg/l	10 mg/l
	BOD, 7-day avg.	45. mg/l	15 mg/l
	TSS, 30-day avg.	462.28 lbs/day	275 lbs/day
	TSS, 30-day avg.	34.71 mg/l	15 mg/l
	TSS, 7-day avg.	72. mg/l	23 mg/l

11. Administrative Order Docket No. CWA-06-2002-0010 was issued to the Permittee on July 2, 2002. The order cited effluent violations through May 2002, and required the Permittee to respond and cite what actions would be taken to eliminate the violations. In a response dated July 17, 2002, the Permittee cited that they would take some short term actions to eliminate the violations at the Luling Oxidation Pond, but they would also take long term actions to transfer all flow from the Luling Pond to the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Permittee will begin by transferring approximately 40% of the flow from Luling to the Hahnville Plant, and by January 2006, have all flow transferred and eliminate discharge from the Luling Oxidation Pond. The schedule is incorporated in this Order.

12. Each violation of the conditions of the permit or regulations described above, is a violation of Section 301 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311.

#### ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings and pursuant to the authority of Sections 308 and 309 of the Act, EPA HEREBY ORDERS THE PERMITTEE to take the following action:

- A. The Permittee shall comply with the following schedule for construction of a new wastewater treatment plant.



<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>
Initiate design Bids to transfer all flows from Luling Oxidation Pond to Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant	October 30, 2002 ✓
Accept bids for Bourg and Bootlegger pump station improvements.	November 30, 2002 ✓
Initiate bidding of design improvements to transfer all flows from the Luling Oxidation Pond, and to provide necessary improvements to the Hahnville Wastewater Plant.	October 30, 2003
Completion of Bourg and Bootlegger Pump Station improvements and transfer of associated flows from the Luling Oxidation Pond, to Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant.	November 30, 2003
Initiate construction of improvements to transfer all flows from Luling Oxidation Pond and of improvements to Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant.	January 31, 2004
Complete construction of improvements and <u>eliminate discharge</u> from Luling Oxidation Pond	<u>January 31, 2006</u>

\* B. That the Permittee shall submit quarterly progress reports on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, January, April and July. The first report is due January 1, 2003. The reports shall be submitted through completion of the project.

\* C. That within 14 days of completion of each of the tasks listed above in A., the Permittee shall submit a report stating compliance with the task. (X)

D Any information or correspondence submitted by the Permittee to EPA under this Order shall be addressed to the following:

Ms. Judy Sullivan  
 Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WC)  
 EPA Region 6  
 1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200  
 Dallas, TX 75202

General Provisions

Issuance of this Order shall not be deemed an election by EPA to forego any administrative or judicial, civil or criminal action to seek penalties, fines, or any other relief appropriate under the Act for the violations cited herein, or other violations that become known. EPA reserves the right to seek any remedy available under the law that it deems appropriate.

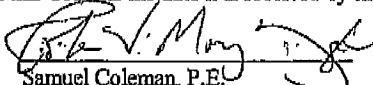
Failure to comply with this Order or the Act can result in further administrative action, or a civil judicial action initiated by the U.S. Department of Justice. If the United States initiates a civil judicial action, Respondent will be subject to civil penalties of up to \$27,500 per day per violation.<sup>1</sup>

If a criminal action is initiated by U.S. Department of Justice, and Respondent is convicted of a criminal offense under Section 309(c) of the Act, the Respondent may become ineligible for certain contracts, grants, or loans under Section 508 of the Act.

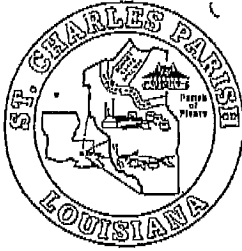
This Order does not constitute a waiver or modification of the terms or conditions of the Permittee's NPDES permit, which remains in full force and effect. Compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order does not relieve the Permittee of its obligations to comply with any applicable federal, state, or local law or regulation.

The effective date of this Order is the date it is received by the Permittee.

NOV 19 2002  
Date

  
Samuel Coleman, P.E.  
Director  
Compliance Assurance and  
Enforcement Division

<sup>1</sup>The civil penalty amounts that can be assessed under Section 309 of the Clean Water Act were amended by the Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule (61 Fed. Reg. 69359, December 31, 1996, as corrected in 62 Fed. Reg. 13514, March 20, 1997), effective June 1, 1997, under the Debt Collections Improvement Act of 1996, 31 U.S.C. § 3701, et. seq., for all violations occurring or continuing after January 30, 1997.



