

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

PERMIT

TO DISCHARGE WASTEWATER UNDER THE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provision of North Carolina General Statute 143-215.1, other lawful standards and regulations promulgated and adopted by the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission, and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, the

City of Clinton

is hereby authorized to discharge wastewater from a facility located at the

**Norman H. Larkins Water Pollution Control Facility
123 Mill Branch Road
Clinton, NC 28328
Sampson County**

to receiving waters designated as Williams Old Mill Branch in the Cape Fear River Basin in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in Parts I, II, III, and IV hereof.

This permit shall become effective **September 1, 2024**.

This permit and authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight on **January 31, 2029**.

Signed this day August 13, 2024.

DocuSigned by:

Michael Montebello

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Michael J. Montebello, NPDES Permitting Branch Chief
Division of Water Resources

SUPPLEMENT TO PERMIT COVER SHEET

All previous NPDES Permits issued to this facility, whether for operation or discharge are hereby revoked. As of the effective date of this permit issuance, any previously issued permit bearing this number is no longer effective. Therefore, the exclusive authority to operate and discharge from this facility arises under the permit conditions, requirements, terms, and provisions included herein.

The City of Clinton

is hereby authorized to:

1. Continue to operate a 5.0 MGD wastewater treatment system with a discharge through Outfall 001, consisting of the following treatment units:
 - Two (2) mechanically cleaned 1” bar screens
 - 44,000-gallon aerated grit removal tank
 - Influent Parshall flume with flow recorder and automatic sampler
 - Dual 287,718-gallon primary clarifiers
 - 85,900 ft³ high-rate trickling filter
 - 259,047-gallon secondary clarifier
 - Six (6) 1.2-million-gallon extended aeration activated sludge basins
 - Two (2) 713,424-gallon final clarifiers
 - 3,000 ft³ bulk lime feed system
 - Five (5) 264 ft² anthracite/sand/gravel tertiary filters
 - Two (2) 52,000-gallon chlorine contact chambers
 - Sulfur dioxide dechlorination
 - 62,500-gallon post aeration tank
 - 308,426-gallon aerobic digester
 - 308,426-gallon aerobic biosolids holding and thickening tank
 - Four (4) 142,000-gallon aerobic biosolids digesters
 - Thirty (30) 3,000 ft³ sand drying beds.

This facility is located at the Norman H. Larkins Water Pollution Control Facility, 123 Mill Branch Road, Clinton, in Sampson County.

2. Discharge from said treatment works via Outfall 001, at the location specified on the attached map into Williams Old Mill Branch, a class C; Sw stream in the Cape Fear River Basin.

PART I

A. (1.) EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (5.0 MGD)

[15A NCAC 02B. 0400 et seq., 15A NCAC 02B .0500 et seq.]

Grade IV Biological Water Pollution Control System [15A NCAC 08G .0302]

- a. During the period beginning on the effective date of this permit and lasting until expiration, the Permittee is authorized to discharge **treated domestic and industrial wastewater** from **Outfall 001**. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored¹ by the Permittee as specified below:

PARAMETER CHARACTERISTICS <i>Parameter Code</i>	EFFLUENT LIMITS			MONITORING REQUIREMENTS		
	Monthly Average	Weekly Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Location
Flow <i>50050</i>	5.0 MGD			Continuous	Recording	Influent or Effluent
BOD, 5-Day, 20°C ² (April 1 – October 31) <i>CO310</i>	5.0 mg/L	7.5 mg/L		2/week ³	Composite	Influent and Effluent
BOD, 5-Day, 20°C ² (November 1 – March 31) <i>CO310</i>	10.0 mg/L	15.0 mg/L		2/week ³	Composite	Influent and Effluent
Total Suspended Solids (TSS) ² <i>CO530</i>	30.0 mg/L	45.0 mg/L		2/week ³	Composite	Influent and Effluent
NH ₃ as N (April 1 – October 31) <i>CO610</i>	1.0 mg/L	3.0 mg/L		2/week ³	Composite	Effluent
NH ₃ as N (November 1 – March 31) <i>CO610</i>	2.0 mg/L	6.0 mg/L		2/week ³	Composite	Effluent
Dissolved Oxygen (DO) <i>00300</i>	Daily Average ≥ 6.0 mg/L			Daily	Grab	Effluent
Fecal Coliform (geometric mean) <i>31616</i>	200/100 mL	400/100 mL		Daily	Grab	Effluent
Temperature (°C) <i>00010</i>	Monitor and Report			Daily	Grab	Effluent
pH <i>00400</i>	Between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units			Daily	Grab	Effluent
Conductivity (µmhos/cm) <i>00094</i>	Monitor and Report			Daily	Grab	Effluent
Total Phosphorus (mg/L) <i>CO665</i>	Monitor and Report			Monthly	Composite	Effluent
Total Nitrogen ⁴ (mg/L) <i>CO600</i>	Monitor and Report			Monthly	Calculated	Effluent
NO ₂ +NO ₃ (mg/L) <i>00630</i>	Monitor and Report			Monthly	Composite	Effluent
TKN (mg/L) <i>00625</i>	Monitor and Report			Monthly	Composite	Effluent
Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) ⁵ <i>50060</i>			17 µg/L	Daily	Grab	Effluent
Total Hardness (as CaCO ₃) (mg/L) ⁶ <i>00900</i>	Monitor and Report			Quarterly	Composite	Effluent
Chloride <i>00940</i>	Monitor and Report			Monthly	Composite	Effluent
Chloride (limits effective March 1, 2025) <i>00940</i>	230 mg/L		230 mg/L	Monthly	Composite	Effluent
Total Copper ⁷ <i>01042</i>	23.1 µg/L		34.2 µg/L	Monthly	Composite	Effluent
Fluoride <i>00951</i>	Monitor and Report			Quarterly	Composite	Effluent
PFAS ⁸ <i>various</i>	Monitor and Report			2/year	Grab	Effluent
Chronic Toxicity ⁹ <i>TGP3B</i>	Monitor and Report			Quarterly	Composite	Effluent
Effluent Pollutant Scan <i>NC01</i>	Monitor and Report			Footnote 10	Footnote 10	Effluent

Footnotes on next page.

