VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

October 30, 2019

Mr. Steven Rush, President
Town Council of Poneto
P.O Box 61
Poneto, Indiana 46781

Dear Mr. Rush:

Re: Draft Modification of NPDES Permit
No. IN0059048 for the Town of Poneto
Wastewater Treatment Plant
Wells County

Your request for permit modification, submitted August 6, 2019, has been reviewed and processed in accordance with rules adopted under 327 IAC 5. Enclosed is the draft modification of NPDES Permit No. IN0059048 which applies to the discharge from the Town of Poneto Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The enclosed Pages 1 through 5 of 28 are intended to replace the corresponding pages in the facility’s current permit.

Pursuant to IC 13-15-5-1, a general notice will be published in the newspaper with the largest general circulation within Wells County. A 30-day comment period is available in order to solicit input from interested parties, including the general public.

Please review this document carefully and become familiar with the proposed terms and conditions. Comments concerning the draft permit should be submitted in accordance with the procedure outlined in the enclosed public notice form. If you have any questions concerning this modification, please contact Nicholas Eilerman at 317/232-8619 or neilerma@idem.IN.gov.

Sincerely,

Leigh Voss, Chief
Municipal NPDES Permits Section
Office of Water Quality

Enclosures

cc: Thomas McElhaney, Certified Operator
    Roy D Schoeff
    Brady Dryer
STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

AMENDED AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq., the “Act”), Title 13 of the Indiana Code, and regulations adopted by the Water Pollution Control Board, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is issuing this permit to the

TOWN OF PONETO

hereinafter referred to as “the permittee.” The permittee owns and/or operates the Town of Poneto Wastewater Treatment Plant, a minor municipal wastewater treatment plant located at approximately 2600 LF North and 1000 LF West of the intersection of SR 218 and Meridian Road, Poneto, Indiana, SE ¼ of Section 36, T26N, R11E, Bluffton Quadrangle, Wells County. The permittee is hereby authorized to discharge from the outfalls identified in Part I of this permit to receiving waters named Rock Creek in accordance with the effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in the permit. This permit may be revoked for the nonpayment of applicable fees in accordance with IC 13-18-20.

The permit, as issued on April 28, 2016 is hereby amended as contained herein. The amended provisions shall become effective on _________________. All terms and conditions of the permit not modified at this time remain in effect. Further, any existing condition or term affected by the modifications will remain in effect until the modified provisions become effective.

This permit and authorization to discharge, as amended, shall expire at midnight, July 31, 2021. In order to receive authorization to discharge beyond the date of expiration, the permittee shall submit such information and forms as are required by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management no later than 180 days prior to the date of expiration.

Issued on ________________ for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

________________________________________
Leigh Voss, Chief
Municipal NPDES Permits Section
Office of Water Quality
TREATMENT FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The permittee currently operates a Class I-SP, 0.024 MGD wastewater treatment facility. Primary treatment consists of three 15,000 gallon on-site septic tanks with 48-hour detention. Secondary treatment is provided by three equally sized constructed wetland cells with approximately 20,925 square feet of surface area, followed by chlorination and dechlorination facilities. Treated flow is stored in a detention pond with 43-day storage capacity prior to controlled discharge.

The permittee received Construction Approval No. L-0538 on July 11, 2018 to modify the existing treatment facility components for achieving compliance with new effluent limitation requirements for ammonia-nitrogen. The modified treatment facility will be a Class I 0.024 MGD biomechanical wastewater treatment facility with three 15,000 gallon on-site septic tanks with 48-hour detention, three constructed wetland cells, a Lemna polishing reactor, secondary clarifier, and chlorination and dechlorination facilities. Sludge is held in a sludge storage tank with a decant pump station. Sludge is disposed via landfill.

The collection system is comprised of 100% separate sanitary sewers by design with no overflow or bypass points.

PART I

A. FINAL EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The permittee is authorized to discharge from the outfall listed below in accordance with the terms and conditions of this permit. The permittee shall take samples and measurements at a location representative of each discharge to determine whether the effluent limitations have been met. Refer to Part I.B of this permit for additional monitoring and reporting requirements.