# ST. CHARLES PARISH

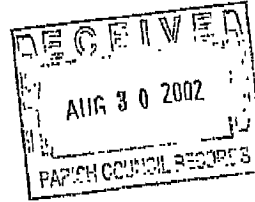
## DEPARTMENT OF WASTEWATER

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

July 17, 2002



Ms. Judy Sullivan  
Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WC)  
EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 75202

**Subject: Docket No. CWA-06-2002-0010  
Luling Oxidation Pond – NPDES Permit No. LA0032131  
Comprehensive Written Corrective Action Plan**

**Subject: Luling Oxidation Pond – NPDES Permit No. LA0032131  
Toxicity Reduction Evaluation**

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

In response to the subject Administrative Order received on July 9, 2002, St. Charles Parish does not believe complete correction of the violations cited are possible within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the Order. This is despite the initiation of multiple actions to correct the problem prior to receipt of the Administrative Order.

Accordingly a comprehensive written corrective action plan to eliminate the cited violations is provided below. This plan is provided in three phases, short-term actions to obtain compliance, actions taken to implement the Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) and long-term actions to eliminate any future compliance problems. The short-term actions will be taken to assure compliance. However, since long-term maintenance of the Luling Oxidation Pond has proven difficult resulting in eventual degradation of pond conditions and performance, the long-term action plan will further assure compliance by rerouting flows to the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant.

## Corrective Action Plan

### Short Term Corrective Actions

#### Activities Prior to July 9, 2002

- March 20, 2002 Hired professional engineering consultants Camp Dresser & McKee to address both short-term and long-term compliance issues at the Luling Oxidation Pond. Multiple problems were identified contributing to noncompliance at the facility including:
- Severe short-circuiting due to destruction of curtain walls between cells of the pond. This destruction was due to the previous use of water hyacinths to control algae.
  - Several aerators were currently inoperable.
  - Excessive algae blooms contributing to BOD and TSS violations and potential toxicity of the effluent.
  - Inoperable rapid sand filters damaged through attempts to filter out excessive algae blooms.
- April 12, 2002 Conceptual design workshop was held to establish short-term and long-term corrective actions to obtain compliance at the Luling Oxidation Pond. Minutes of this workshop are attached. Based upon this workshop three types of alternatives were investigated to obtain short-term compliance at the Luling Oxidation Pond, disk filters, chemical addition, and enhanced high rate clarification.
- April 15, 2002 The plastic baffles between the first and second cell and second and third cells were restored to significantly reduce the current short-circuiting problems at the pond (See Attached Figure).
- May 14, 2002 Technical memorandum (as enclosed) recommending alternatives to obtain short-term compliance at the Luling Oxidation Pond was completed. Based upon issuance of this memorandum effluent monitoring for chlorophyll A and pilot testing of an algacide was initiated. Several additional short-term improvements were also discussed to improve performance of the facility as indicated below.
- June 24, 2002 Initiated construction of additional earth berm to further reduce short-circuiting. This berm will add a fourth cell and additional detention time for wastewater treatment (See Attached Figure). The berm will also include a storage area for harvested hyacinths.

June 24, 2002 Repair of existing aerators was completed and installation of additional aerators was initiated.

July 1, 2002 Initiated pilot testing of algaecide to control algae blooms. Ordered sand to repair and return to service the existing rapid sand filters.

**Activities To Be Completed**

August 17, 2002 Complete piloting of algaecide and provide recommendations for continued use, complete repairs to rapid sand filters.

August 30, 2002 Complete construction of earth berm to provide a fourth treatment cell for the facility and re-introduction of water hyacinths into this cell.

September 30, 2002 Installation of five (5) additional aerators in Cell 2.

October 30, 2002 Complete short-term correction actions.

November 30, 2002 Obtain operational compliance.

**Toxicity Reduction Evaluation**

The proposed schedule for the TRE is provided in the enclosed office memorandum and proposes initiating the TRE on July 10, 2002, submitting the plan by October 8, 2002, initiating the plan by November 8, 2002 and final completion of the plan by November 8, 2004. It also commits to quarterly reports from October 31, 2002 through October 31, 2004. The initiation of the TRE by November 2002 will be coordinated with the short-term corrective actions to eliminate compliance problems due to algae blooms. This will facilitate the assessment of any causes other than algae to the toxicity of the effluent. Determination of additional constituents contributing to effluent toxicity will require review of improvements to the Luling Oxidation Pond necessary to remove these constituents. The need for any capital improvements will be evaluated based upon the long-term actions planned to eliminate the discharge from this facility.