Footnotes from A. (1.) Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements:

1. The Permittee shall submit discharge monitoring reports electronically using NC DWR's eDMR application system; see Section A.(9.).
2. The monthly average effluent BOD₅ and TSS concentrations shall not exceed 15% of their respective influent values (85% removal).
3. Sampling 2/week must occur on any two non-consecutive days during the calendar week.
4. For a given wastewater sample, $TN = TKN + NO_3-N + NO_2-N$, where TN is Total Nitrogen, TKN is Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, and NO₃-N and NO₂-N are Nitrate and Nitrite Nitrogen, respectively.
5. The facility shall monitor TRC when using chlorination for disinfection. The Division shall consider all effluent TRC values reported below 50 µg/L to be in compliance with the permit. However, the Permittee shall continue to record and submit all values reported by a North Carolina certified laboratory (including field certified), even if these values fall below 50 µg/L.
6. Effluent Hardness sampling should be performed in conjunction with testing for hardness-dependent metals (cadmium, copper, lead, nickel, silver and zinc).
7. The Permittee shall achieve compliance with these limitations within three years of the effective date of this permit and shall follow the Total Copper compliance schedule detailed in Special Condition A.(5.). Starting on the effective date of this permit, the Permittee shall perform monthly effluent Monitoring and Reporting for Total Copper.
8. See Special Condition A (8.).
9. Whole Effluent Toxicity will be monitored using the Pass/Fail *Ceriodaphnia dubia* at 90% effluent. Samples shall be taken in March, June, September, December; see Section A.(3.).
10. The Permittee shall perform three Effluent Pollutant Scans during the term of this permit; see Section A.(4.).

b. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.

A.(2.) INSTREAM MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

[15A NCAC 02B .0200 et seq.]

Beginning on the effective date of this permit and lasting until the expiration date, the Permittee shall perform instream sampling upstream and downstream of Outfall 001 as specified below:

PARAMETER		SAMPLE TYPE	MONITORING FREQUENCY		SAMPLE LOCATION ¹
<i>Parameter Code</i>			Jun 1 – Sep 30	Oct 1 – May 31	
Temperature (°C)	00010	Surface	3/week	Weekly	Upstream, Downstream
Dissolved Oxygen (DO) (mg/L)	00300	Surface	3/week	Weekly	Upstream, Downstream
Conductivity (µmhos/cm)	00094	Surface	3/week	Weekly	Upstream, Downstream
NH ₃ as N (mg/L)	CO610	Surface	Monthly		Upstream, Downstream
Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	CO665	Surface	Monthly		Upstream, Downstream
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (mg/L)	00625	Surface	Monthly		Upstream, Downstream
NO ₂ +NO ₃ (mg/L)	00630	Surface	Monthly		Upstream, Downstream

Footnotes:

1. Upstream = Great Coharie Creek at Five Bridge Road; Downstream = Great Coharie Creek at NC Highway 24. Samples shall be collected 3/week from June 1 through September 30, and collected weekly from October 1 through May 31. Instream monitoring for DO, Temperature and Conductivity is provisionally waived in light of the Permittee’s participation in the Lower Cape Fear River Program (LCFRP). Instream monitoring shall be immediately reinstated and the Division shall be notified immediately should the Permittee end its participation in the LCFRP.
2. The Permittee shall sample instream Total Hardness, upstream of the facility’s discharge. The sample shall be representative of the hardness in the receiving stream.

A.(3.) CHRONIC TOXICITY PERMIT LIMIT (QUARTERLY)

[15A NCAC 02B .0200, .0500 et seq]

The effluent discharge shall at no time exhibit observable inhibition of reproduction or significant mortality to *Ceriodaphnia dubia* at an effluent concentration of **90%**.

The permit holder shall perform at a minimum, **quarterly** monitoring using test procedures outlined in the “North Carolina *Ceriodaphnia* Chronic Effluent Bioassay Procedure,” (Revised December 2010, or subsequent versions) or “North Carolina Phase II Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Procedure” (Revised December 2010, or subsequent versions). The tests will be performed during the months of **March, June, September, and December**. These months signify the first month of each three-month toxicity testing quarter assigned to the facility. Effluent sampling for this testing must be obtained during representative effluent discharge and shall be performed at the NPDES permitted final effluent discharge below all treatment processes.

If the test procedure performed as the first test of any single quarter results in a failure or ChV below the permit limit, then multiple-concentration testing shall be performed at a minimum, in each of the two following months as described in “North Carolina Phase II Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Procedure” (Revised-December 2010, or subsequent versions).