1. Beginning on the effective date of this permit, the permittee is authorized to discharge from Outfall 001 which is located at Latitude: 40.6607 N, Longitude: -85.2237 W. The discharge is subject to the following requirements:
TABLE 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Monthly Average</th>
<th>Weekly Average</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Quality or Concentration</th>
<th>Monthly Average</th>
<th>Weekly Average</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Sample Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flow [1]</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>MGD</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>5 X Weekly</td>
<td>24-Hr. Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBODs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer [2]</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>lbs/day</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Grab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter [3]</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>lbs/day</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Grab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer [2]</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>lbs/day</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Grab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter [3]</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>lbs/day</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Grab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammonia-nitrogen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer [2]</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>lbs/day</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Grab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter [3]</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>lbs/day</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Grab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phosphorus</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>lbs/day</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>mg/l</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Grab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Quality or Concentration</th>
<th>Monitoring Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Daily Minimum</td>
<td>Monthly Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pH [4]</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Residual Chlorine [5]</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Tank [6]</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. coli [8]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[1] Effluent flow measurement is required per 327 IAC 5-2-13. The flow meter(s) shall be calibrated at least once every twelve months.

[2] Summer limitations apply from May 1 through November 30 of each year.

[3] Winter limitations apply from December 1 through April 30 of each year.

[4] If the permittee collects more than one grab sample on a given day for pH, the values shall not be averaged for reporting daily maximums or daily minimums. The permittee must report the individual minimum and the individual maximum pH value of any sample during the month on the Monthly Report of Operation forms.

[5] The effluent shall be disinfected on a continuous basis such that violations of the applicable bacteriological limitations (fecal coliform or E. coli) do not occur from April 1 through October 31, annually. If the permittee uses chlorine for any reason, at any time including the period from November 1
through March 31, then the limits and monitoring requirements in Table 2 for Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) shall be in effect whenever chlorine is used.

[6] The chlorine residual shall be maintained at a concentration not less than 0.5 mg/l as measured at the effluent end of the chlorine contact tank for the term of the permit. The daily maximum chlorine residual value at the chlorine contact tank shall also be reported.

[7] In accordance with 327 IAC 5-2-11.1(f), compliance with this permit will be demonstrated if the measured effluent concentrations are less than the limit of quantitation (0.06 mg/l). If the measured effluent concentrations are above the water quality-based permit limitations and above the Limit of Detection (LOD) specified by the permit in any of three (3) consecutive analyses or any five (5) out of nine (9) analyses, the permittee is required to reevaluate its chlorination/dechlorination practices to make any necessary changes to assure compliance with the permit limitation for TRC. These records must be retained in accordance with the record retention requirements of Part I.B.8 of this permit.

Effluent concentrations greater than or equal to the LOD but less than the Limit of Quantitation (LOQ), shall be reported on the discharge monitoring report forms as the measured value. A note must be included with the DMR indicating that the value is not quantifiable. Effluent concentrations less than the limit of detection shall be reported on the discharge monitoring report forms as less than the value of the limit of detection. For example, if a substance is not detected at a concentration of 0.01 mg/l, report the value as < 0.01 mg/l. At present, two methods are considered to be acceptable to IDEM, amperometric and DPD colorimetric methods, for chlorine concentrations at the level of 0.06 mg/l.

[8] The *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) limitations apply from April 1 through October 31 annually. IDEM has specified the following methods as allowable for the detection and enumeration of *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*):

1. Coliscan MF® Method
2. EPA Method 1603 Modified m-TEC agar
3. mColi Blue-24®
4. Colilert® MPN Method or Colilert-18® MPN Method

[9] The monthly average *E. coli* value shall be calculated as a geometric mean. Per 327 IAC 5-10-6, the concentration of *E. coli* shall not exceed one hundred twenty-five (125) cfu or mpn per 100 milliliters as a geometric mean of the effluent samples taken in a calendar month. No samples may be excluded when calculating the monthly geometric mean.
[10]If less than ten samples are taken and analyzed for *E. coli* in a calendar month, no samples may exceed two hundred thirty-five (235) cfu or mpn as a daily maximum. However, when ten (10) or more samples are taken and analyzed for *E. coli* in a calendar month, not more than ten percent (10%) of those samples may exceed two hundred thirty-five (235) cfu or mpn as a daily maximum. When calculating ten percent, the result must not be rounded up. In reporting for compliance purposes on the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form, the permittee shall record the highest non-excluded value for the daily maximum

2. **Minimum Narrative Limitations**

At all times the discharge from any and all point sources specified within this permit shall not cause receiving waters:

a. including the mixing zone, to contain substances, materials, floating debris, oil, scum or other pollutants:

   (1) that will settle to form putrescent or otherwise objectionable deposits;

