

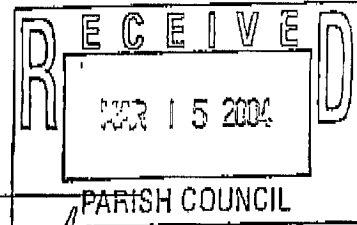
2004-0109

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

Today's Date:

3/15/04

OK
Lower



Dear Chairman:

Please place my name to address the Council on:

DATE: 3/22/04

SPECIFIC TOPIC: Luling Oxidation Pond and
one subject only Re- Routing to the Hahnville
(*see specific guidelines on reverse and refer to Treatment Plant (continued))

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

DOCUMENTS, IF ANY: YES / NO

NAME: Gwen Dufrance
ADDRESS: 3551 Hwy. 306
Des Armands LA 70030
PHONE: (985) 788-7510
SIGNATURE: Gwen Dufrance

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)

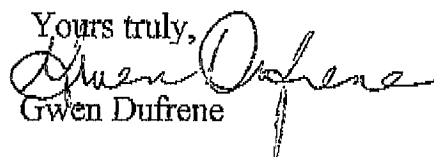
3551 Hwy. 306
Des Allemands, LA 70030
(985) 758-7510
March 15, 2004

St. Charles Parish Council
Chairman Lance Marino
660 Pine Street
Norco, LA 70079

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I still have concerns regarding the Luling Oxidation Pond's closure and decommission. Since there was no audio when this was discussed at the televised Operations, Maintenance, and Construction Management Committee meeting Wednesday March 10th, I would like documented answers to the questions below by the next Council meeting on March 22nd.

1. Since the Luling Oxidation Pond was not a part of the original flow that was to go to the new Hahnville Plant, does re-routing all flows from the pond to the Hahnville Plant violate Section 21131 of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Regulations (referred to in the attached document labeled 7 and P&N at the bottom) which "Prohibits new inflow sources"?
2. What Federal or State funds has the Parish received for bringing the Luling Oxidation Pond into compliance and re-routing to the Hahnville Wastewater treatment Plant? I would like documentation showing: the source, date and amount. This can be a spreadsheet.
3. What has been spent to date on the Luling Oxidation Pond (compliance and re-routing) since 1999? I would like documentation showing amount, date, and to whom. This can also be a spreadsheet.
4. I would like a written explanation (fact sheet) on what has been done to get the pond into compliance since 1999 and who did what. Please include when the decision made to re-route the flows from the pond to the Hahnville WWTP and, who was responsible for making this decision.

Yours truly,

Gwen Dufrene



St. Charles Parish Wastewater

**Sewer Use Rate
Assessment**



Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Requirements

- Section 2113 H of the regulations:

"The applicant shall develop a municipally enacted financial management system which provides for collection of revenues from users in proportion to their use. Collected revenues must be sufficient to offset the costs of operation, maintenance, and replacement of equipment. (O, M&R). The User Charge System shall be enacted, maintained, and enforced throughout the life of the project."

- Section 2113 I of the regulations:
 - Prohibits new inflow sources.
 - Requires new sewers and connections be properly designed and constructed.
 - Prohibits introduction of toxic or hazardous wastes into sewer system that would cause certain problems.
 - All existing residences will connect to system
 - Wastewater introduced into treatment works will not cause violation of effluent or water quality limitations.





ST. CHARLES PARISH

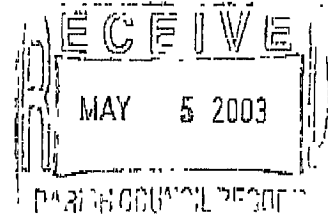
OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

PO BOX 302 • HAHNVILLE LOUISIANA 70037
(985) 783-5000 • FAX (985) 783-5015

Website: www.stcharlesgov.net • E-mail: scppresident@mobiletel.com

ALBERT D LAQUE
PARISH PRESIDENT

March 14, 2003



Honorable David Vitter
United States House of Representatives
414 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Vitter:

As the result of your leadership, St. Charles Parish is positioned to receive \$225,000 in USEPA grant funds for critical water quality improvements at the Luling Oxidation Pond in Luling, Louisiana. This line item funding, included as part of the Omnibus Appropriations Act for FY 2003, will be matched at a 45 percent rate with local funds to continue our efforts to come into compliance with the USEPA's Administrative Order. The Parish is grateful for the multiyear action you have taken to help us and we are now working with USEPA Region VI to facilitate this grant award.

I am again writing for your support to help with our ongoing consolidation of the West Bank Wastewater treatment systems, and related Inflow and Infiltration abatement needs. In particular, I respectfully request that you consider championing our efforts to secure up to \$3 million in federal matching funds for the consolidation of the West Bank sewerage system and the upgrade of the Hahnville Treatment Plant which total costs are estimated to be \$7-10 million. We seek this funding as part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)" account in the FY2004 VA-HUD and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act.