All toxicity testing results required as part of this permit condition will be entered electronically using the Division’s eDMR system for the months in which tests were performed, using the parameter code **TGP3B** for the pass/fail results and **THP3B** for the Chronic Value. Additionally, DWR Form **AT-3** (original) is to be sent to the following address:

North Carolina Division of Water Resources
Water Sciences Section/Aquatic Toxicology Branch
1621 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1621

Or, results can be sent to the email, ATForms.ATB@deq.nc.gov.

Completed Aquatic Toxicity Test Forms shall be filed with the Water Sciences Section no later than 30 days after the end of the reporting period for which the report is made.

Test data shall be complete, accurate, include all supporting chemical/physical measurements and all concentration/response data, and be certified by laboratory supervisor and ORC or approved designate signature. Total residual chlorine of the effluent toxicity sample must be measured and reported if chlorine is employed for disinfection of the waste stream.

Should there be no discharge of flow from the facility during a month in which toxicity monitoring is required, the permittee will complete the information located at the top of the aquatic toxicity (AT) test form indicating the facility name, permit number, pipe number, county, and the month/year of the report with the notation of “No Flow” in the comment area of the form. The report shall be submitted to the Water Sciences Section at the address cited above.

Should the permittee fail to monitor during a month in which toxicity monitoring is required, monitoring will be required during the following month. Assessment of toxicity compliance is based on the toxicity testing quarter, which is the three-month time interval that begins on the first day of the month in which toxicity testing is required by this permit and continues until the final day of the third month.

Should any test data from this monitoring requirement or tests performed by the North Carolina Division of Water Resources indicate potential impacts to the receiving stream, this permit may be re-opened and modified to include alternate monitoring requirements or limits.

NOTE: Failure to achieve test conditions as specified in the cited document, such as minimum control organism survival, minimum control organism reproduction, and appropriate environmental controls, shall constitute an **invalid test** and will require immediate follow-up testing to be completed no later than the last day of the month following the month of the initial monitoring.

A.(4.) ADDITIONAL MONITORING REQUIREMENTS FOR PERMIT RENEWAL
 [NCGS 143-215.1(b)]

(a.) **Effluent Pollutant Scans.** The permittee shall perform a total of three (3) Effluent Pollutant Scans for all parameters listed below. One scan must be performed in each of the following years: **2026, 2027, and 2028.** Analytical methods shall be in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136 and shall be sufficiently sensitive to determine whether parameters are present in concentrations greater than applicable standards and criteria. Each annual sample shall coincide with one quarterly toxicity test each year [see Condition A.(3.) Chronic Toxicity Permit Limit], and each must be collected in a different calendar quarter to represent seasonal variation (i.e., do not sample in the same quarter every year). Unless otherwise indicated, metals shall be analyzed as “total recoverable.”

Ammonia (as N)	CO610	Trans-1,2-dichloroethylene	34546	Bis (2-chloroethyl) ether	34273
Chlorine (total residual, TRC)	50060	1,1-dichloroethylene	34501	Bis (2-chloroisopropyl) ether	34283
Dissolved oxygen	00300	1,2-dichloropropane	CO541	Bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	CO100
Nitrate / Nitrite	00630	1,3-dichloropropylene	77163	4-bromophenyl phenyl ether	34636
Kjeldahl nitrogen	00625	Ethylbenzene	34371	Butyl benzyl phthalate	34292
Oil and grease	00556	Methyl bromide	34413	2-chloronaphthalene	34581
Phosphorus	CO665	Methyl chloride	34418	4-chlorophenyl phenyl ether	34641
Total dissolved solids	70295	Methylene chloride	34423	Chrysene	34320
Hardness	00900	1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane	81549	Di-n-butyl phthalate	39110
Antimony	01097	Tetrachloroethylene	34475	Di-n-octyl phthalate	34596
Arsenic	01002	Toluene	34010	Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	34556
Beryllium	01012	1,1,1-trichloroethane	34506	1,2-dichlorobenzene	34536
Cadmium	01027	1,1,2-trichloroethane	34511	1,3-dichlorobenzene	34566
Chromium	CO034	Trichloroethylene	39180	1,4-dichlorobenzene	34571
Copper	01042	Vinyl chloride	39175	3,3-dichlorobenzidine	34631
Lead	01051	<u>Acid-extractable compounds:</u>		Diethyl phthalate	34336
Mercury (Method 1631E)	COMER	P-chloro-m-cresol	34452	Dimethyl phthalate	34341
Nickel	01067	2-chlorophenol	34586	2,4-dinitrotoluene	34611
Selenium (PQL < 1 µg/L)	01147	2,4-dichlorophenol	34601	2,6-dinitrotoluene	CO626
Silver	01077	2,4-dimethylphenol	34606	1,2-diphenylhydrazine	34346
Thallium	01059	4,6-dinitro-o-cresol	34657	Fluoranthene	CO376
Zinc	01092	2,4-dinitrophenol	34616	Fluorene	34381
Cyanide	00720	2-nitrophenol	34591	Hexachlorobenzene	CO700
Total phenolic compounds	32730	4-nitrophenol	34646	Hexachlorobutadiene	CO702
<u>Volatile organic compounds:</u>		Pentachlorophenol	39032	Hexachlorocyclo-pentadiene	34386
Acrolein	34210	Phenol	34694	Hexachloroethane	34396
Acrylonitrile	34215	2,4,6-trichlorophenol	34621	Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene	34403
Benzene	34030	<u>Base-neutral compounds:</u>		Isophorone	34408
Bromoform	32104	Acenaphthene	34205	Naphthalene	34696
Carbon tetrachloride	32102	Acenaphthylene	34200	Nitrobenzene	34447
Chlorobenzene	34301	Anthracene	CO220	N-nitrosodi-n-propylamine	34428
Chlorodibromomethane	34306	Benzidine	39120	N-nitrosodimethylamine	34438
Chloroethane	85811	Benzo(a)anthracene	CO526	N-nitrosodiphenylamine	34433
2-chloroethyl vinyl ether	34576	Benzo(a)pyrene	34247	Phenanthrene	34461
Chloroform	32106	3,4 benzofluoranthene	34230	Pyrene	34469
Dichlorobromomethane	32101	Benzo(ghi)perylene	34521	1,2,4-trichlorobenzene	CO551
1,1-dichloroethane	34496	Benzo(k)fluoranthene	34242		
1,2-dichloroethane	32103	Bis (2-chloroethoxy) methane	34278		