   (2) that are in amounts sufficient to be unsightly or deleterious;

   (3) that produce color, visible oil sheen, odor, or other conditions in such degree as to create a nuisance;

   (4) which are in amounts sufficient to be acutely toxic to, or to otherwise severely injure or kill aquatic life, other animals, plants, or humans;

   (5) which are in concentrations or combinations that will cause or contribute to the growth of aquatic plants or algae to such a degree as to create a nuisance, be unsightly, or otherwise impair the designated uses.
| Permittee: | Steven Rush, Council President  
| Town of Poneto  
P.O. Box 61  
Poneto, Indiana 46781  
tops@citznet.com, 260-694-6288 |
|---|---|
| Existing Permit Information: | Permit Number: IN0059048  
Expiration Date: July 31, 2021 |
| Facility Contact: | Thomas McElhaney, Operator  
thomas@onlyinternet.net, 765-348-8769 |
| Facility Location: | 0105 West Washington Street,  
NW of the intersection of SR 218 and Meridian Street,  
Poneto, Indiana 46781 |
| Receiving Stream: | Rock Creek |
| GLI/Non-GLI: | Non-GLI |
| Proposed Permit Action: | Modification |
| Date Application Received: | August 9, 2019 |
| Facility Category | Minor Municipal |
| Permit Writer: | Nicholas Eilerman, Environmental Manager  
neilerma@idem.in.gov, 317-232-8619 |
Outfall Location  Latitude:  40.6607 N
Longitude:  -85.2237 W

NPDES Permit No. IN0059048

Background

This is the modification of the NPDES permit for the Town of Poneto Wastewater Treatment Plant. The facility’s current permit was effective on August 1, 2016 and has an expiration date of July 31, 2021. A request for permit modification was received from the permittee on August 9, 2019. This modification reflects the changes to the facility description based on construction activities per Construction Approval No. L-0538 issued July 11, 2018, and the corresponding effluent limitation requirements for the modified treatment facility.

Modification

The following changes have been made for the modification of the NPDES permit:

Page 1 of 28  This page has been modified to reflect the modification effective date for the permit.

Pages 2-5 of 28  These page have been modified to reflect the changes to the facility description, as well as the modifications to the effluent limitation requirements for the Class I biomechanical treatment facility.

Expiration Date

The expiration date of the permit has not changed. The permit, as modified, will expire at midnight on July 31, 2021.
STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 2019 – 10G – RD
DATE OF NOTICE: OCTOBER 30, 2019
DATE RESPONSE DUE: DECEMBER 2, 2019

The Office of Water Quality proposes the following NPDES DRAFT PERMIT:

MINOR - MODIFICATION

PONETO (town) WWTP, Permit No. IN0059048, WELLS COUNTY, 0105 W Washington St, Poneto, IN. This municipal modification reflects changes to the facility description and modifications to the effluent limitation requirements. Permit Manager: Nick Eilerman, 317/232-8619, neilerma@idem.in.gov. Published in the News Banner.

PROCEDURES TO FILE A RESPONSE

Draft can be viewed or copied (10¢ per page) at IDEM/OWQ NPDES PS, 100 North Senate Avenue, (Rm 1203) Indianapolis, IN, 46204 (east end elevators) from 9 – 4, Mon - Fri, (except state holidays). A copy of the Draft Permit is on file at the local County Health Department. Please tell others you think would be interested in this matter. For your rights & responsibilities see: Public Participation Guide: http://www.in.gov/idem/5474.htm or Citizens’ Guide to IDEM: https://www.in.gov/idem/6900.htm.

Response Comments: The proposed decision to issue a permit is tentative. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the Draft permit. All comments must be postmarked no later than the Response Date noted to be considered in the decision to issue a Final permit. Deliver or mail all requests or comments to the attention of the Permit Writer at the above address, (mail code 65-42 PS).

To Request a Public Hearing:
Any person may request a Public Hearing. A written request must be submitted to the above address on or before the Response Date noted. The written request shall include: the name and address of the person making the request, the interest of the person making the request, persons represented by the person making the request, the reason for the request and the issues proposed for consideration at the Hearing. IDEM will determine whether to hold a Public Hearing based on the comments and the rationale for the request. Public Notice of such a Hearing will be published in at least one newspaper in the geographical area of the discharge and sent to anyone submitting written comments and/or making such request and whose name is on the mailing list at least 30 days prior to the Hearing.