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January 4, 2007

The Honorable Bart Peterson, Mayor
City of Indianapolis
2222 City-County Building
200 East Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3307

Dear Mayor Peterson:

RE: City of Indianapolis LTCP
Marion County

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Office of Water Quality (OWQ) has conducted a substantive review of the City of Indianapolis' (the City) Long Term Control Plan (LTCP). On October 4, 2006, the United States, on behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the State of Indiana, on behalf of IDEM, filed a complaint against the City in connection with the City's operation of its municipal wastewater and sewer system. Concurrent with the filing of the Complaint, the United States lodged with the Court a proposed Consent Decree that has been entered into by the United States, the State of Indiana, and the City of Indianapolis. The Consent Decree incorporated the City's Long Term Control Plan.

The Indianapolis LTCP proposes to achieve 97 percent capture of combined sewage flows on Fall Creek and 95 percent capture on other waterways. The selected plan is expected to result in reducing the average annual combined sewer overflow frequency from 60 storms per year to approximately two storms per year on Fall Creek and four storms per year on other waterways, based on average rainfall statistics for Indianapolis.

The plan proposes the use of storage/conveyance facilities in all major watersheds combined with advanced wastewater treatment plant improvements. Facilities will be designed to achieve 97 percent capture on Fall Creek and 95 percent capture on White River, Pleasant Run/Bean Creek, Pogues Run and Eagle Creek. Sewer separation will be employed along Lick Creek, State Ditch and other isolated outfall locations. Flows will be collected from outfalls on a regional basis using conveyance facilities connected to a single deep tunnel. The deep tunnel will serve primarily as a storage facility, and the stored flows will be pumped out to the Advanced Wastewater Treatment (AWT) plants at the end of a storm event. The AWT facilities will be expanded and upgraded to provide treatment of wet-weather flows. The plan also includes the use of near-surface collection conduits and satellite near-surface storage facilities to control remotely located outfalls on upper White River and Pogues Run.

The key features of the plan are:

- A central tunnel system along Fall Creek and the White River, with a pumping facility located near the Southwest Diversion Structure.
- A collection interceptor for remote outfalls along Fall Creek and the White River to convey wet-weather flows into the central tunnel system.
- Satellite storage facilities for remotely located outfalls along upper White River and upper Pogues Run.

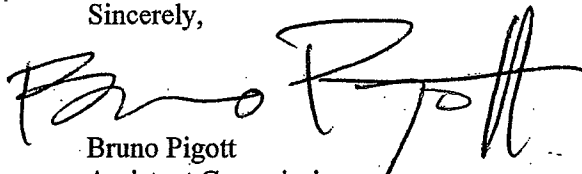
- Collection interceptors along Pogues Run, Pleasant Run and Bean Creek to convey wet-weather flows into the central tunnel system.
- A collection interceptor along Eagle Creek to convey wet weather flows to the Belmont AWT plant.
- An interplant connection interceptor from the Southwest Diversion Structure to the Southport AWT plant to convey stored tunnel flows to the Southport plant for treatment.
- Local sewer separation projects to eliminate isolated overflows on State Ditch, Lick Creek, White River and the upstream ends of Fall Creek, Pogues Run and Bean Creek.
- Belmont and Southport AWT plant improvements.
- Watershed improvements.

The LTCP allows for a few residual CSOs to occur during storms that exceed the LTCP design and performance criteria. Because of this, the City has also submitted as a part of the LTCP, a Use Attainability Analysis, as provided for in both federal and state law. The UAA is a process to identify attainable use designations for CSO receiving waters. The City believes the UAA supports the assertion that complete elimination of combined sewer overflow impacts to water quality would be both unaffordable and infeasible, and requests approval of a refinement to the recreational designated use in waterways affected by Indianapolis CSOs. The UAA, if approved, will require a formal change to the water quality standard for the affected waterways.

By this letter, IDEM approves Sections 1 through 8 of the LTCP, pursuant to paragraph M of the federal Consent Decree. Section 9 of the LTCP is the City's UAA submission. Section 9 is currently under review by this Office.

Please contact Cyndi Wagner at (317) 233-0473, if you have questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Bruno Pigott
Assistant Commissioner
Office of Water Quality

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