- (b.) **Effluent Scan Reporting.** Test results shall be reported electronically via eDMR by December 31st of each designated sampling year, except that, subject to prior written approval by the Director, results can be reported on DWR Form DMR-PPA-1 or other form approved by the Director. The permittee must at least report completion of the test in the eDMR system by entering "1" or "Y" for parameter code NC01 - Annual Pollutant Scan. If written reports are approved, the report shall be submitted to the following address:

North Carolina Division of Water Resources
Central Files
1617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1617

Or the form may be uploaded at: https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/Forms/NPDES_WW-EDMR-Supplemental-Form

- (c.) **2nd-Species Toxicity Testing and Reporting.**
- (i.) In addition to the quarterly toxicity tests required in Condition A.(3.) Chronic Toxicity Permit Limit, the Permittee shall perform and report the results of four (4) toxicity tests using the same test methods using a second species of test organism suitable to the tests being conducted.
- (ii.) The 2nd species toxicity tests shall be conducted either:
- (A) Once per quarter in a single 12-month period (four samples); if this option is chosen, the sample for each 2nd species test shall coincide with the quarterly samples collected for *Chronic Toxicity Permit Limit*; or
- (B) Once per 12-month period in the four-and one-half year period prior to the scheduled application for permit renewal (four samples); if this option is chosen, three of the samples for the 2nd species test shall coincide with those for the annual effluent scans and the coincident quarterly toxicity test, and each of the four annual samples shall be collected in a different calendar quarter in order to represent seasonal variation.
- (iii.) The results of the toxicity tests shall be submitted to the following address:

North Carolina Division of Water Resources
Water Sciences Section/Aquatic Toxicology Branch
1621 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1621

Or, results can be sent to the email, ATForms.ATB@deq.nc.gov.

- (iv.) Results of the 2nd species tests shall also be summarized in Part E (Toxicity Testing Data) of EPA Municipal Application Form 2A when submitting the permit renewal application to the NPDES Wastewater Program.

The Permittee may contact the Division's Aquatic Toxicology Branch at 919-743-8401 for guidance on conducting the additional toxicity tests and reporting of the results.

A.(5.) SCHEDULE OF COMPLIANCE FOR TOTAL COPPER LIMITATIONS (WER STUDY)
 [NCGS 143-215.1 (b)]

- (a.) This compliance schedule includes the option for pursuing a Water Effect Ratio (WER) study for developing site-specific limitations and compliance with the Total Copper limits in Section A.(1.).
 - (i.) If the Permittee wishes to conduct a WER study to develop site-specific limitations for one or more of the above parameters, then by September 1, 2025, within twelve (12) months of the effective date of the permit, the Permittee shall submit to the Division of Water Resources a Water-Effect Ratio (WER) study plan for approval.
 - (ii.) Within eighteen (18) months of the WER study plan approval by the Division, the Permittee shall submit to the Division a report summarizing the results of the WER study.
 - (iii.) If the WER study results in site-specific limits for one or more of the above parameters that the Permittee wishes to have in the permit, the Permittee shall submit to the Division a permit modification request to include the WER-derived limits.
 - (iv.) The final limits based on the WER-derived limits, if approved will be placed into effect immediately with the permit modification and all remaining schedule items will be removed.
- (b.) If the Permittee does not submit a WER study plan within twelve (12) months of the permit effective date, then the Permittee shall follow the Compliance Schedule outlined below (replacing the schedule in section A.6.a. above) and substitute the dates for one, two and three years from the permit effective date:
 - (i.) By March 1, 2026, within eighteen (18) months of the permit effective date, the Permittee shall submit to the Division of Water Resources a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for Division approval, summarizing the strategy or actions to be taken to achieve compliance with the Total Copper limitations listed in Section A. (1.). This plan will include specific dates for completion or implementation of each action.
 - (ii.) By September 1, 2026, within two (2) years of the effective date of the permit, the Permittee shall submit a report to the Division summarizing actions taken in accordance with the Action Plan.
 - (iii.) The Permittee shall achieve compliance with Total Copper limitations specified in Section A. (1.) by September 1, 2027, within three (3) years of the effective date of the permit.

Upon approval of the CAP by the Division, the report and actions become an enforceable part of this permit. The Division can reopen this permit to implement interim or alternative limits based on studies that demonstrate an interim or alternate limit is appropriate. Any modifications to the schedule shall be requested to the Division at least ninety (90) days before the deadline. Modifications to the schedule more than four months will be subject to public notice.