**Long-Term Corrective Actions**

**Activities Prior to July 9, 2002**

December 2001 Initiated design improvements to transfer flows from the Bourg and Bootlegger pump stations from the Luling Oxidation Pond to the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant. Completion of these improvements is anticipated to reroute approximately 40% of the flows away from the Luling Oxidation Pond further alleviating compliance problems.

April 17, 2002 Initiated re-rating study for the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant and flow monitoring and hydraulic analysis of the Luling Oxidation Pond collection system. The re-rating study will assure flows rerouted from the Bourg and Bootlegger pump stations can be effectively treated by the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant. This study will also establish necessary improvements to the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant if all flows from the Luling Oxidation Pond are rerouted from this facility.

**Activities To Be Completed**

August 30, 2002 Initiate bidding of Bourg and Bootlegger pump station improvements. Completion of re-rating study and determination of improvements necessary to upgrade the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant to handle all flows from the Luling Oxidation Pond.

October 30, 2002 Initiate design improvements to transfer all flows from the Luling Oxidation Pond and to provide necessary improvements to the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant.

November 30, 2002 Accept bids for the Bourg and Bootlegger pump station improvements.

October 30, 2003 Initiate bidding of design improvements to transfer all flows from the Luling Oxidation Pond and to provide necessary improvements to the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant.

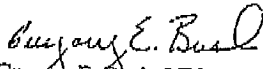
November 30, 2003 Completion of Bourg and Bootlegger pump station improvements and transfer of associated flows from the Luling Oxidation Pond to the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant.

January 31, 2004 Initiate construction of design improvements to transfer all flows from the Luling Oxidation Pond and to provide necessary improvements to the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant.

January 31, 2006 Complete construction of design improvements to transfer all flows from the Luling Oxidation Pond and to provide necessary improvements to the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant. Elimination of discharge from the Luling Oxidation Pond and transfer of all flows to the Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant.

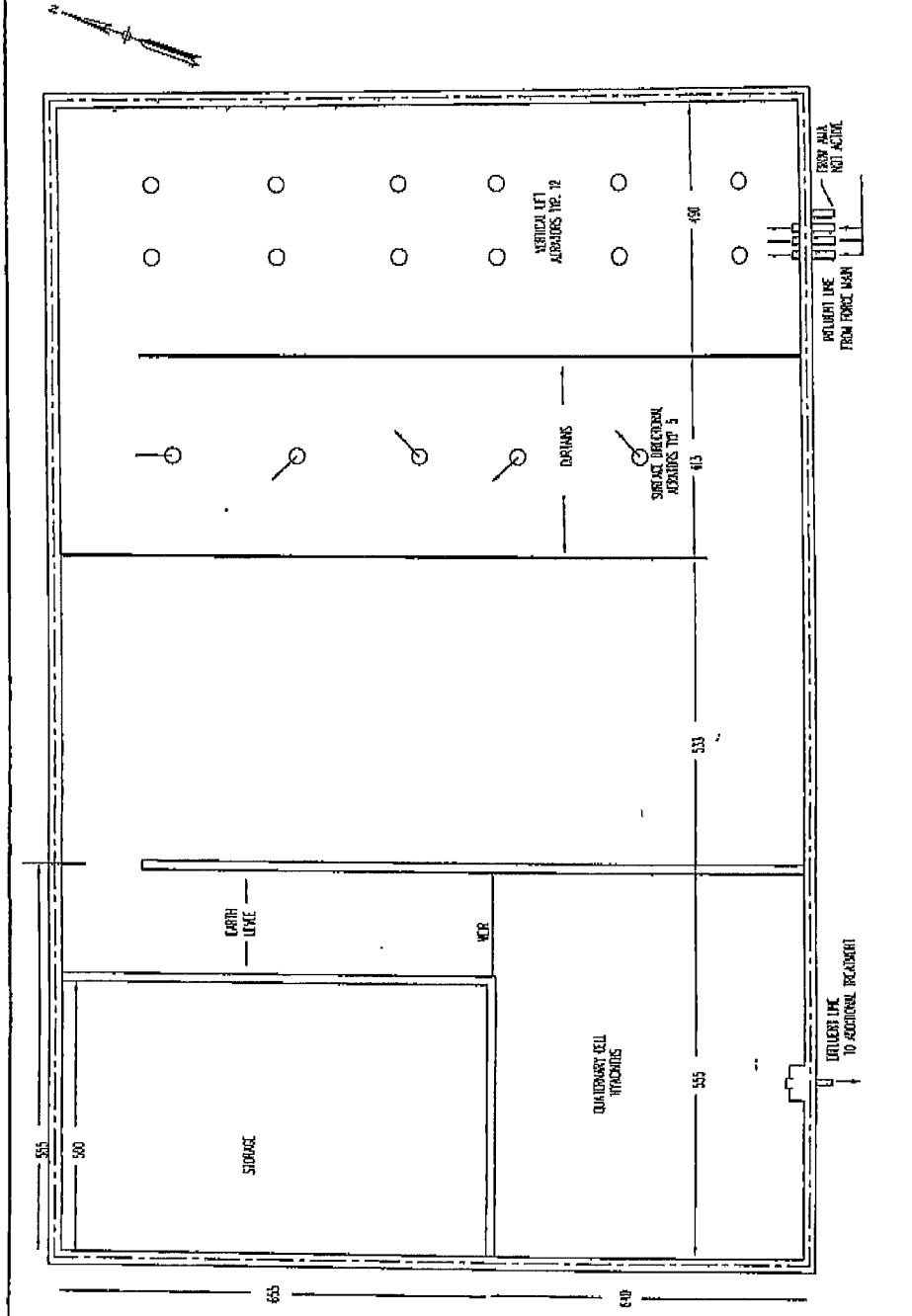
The compliance plan provided above will be initiated pending any review or comment from your office. St. Charles Parish will appreciate any assistance from EPA Region 6 to resolve this matter and will continue its efforts to provide a quick solution to this problem.

