OCWA Southwest Region 370-450 Sunset Drive St. Thomas, ON N5R 5V1

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## NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANCE

August 9th, 2024

Andrew Winkler MECP-London District Office 733 Exeter Road London, ON N6E 1L3

## Re: Notification of Non-compliance with ECA Effluent Limit

This is a notification of non-compliance with an effluent limit at the Thorndale Wastewater Treatment Plant that is being submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of Environmental Compliance Approval 0955-8MKJNP, and provisions of the *Ontario Water Resources Act* and *Environmental Protection Act*. This written notice confirms the verbal notification provided to Andrew Winkler on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

The following effluent parameter(s) were exceeded:

Parameter	Date of Non- Compliance (yyyy-mm)	Type of Limit	Type of Sample	Result (Specify Units)	ECA Effluent Limit
Effluent E.coli	2024-07	Monthly Geometric Mean	Grab	185.0 cfu/100mL	100cfu/100mL
Total Suspended Solids	2024-07	Monthly Average	*Composite	54.8 mg/L	10 mg/L
TSS Loading	2024-07	Monthly Average	*Composite	41.2 kg/day	6.74kg/day

<sup>\*</sup>Additional sample was a grab sample obtained during a bypass at peak flow of high rainfall event.

## **Comments/Actions Taken:**

The monthly geometric mean for effluent E.coli, the monthly average concentration for effluent total suspended solids (TSS), and the monthly average TSS loading were exceeded during the month of July, 2024. This exceedance was caused by a heavy rainfall event that occurred on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 that resulted in a by-pass of the sewage treatment plant and high flows in the days that followed. The by-pass was reported to SAC and the local Health Unit.

As per Environmental Compliance Approval 0955-8MKJNP, a grab sample of the by-pass was collected on July 16<sup>th</sup>. Due to the extreme amount of rain, the Thorndale WWTP operated in storm mode for several days in July, which reduces the cycle time periods by 25% to process flows up to the peak flow rate. On July 17<sup>th</sup>, routine samples were collected in accordance with the Sampling Schedule and to also monitor the plant performance outside normal operating conditions.

The UV disinfection system at the Thorndale WWTP is designed to handle a peak flow rate of 2,436m³/day, which was exceeded on July 16<sup>st</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>. On July 16<sup>th</sup>, the total daily flow



treated at the facility was 4,693.18m³. The monthly average daily flow for the month of July was 751.69 m³/day.

The following table outlines the individual sample results as reported by SGS Laboratories for the month of July:

Date	E.coli Result (cfu/100mL)	TSS (mg/L)	TSS Loading (Kg/Day)
July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	16	2	<1.0
July 10 <sup>th</sup>	28	3	1.4
July 16th *	16,000	173	811
July 17 <sup>th</sup>	23,000	108	144
July 24 <sup>th</sup>	15	3	<1.0
July 31st	16	40	67

<sup>\*</sup>Additional sample was a grab sample of the by-pass event.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 519-870-7841.

Sincerely,

## Matthew Belding

Process and Compliance Technician

cc: Adam Grant, MECP Water Compliance Supervisor Sam Sianas, OCWA Regional Hub Manager

Vitaliy Talashok, OCWA Senior Operations Manager

Maegan Garber, OCWA Safety, Process and Compliance Manager

Jarrod Craven, Thames Centre Director of Public Works Kevin Willson, Environmental Services Superintendent