WER Study Plan, CAP and all reports shall include the owner’s name, NPDES permit number and Permittee contact person, and shall be submitted to:

NCDEQ / Division of Water Resources
 NPDES Municipal Permitting Unit
 1617 Mail Service Center
 Raleigh, NC 27699-1617

NCDEQ / Division of Water Resources
 Fayetteville Regional Office
 225 Green Street, Suite 714
 Fayetteville, NC 28301-5095

A.(6.) MERCURY MINIMIZATION PLAN (MMP)
[NCGS 143-215.1 (b)]

The Permittee shall maintain and continue to implement the Mercury Minimization Plan (MMP) developed and implemented on January 9, 2017. The MMP shall continue to be available for inspection on-site. The MMP should place emphasis on identification of mercury contributors and goals for reduction. Results shall be summarized and submitted with the next permit renewal. Performance of the MMP will meet the requirements of the TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) for mercury approved by USEPA on October 12, 2012, unless and until a Waste Load Allocation specific to this facility is developed and this NPDES permit is amended to require further actions to address the Waste Load Allocation.

A.(7.) NUTRIENT MONITORING REOPENER
[NCGS 143-215.1 (b)]

Pursuant to N.C. General Statute Section 143-215.1 and the implementing rules found in Title 15A of the North Carolina Administrative Code, Subchapter 2H, specifically, 15A NCAC 2H .0112(b)(1) and 2H .0114(a), and Part II, Sections B-12 and B-13 of this permit, the Director of DWR may reopen this permit to require supplemental nutrient monitoring of the discharge. The additional monitoring will be to support water quality modeling efforts within the Cape Fear River Basin, and shall be consistent with a monitoring plan developed jointly by the Division and affected stakeholders.

A.(8.) PFAS MONITORING REQUIREMENT
[NCGS 143-215.1(b.)]

- (a.) In the absence of an approved 40 CFR Part 136 method published in *Federal Register*, **effluent** PFAS monitoring shall be conducted using the 3rd draft or more recent wastewater analytical method 1633 (see 40 CFR 122.21(e)(3)(ii) and 40 CFR 122.44(i)(1)(iv)(B)). Analysis shall include all target analytes listed under Table 1 of the method until such time as the Permittee uses the approved PFAS Method for wastewater. Effective the first full calendar quarter following six (6) months after EPA publishes a 40 CFR Part 136 PFAS Method for wastewater in the *Federal Register*, effluent PFAS monitoring shall be conducted using the approved EPA PFAS Method 1633. See Appendix A for list of analytes.
- (b.) **Effluent monitoring using the unapproved analytical method takes effect six (6) months after the effective date of the permit** (March 1, 2025) and will be at a **2/year** frequency thereafter.

Appendix A has been added to the permit to identify the current analytes listed under Table 1 of Method 1633 Analysis of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in Aqueous, Solid, Biosolids, and Tissue Samples by LC-MS/MS (EPA, January 2024) and the appropriate ICIS codes for use when reporting in the electronic Discharge Monitoring Reports (eDMRs). The method and list of analytes may also be found at:

<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-01/method-1633-final-for-web-posting.pdf>

PFAS Monitoring using the January 2024 Method 1633 shall be reported 2/year using the Division-provided submittal form. Once PFAS monitoring is conducted using the PFAS Method 1633 in 40 CFR Part 136, data shall be reported in the monthly eDMRs.

Please note that specific considerations and protocols are required to avoid cross-contamination and minimize sample bias for PFAS. A current listing of laboratories accredited by the Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation, Inc. (PJLA), ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB), or the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) to perform EPA Method 1633 can be found by contacting the individual associations. Please note that different labs are accredited for different matrices.

Sampling and Analytical Notes:

- Sampling shall be planned so that required holding times for analytical methods are met.
- Using one of the analytical laboratories included above will allow consistency in analytical method and in anticipation of a final method.
- “J” flag values shall be reported when the “J” flag value is associated with the method’s upper bound. “J” flag values need not be reported when less than the method’s Minimum Reporting Level (listed in Method 1633).
- Laboratories approved for Aqueous matrix may be utilized. Please note that the lab used does not have to be in North Carolina.

(c.) Pretreatment program activities:

- (i.) PFAS Monitoring Applicability: Industry categories known or suspected to discharge PFAS from the EPA PFAS Strategic Roadmap include: organic chemicals, plastics & synthetic fibers (OCPSF); metal finishing; electroplating; electric and electronic components; landfills; pulp, paper & paperboard; leather tanning & finishing; plastics molding & forming; textile mills; paint formulating, and airports. This is not an exhaustive list and additional industries may also discharge PFAS. For example, Centralized Waste Treatment (CWT) facilities may receive wastes from the aforementioned industries and should be considered for monitoring. There may also be categories of dischargers that do not meet the applicability criteria of any existing Effluent Limitation Guidelines (ELG); for instance, remediation sites, chemical manufacturing not covered by OCPSF, and military bases.¹

¹ELG categories of airport deicing, landfills, textile mills, and plastics molding and forming do not have categorical pretreatment standards, and therefore small-volume indirect dischargers in those categories would not ordinarily be considered Significant Industrial Users (SIUs) and may not be captured on an existing IU inventory. IUs under the Paint Formulating category are only subject to Pretreatment Standards for New Sources (PSNS), and existing sources may need to be inventoried.

