

STATE OF MISSOURI  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Matt Blunt, Governor • Doyle Childers, Director

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NOV 07 2005

Mr. John DeLashmit, P.E.  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region VII  
901 North Fifth Street  
Kansas City, KS 66101

RE: Permit for Owensville Wastewater Treatment Plant in Lieu of Total Maximum Daily Load for Red Oak Creek (WBID 2038) and Tributary (WBIDs 3361 and 3360)

Dear Mr. DeLashmit:

Red Oak Creek (2 miles) and Tributary (one mile) near Owensville in Gasconade County, Missouri, are on the 2002 303(d) list for Volatile Suspended Solids (VSS). The source of this impairment is listed as the Owensville Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), Permit Number MO-0041068, which discharges into a tributary to Red Oak Creek (WBID 3361). The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has opted to correct this impairment through permit limits in lieu of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).

The outfall is to the tributary to Red Oak Creek, WBID 3361. The impaired waterbody segments are all in a rural, undeveloped area. There are no WWTPs upstream of the Owensville WWTP that would contribute to the tributary to Red Oak and Red Oak Creek. The listing for the impaired reaches was based on two water quality surveys in September 1995 and July 1997 that identified significant suspended algae below the lagoon outfall. Thirty-six (36) samples were collected in August of 2001 and June of 2002 showing impaired Dissolved Oxygen (DO) levels in the stream. These impacts are judged to be severe enough in three miles of stream to exceed Missouri's water quality standards for DO and the general criteria for objectionable floating material, color and conditions harmful to aquatic life.

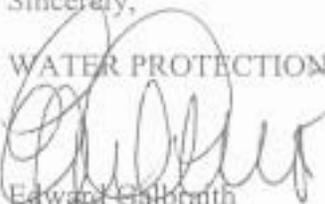
The city's permit, with interim and final limits, was reissued on September 30, 2005. The VSS standard (as a narrative of no noticeable downstream objectionable deposits) will be achieved by limiting the effluent to 15 mg/L Total Suspended Solids (TSS) as a monthly average and 20 mg/L as a weekly average. Other final effluent limitations include Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) at 10 mg/L/15 mg/L (monthly average/daily maximum) and Ammonia at 1.7 mg/L/3.4 mg/L (summer) and 2.0 mg/L/4.0 mg/L (winter). These limits were calculated from wasteload allocations established by the QUAL2E model and the facility will undergo an upgrade to meet them. They will go into effect three years from the date the permit was reissued and should insure that the stream's water quality standards will be met. The interim limits of 45 mg/L BOD (monthly average) and 70 mg/L TSS (monthly average) will remain in effect during construction, until September 30, 2008.



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Enclosed please find the draft Missouri State Operating Permit for the Owensville WWTP. As just stated, the final limits will go into effect September 30, 2008. By meeting these limits, the water quality standards should be achieved in Red Oak Creek and its tributary. At the end of the three-year period, Whole Effluent Toxicity Tests (to be submitted annually) will be required and Oil and Grease limits will go into effect. In addition, instream monitoring will be required (after the interim period) for DO, Temperature, pH, and Ammonia. To determine if the new permit limits have eliminated the impairment, the department will schedule ambient stream monitoring in 2009, within one year of the completion of construction for the new wastewater facility. The permit also includes a reopener clause to allow for stricter limits if monitoring shows water quality standard violations.

With this letter, the department submits the Owensville WWTP permit to the U.S. EPA for concurrence that the permit will serve in lieu of a TMDL for three waterbody segments: Red Oak Creek (WBID 2038) and its tributary (WBIDs 3360 and 3361). We appreciate EPA taking prompt action on this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Philip Schroeder at (573) 751-6825 or by mail at Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Protection Program, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0176.

Sincerely,  
  
WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM  
Edward Galbraith  
Director

EG:psl

Enclosure

c: Mr. Daniel R. Schuette, Director, DEQ  
Mr. Earl Pabst, Deputy Director, DEQ  
Missouri Clean Water Commission