* As we have reported previously, the Luling Oxidation Pond currently provides for the wastewater treatment needs on the West Bank of St. Charles Parish. Outdated technology coupled with population growth has resulted in serious problems at this plant. For these reasons, the facility remains subject to an Administrative Order from the Environmental Protection Agency Region 6. In addition, our citizens and businesses have been affected by unacceptable nuisance odors that routinely permeate the area. Residents, local officials, and business leaders are increasingly concerned about resultant health risks and the potential building moratorium that may result due to the compliance order.

Congressman David Vitter
March 14, 2003
Page 2

about resultant health risks and the potential building moratorium that may result due to the compliance order.

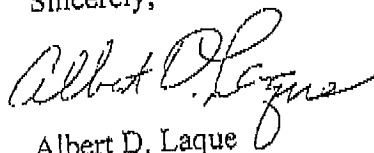
Fortunately, there are cost effective solutions that the Parish government has already begun to implement. Chief among them are the short-term treatment modifications to Luling Pond and a basin-wide Inflow and Infiltration evaluation that will partially be funded by last two years of grant monies from the Environmental Protection Agency. The long-term solution is still to consolidate the entire West Bank Sewerage system at the new Hahnville Wastewater Treatment Plant. This longer term option allows the entire West Bank to have its wastewater treated at a state of the art facility and will ensure the development of St. Charles Parish.

The Parish has spent \$47 million dollars to consolidate and modernize the sewer treatment and conveyance systems for the East and West Banks of the Parish. The citizens of St. Charles Parish have shouldered the entire cost of this work. However, additional funds are necessary to bring the additional wastewater flows from the Luling area to the Hahnville Wastewater Plant. Due to the recent and significant sewer expenditures, adequate local funding is not available for the expansion of the treatment and conveyance systems. Therefore, it remains critical that St. Charles Parish gain your favorable consideration again for this project. *

I hope you will continue to find that the wastewater treatment needs in St. Charles Parish are real and that consideration for any federal matching funds is deserved.

Thank you, Congressman Vitter, for your consideration of this request and for your service to St. Charles Parish over the years. We will contact your office soon to follow up.

Sincerely,



Albert D. Laque
Parish President

ADL/chl

3551 Hwy. 306
Des Allemands, LA 70030
(985) 758-7510
March 15, 2004

Councilman-at-large Clayton Faucheux, Jr.
P. O Box 1342
Luling, LA 70070

Dear Mr. Faucheux,

I still have concerns regarding the Luling Oxidation Pond's closure and decommission. I question why the pond was not brought into compliance. I feel, that if the pond was brought into compliance, there would be no need for the almost \$20 million project to re-route the flow from the pond to the Hahnville WWT Plant.

With the passage of the ordinance at the last council meeting that will give the OK for the new 2000 home subdivision to be built, I believe it is even more important that the Pond be brought into compliance and used as first intended.

The residents of this parish are paying sales taxes that they voted for sewerage (but are not being used for sewerage), people are paying milleages for the regionalization project and we have the highest sewer rates in the state. We can not afford anymore.

I want to thank you for allowing Comite Resources to address the Council. As Councilman at-large, I request that the you or any council members invite Ms. Vivian Hare, EPA or one of her representatives to come before the Council at one of your next meetings. I have attached page 8 of Docket #CWA-06-2004-1787 dated October 30, 2003, showing who to contact.

Mr. Shawn Vicknair, Army Corps of Engineers should also be invited. That way the Council can have the facts from the horses mouths. Mr. Bush said that in a month or so he will bring funding proposals to the council. So please do not delay in inviting these key people to ask questions and get the right answers. Please do this for your constituents and the residents of this parish.

If you have any questions, or comments please feel free to call me at the phone number listed above. If I'm not home, please leave a message on my answer machine and I return your call as soon as possible.

Yours truly,


A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gwen Dufrene". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Gwen Dufrene


cc: St. Charles Parish Council

Ms. Vivian Hare, EPA

D. In order to Show Cause why the Permittee has not complied with the Act and its regulations, and why EPA should not take further enforcement action against the Permittee for the violations cited, the Permittee should arrange a meeting with EPA within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of this Order, to be held at the Region 6 offices, 1445 Ross Ave., 7th Floor, Dallas, Texas. The Permittee shall submit to EPA all information or materials it considers relevant to the meeting at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

E. To arrange a Show Cause meeting, or to ask questions or comment on this matter, please contact Mr. Robert Quance of our office at (214) 665-8096. 

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

Ms. Vivian Hare
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. 