- (ii.) The Permittee shall identify and locate each Significant Industrial User (SIU) in the approved pretreatment program in industry categories expected or suspected of PFAS discharges to the Norman H. Larkins WPCF; and begin sampling of and modify Industrial User Permits (IUPs) for each SIU identified as suspected of PFAS discharges to the Norman H. Larkins WPCF to ensure sampling begins **within six months of the permit effective date, by March 1, 2025.**
- (iii.) Update Industrial Waste Survey (IWS) Inventory: POTWs must identify and locate all possible indirect dischargers that might be subject to the pretreatment program and identify the character and volume of pollutants contributed to the POTW by the indirect dischargers (see 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2)). As EPA regulations require, this information shall be provided to the Division (see 40 CFR 122.44(j) and 40 CFR 403.8(f)(6)) **as part of the 2024 Pretreatment Annual Report (PAR).** The IWS inventory shall be revised, as necessary, to include all indirect dischargers in

industry categories expected or suspected of PFAS discharges.¹ (see 15A NCAC 02H .0906(b)(2)).

- (i.) The Permittee shall begin sampling of and/or issue IUPs for each indirect discharger identified as suspected of PFAS discharges to the Norman H. Larkins WPCF to ensure sampling begins **within six months of completion of the IWS**.
- (ii.) The Division has determined that all SIUs and indirect dischargers identified above analyze their discharge for PFAS **at the same quarterly sampling frequency and with the same analytical method** to ensure protection of human health and the environment due to the potential health hazards associated with PFAS. Collection and evaluation of this information will also assist the Department in developing sound policies with respect to PFAS in the environment.
- (iii.) The Permittee shall ensure that IUPs within the Norman H. Larkins WPCF service area are modified or reissued, new IUPs are issued, and other Pretreatment Program mechanisms are completed to address PFAS discharges to POTWs.
- (iv.) In the absence of local limits, and based upon data as they become available, POTWs shall encourage Best Management Practices (BMPs), pollution prevention, product substitution, and good housekeeping practices to make meaningful reductions in PFAS introduced to POTWs. Such BMPs could be like those included in the EPA Office of Water, December 5, 2022, “Addressing PFAS Discharges in NPDES Permits and Through the Pretreatment Program and Monitoring Programs.”^{A3}. “Best Management Practices (BMPs) for discharges of PFAS, including product substitution, reduction, or elimination of PFAS, as detected by draft method 1633”.
- (viii.) A summary of all actions taken by the Permittee and their industries and monitoring conducted by each indirect discharger identified as part of this Special Condition shall be provided as part of the PAR (see 15A NCAC 02H .0908(b)).

A.(9.) ELECTRONIC REPORTING OF MONITORING REPORTS [NCGS 143-215.1 (b)]

Federal regulations require electronic submittal of all discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) and program reports. The final NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule was adopted and became effective on December 21, 2015.

NOTE: This Section supplements or supersedes the following sections within Part II of this permit (*Standard Conditions for NPDES Permits*):

- Section B. (11.) Signatory Requirements
- Section D. (2.) Reporting
- Section D. (6.) Records Retention
- Section E. (5.) Monitoring Reports

1. Reporting Requirements [Supersedes Section D. (2.) and Section E. (5.) (a)]

The Permittee shall report discharge monitoring data electronically using the NC DWR’s Electronic Discharge Monitoring Report (eDMR) internet application.

Monitoring results obtained during the previous month(s) shall be summarized for each month and submitted electronically using eDMR. The eDMR system allows permitted facilities to enter monitoring data and submit

DMRs electronically using the internet. Until such time that the state's eDMR application is compliant with EPA's Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Regulation (CROMERR), permittees will be required to submit all discharge monitoring data to the state electronically using eDMR and will be required to complete the eDMR submission by printing, signing, and submitting one signed original and a copy of the computer printed eDMR to the following address:

NC DEQ/DWR/Water Quality Permitting Section
Attn: Central Files
1617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1617

If a permittee is unable to use the eDMR system due to a demonstrated hardship or due to the facility being physically located in an area where less than 10 percent of the households have broadband access, then a temporary waiver from the NPDES electronic reporting requirements may be granted and discharge monitoring data may be submitted on paper DMR forms (MR 1, 1.1, 2, 3) or alternative forms approved by the Director. Duplicate signed copies shall be submitted to the mailing address above. See "How to Request a Waiver from Electronic Reporting" section below.

Regardless of the submission method, the first DMR is due on the last day of the month following the issuance of the permit or in the case of a new facility, on the last day of the month following the commencement of discharge.

Starting on **December 21, 2020**, the permittee must electronically report the following compliance monitoring data and reports, when applicable:

- Sewer Overflow/Bypass Event Reports;
- Pretreatment Program Annual Reports; and
- Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 316(b) Annual Reports.

The Permittee may seek an electronic reporting waiver from the Division (see "How to Request a Waiver from Electronic Reporting" section below).

2. Electronic Submissions

In accordance with 40 CFR 122.41(l)(9), the Permittee must identify the initial recipient at the time of each electronic submission. The Permittee should use the EPA's website resources to identify the initial recipient for the electronic submission.

Initial recipient of electronic NPDES information from NPDES-regulated facilities means the entity (EPA or the state authorized by EPA to implement the NPDES program) that is the designated entity for receiving electronic NPDES data [see 40 CFR 127.2(b)].