Sincerely,

  
Gregory E. Bush, LTC, USA, Retired  
Director of Public Works/Wastewater

Enclosures

CC: Ronnie Bean, LA Department of Environmental Quality  
Albert Laque, St. Charles Parish President (letter only)  
Sammy J. Accardo, Assistant Director of Wastewater (letter only)  
L.J. Brady, Wastewater Superintendent (letter only)  
Diane C. Troxler, Laboratory Coordinator  
Adam Faschan, Ph.D., P.E., Camp Dresser & McKee, Inc. (letter only)  
Barbara Jacob, St. Charles Parish Council Secretary (letter only)



DATE REVISED		PROJECT COMPLETION OF		ST. CHARLES PARISH	
		SUPERVISION FOR		DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	
		PROJECT NO.	DATE	ISSUED TO	ISSUED BY

SEE PLAN





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS

P.O. BOX 60287

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0287

APR 26 2002

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

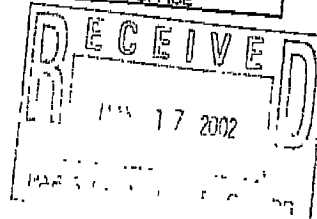
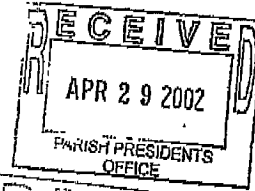
Planning, Programs, and  
Project Management Division  
Project Management Branch - West

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



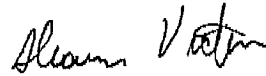
parish. We are nearing the end of our plans and specifications phase. Construction was slated for fiscal year 2003.

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:

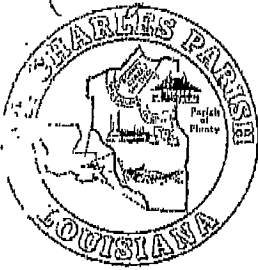
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
Post Office Box 60267  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267  
ATTN: Mr. Shawn Vicknair (CEMVN-PM-W)

