



DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Sarah Huckabee Sanders
GOVERNOR

Shane E. Khoury
SECRETARY

June 7, 2024

Daniel Dawson, General Manager
Searcy Board of Public Utilities
P.O. Box 1319
Searcy, AR 72143

Email: d.dawson@searcywater.org

**RE: NPDES Permit No. AR0021601, AFIN 73-00055
PROPOSED CONSENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

Dear Mr. Dawson:

Attached is a proposed Consent Administrative Order (CAO) for violations of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-201 *et seq.*, at a site located at 8700 Highway 13 in Searcy, Arkansas. The Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has determined that this CAO is necessary to ensure compliance with the Act.

The enclosed CAO enumerates the violations in the “Findings of Fact” section, and outlines the steps required to achieve compliance in the “Order and Agreement” section of the CAO. Additionally, a civil penalty in the amount of \$5200.00 is proposed by DEQ to settle the violations outlined in this CAO. If you choose to accept the terms of the CAO, please sign, date, and **return the signed copy** to the address below within **twenty (20) calendar days** of receipt of this letter. A Board Resolution that approves the CAO and authorizes the General Manager to sign the CAO on behalf of the Searcy Board of Public Utilities must also be submitted. Subsequently, the Chief Administrator of DEQ will sign the CAO and you will be provided a copy, including information on the public notice process and the effective date of the CAO.

In addition, you may have the option of directing a portion of your penalty toward a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) to advance environmental interests. Generally a SEP will not reduce the recommended administrative civil penalty by more than thirty-five percent (35%); however, the DEQ Director has the final authority to establish the level of mitigation of a penalty. If you are interested in a SEP as part of your negotiated settlement, please refer to DEQ’s SEP Policy and Proposal Guidelines at <http://www.state.ar.us/legal/sep.htm> for additional information.

Failure to contact the DEQ, Office of Water Quality, Enforcement Branch in response to this CAO **within (20) calendar days** of receipt of this letter, will constitute rejection of the settlement offer and unilateral enforcement action may proceed through a Notice of Violation (NOV). Should you wish to discuss this matter further, you may contact me at (501) 682-0858, or you may e-mail rachel.wilcox@arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rachel Wilcox". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rachel Wilcox
Compliance Analyst, OWQ, DEQ

CC: Jerry T. Martin, jtmartin@garverusa.com