EPA plans to establish a website that will also link to the appropriate electronic reporting tool for each type of electronic submission and for each state. Instructions on how to access and use the appropriate electronic reporting tool will be available as well. Information on EPA's NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule is found at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2015/10/22/2015-24954/national-pollutant-discharge-elimination-system-npdes-electronic-reporting-rule>.

Electronic submissions must start by the dates listed in the "Reporting Requirements" section above.

3. How to Request a Waiver from Electronic Reporting

The Permittee may seek a temporary electronic reporting waiver from the Division. To obtain an electronic reporting waiver, a permittee must first submit an electronic reporting waiver request to the Division. Requests

for temporary electronic reporting waivers must be submitted in writing to the Division for written approval at least sixty (60) days prior to the date the facility would be required under this permit to begin submitting monitoring data and reports. The duration of a temporary waiver shall not exceed five (5) years and shall thereupon expire. At such time, monitoring data and reports shall be submitted electronically to the Division unless the Permittee re-applies for and is granted a new temporary electronic reporting waiver by the Division. Approved electronic reporting waivers are not transferrable. Only permittees with an approved reporting waiver request may submit monitoring data and reports on paper to the Division for the period that the approved reporting waiver request is effective.

Information on eDMR and the application for a temporary electronic reporting waiver are found on the following web page:

<http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/edmr>

4. Signatory Requirements [Supplements Section B. (11.) (b) and Supersedes Section B. (11.) (d)]

All eDMRs submitted to the permit issuing authority shall be signed by a person described in Part II, Section B. (11.) (a) or by a duly authorized representative of that person as described in Part II, Section B. (11.) (b). A person, and not a position, must be delegated signatory authority for eDMR reporting purposes.

For eDMR submissions, the person signing and submitting the DMR must obtain an eDMR user account and login credentials to access the eDMR system. For more information on North Carolina's eDMR system, registering for eDMR and obtaining an eDMR user account, please visit the following web page:

<http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/edmr>

Certification. Any person submitting an electronic DMR using the state's eDMR system shall make the following certification [40 CFR 122.22]. NO OTHER STATEMENTS OF CERTIFICATION WILL BE ACCEPTED:

"I certify, under penalty of law, that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations."

5. Records Retention [Supplements Section D. (6.)]

The Permittee shall retain records of all Discharge Monitoring Reports, including eDMR submissions. These records or copies shall be maintained for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the report. This period may be extended by request of the Director at any time [40 CFR 122.41].

Appendix A. PFAS Target Analytes EPA Method 1633
(EPA, January 2024)

Target Analyte Name	Abbreviation	CAS Number	Parameter Code
Perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids			
Perfluorobutanoic acid	PFBA	375-22-4	51522
Perfluoropentanoic acid	PFPeA	2706-90-3	51623
Perfluorohexanoic acid	PFHxA	307-24-4	51624
Perfluoroheptanoic acid	PFHpA	375-85-9	51625
Perfluorooctanoic acid	PFOA	335-67-1	51521
Perfluorononanoic acid	PFNA	375-95-1	51626
Perfluorodecanoic acid	PFDA	335-76-2	51627
Perfluoroundecanoic acid	PFUnA	2058-94-8	51628
Perfluorododecanoic acid	PFDoA	307-55-1	51629
Perfluorotridecanoic acid	PFTrDA	72629-94-8	51630
Perfluorotetradecanoic acid	PFTeDA	376-06-7	51531
Perfluoroalkyl sulfonic acids			
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	PFBS	375-73-5	52602
Perfluoropentanesulfonic acid	PFPeS	2706-91-4	52610
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	PFHxS	355-46-4	52605
Perfluoroheptanesulfonic acid	PFHpS	375-92-8	52604
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	PFOS	1763-23-1	52606
Perfluorononanesulfonic acid	PFNS	68259-12-1	52611
Perfluorodecanesulfonic acid	PFDS	335-77-3	52603
Perfluorododecanesulfonic acid	PFDoS	79780-39-5	52632
Fluorotelomer sulfonic acids			
1H,1H,2H,2H-Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid	4:2FTS	757124-72-4	52607
1H,1H,2H,2H-Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	6:2FTS	27619-97-2	52608
1H,1H,2H,2H-Perfluorodecane sulfonic acid	8:2FTS	39108-34-4	52609
Perfluorooctane sulfonamides			
Perfluorooctanesulfonamide	PFOSA	754-91-6	51525
N-methyl perfluorooctanesulfonamide	NMeFOSA	31506-32-8	52641
N-ethyl perfluorooctanesulfonamide	NEtFOSA	4151-50-2	52642

Table continues on next page.

Table continued from Appendix A. **PFAS Target Analytes EPA Method 1633** (EPA, January 2024).

Target Analyte Name	Abbreviation	CAS Number	Parameter Code
Perfluorooctane sulfonamidoacetic acids			
N-methyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	NMeFOSAA	2355-31-9	51644
N-ethyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid	NEtFOSAA	2991-50-6	51643
Perfluorooctane sulfonamide ethanols			
N-methyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoethanol	NMeFOSE	24448-09-7	51642
N-ethyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoethanol	NetFOSE	1691-99-2	51641
Per- and Polyfluoroether carboxylic acids			
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid	HFPO-DA	13252-13-6	52612
4,8-Dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic acid	ADONA	919005-14-4	52636
Perfluoro-3-methoxypropanoic acid	PFMPA	377-73-1	PF002
Perfluoro-4-methoxybutanoic acid	PFMBA	863090-89-5	PF006
Nonafluoro-3,6-dioxaheptanoic acid	NFDHA	151772-58-6	52626
Ether sulfonic acids			
9-Chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanonane-1-sulfonic acid	9Cl-PF3ONS	756426-58-1	PF003
11-Chloroeicosafluoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid	11Cl-PF3OUdS	763051-92-9	PF004
Perfluoro(2-ethoxyethane)sulfonic acid	PFEESA	113507-82-7	52629
Fluorotelomer carboxylic acids			
3-Perfluoropropyl propanoic acid	3:3FTCA	356-02-5	PF001
2H,2H,3H,3H-Perfluorooctanoic acid	5:3FTCA	914637-49-3	PF007
3-Perfluoroheptyl propanoic acid	7:3FTCA	812-70-4	PF005