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



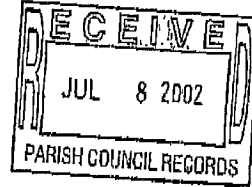
# ST. CHARLES PARISH

## 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. \*

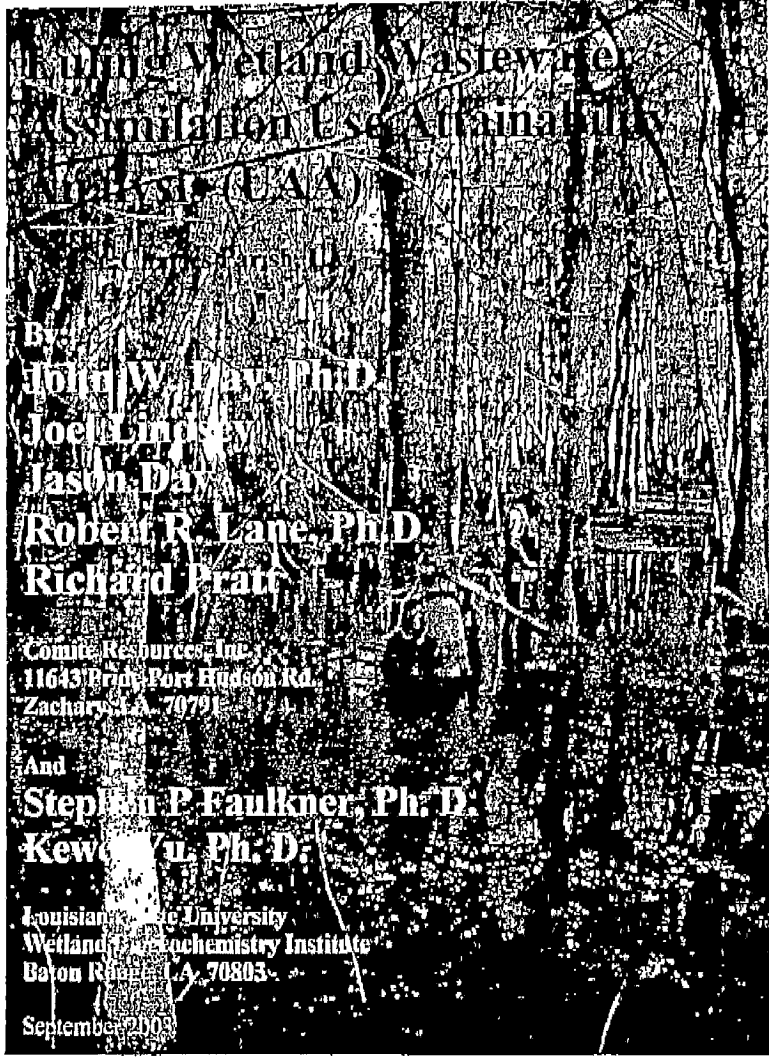
As always it is a pleasure doing business with your office; however, until we receive commitments for the necessary monies available and needed to achieve either one of these projects we cannot obligate ourselves to any particular project.

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



**Wetland Wastewater  
Assimilation Use Manual  
Volume 1**

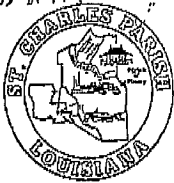
By  
**John W. Day, Ph.D.**  
**Joel Lindsey**  
**Jason Day**  
**Robert R. Lane, Ph.D.**  
**Richard Pratt**

Comite Resources, Inc.  
11643 Briarport Hudson Rd.  
Zachary, LA 70791

And  
**Stephen P. Faulkner, Ph.D.**  
**Kewei Yu, Ph.D.**

Louisiana State University  
Wetland Biochemistry Institute  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

September 2003




**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.

**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



## Future Capital Outlays

Due to EPA mandated improvements, expected new EPA CMOM Regulations and the expected replacement of capital items, the Parish has future capital and major maintenance costs in excess of \$64,000,000 for the next ten years.

Project Description	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Swing and Boesinger pump station	\$ 3,100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,100,000
Luling Pond and Haynes Place Expansion	2,325,117	6,428,867	11,194,367	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,948,350
Other 2003 Capital Outlay Budget	1,413,100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,413,100
Expected Capacity, Management, Operation and Maintenance Requirements (CMOM)	-	1,630,000	1,250,000	860,000	480,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	5,280,000
Collection System	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	3,340,000	3,340,000	3,340,000	3,340,000	3,340,000	3,340,000	3,340,000	27,880,000
Lift Station Upgrades	-	-	-	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	3,500,000
Odor Maintenance	-	-	-	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	2,500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,338,217</b>	<b>\$ 9,559,867</b>	<b>\$ 13,944,367</b>	<b>\$ 4,940,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,740,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,740,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,740,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,740,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,740,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,280,000</b>	<b>\$ 64,272,450</b>

*"A lack of proactive maintenance in the system has resulted in reoccurring line blockages, sewer back-ups, and odor complaints. . . . 25% of the system is over 50 years old"*

CDM November 2002 Report