NORTH CAROLINA
Environmental Quality

ROY COOPER
Governor

ELIZABETH S. BISER
Secretary

RICHARD E. ROGERS, JR.
Director

August 16, 2024

Mr. Michael Christopher Medlin, Director
Public Works and Utilities
City of Clinton
221 Lisbon Street
Clinton, North Carolina 28329

Subject: NPDES Permit Technical Correction
Permit NC0020117
Norman H. Larkins WPCF
Sampson County
Grade IV Biological WPCS
SIC Code 4952

Dear Mr. Medlin:

The Division issued a final permit to your facility on August 13, 2024. In response to comments to the permit by the City on August 16, 2024, the footnotes to the instream monitoring section [Section A.(2.)] have been modified as follows:

- Footnote 1 has been modified to clarify that the provisional waiver applies to all parameters, and
- Footnote 2 has been removed since upstream Hardness is not required in the receiving streams with a low flow 7Q10 of 0 cfs.

Accordingly, we hereby forward the corrected permit page (Page 5 of 17). Please insert the changed page into your permit.

All other terms and conditions in the original permit remain unchanged and in full effect as of September 1, 2024. This is a minor technical correction.

Please note that this permit is not transferable except after notice to the Division. The Division may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the permit. This permit does not affect the legal requirements to obtain other permits which may be required by the Division of Water Resources or any other Federal, State, or Local governmental regulations.

If you have any questions concerning this permit, please contact Gary Perlmutter at (919) 707-3611 or via email at gary.perlmutter@deq.nc.gov.

Sincerely,
Digitally signed by:

Michael Montebello

C464531431644FE...

Michael J. Montebello, NPDES Permitting Branch Chief
Division of Water Resources, NCDEQ



Hardcopy: NPDES Files
eCopy: US EPA Region 4
DWR / Fayetteville Regional Office / Water Quality / Mark Brantley
DWR / Operator Certification Program / Jeff Talbot
DWR / Ecosystems Branch / Tammy Hill
DWR / Aquatic Toxicology Branch / Cindy Moore & Molly Nicholson
DWR / Municipal Permitting Unit / Keyes McGee
City of Clinton / Lisa Osthues & Blake Raynor



A.(2.) INSTREAM MONITORING REQUIREMENTS
 [15A NCAC 02B .0200 et seq.]

Beginning on the effective date of this permit and lasting until the expiration date, the Permittee shall perform instream sampling upstream and downstream of Outfall 001 as specified below:

PARAMETER <i>Parameter Code</i>		SAMPLE TYPE	MONITORING FREQUENCY		SAMPLE LOCATION ¹
			Jun 1 – Sep 30	Oct 1 – May 31	
Temperature (°C)	00010	Surface	3/week	Weekly	Upstream, Downstream
Dissolved Oxygen (DO) (mg/L)	00300	Surface	3/week	Weekly	Upstream, Downstream
Conductivity (µmhos/cm)	00094	Surface	3/week	Weekly	Upstream, Downstream
NH ₃ as N (mg/L)	CO610	Surface	Monthly		Upstream, Downstream
Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	CO665	Surface	Monthly		Upstream, Downstream
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (mg/L)	00625	Surface	Monthly		Upstream, Downstream
NO ₂ +NO ₃ (mg/L)	00630	Surface	Monthly		Upstream, Downstream

Footnotes:

1. Upstream = Great Coharie Creek at Five Bridge Road; Downstream = Great Coharie Creek at NC Highway 24. Samples shall be collected 3/week from June 1 through September 30, and collected weekly from October 1 through May 31. Instream monitoring for all above parameters is provisionally waived in light of the Permittee’s participation in the Lower Cape Fear River Program (LCFRP). Instream monitoring shall be immediately reinstated and the Division shall be notified immediately should the Permittee end its participation in the LCFRP.

A.(3.) CHRONIC TOXICITY PERMIT LIMIT (QUARTERLY)
 [15A NCAC 02B .0200, .0500 et seq]

The effluent discharge shall at no time exhibit observable inhibition of reproduction or significant mortality to *Ceriodaphnia dubia* at an effluent concentration of **90%**.

The permit holder shall perform at a minimum, **quarterly** monitoring using test procedures outlined in the “North Carolina *Ceriodaphnia* Chronic Effluent Bioassay Procedure,” (Revised December 2010, or subsequent versions) or “North Carolina Phase II Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Procedure” (Revised December 2010, or subsequent versions). The tests will be performed during the months of **March, June, September, and December**. These months signify the first month of each three-month toxicity testing quarter assigned to the facility. Effluent sampling for this testing must be obtained during representative effluent discharge and shall be performed at the NPDES permitted final effluent discharge below all treatment processes.

DocuSigned by:

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