



CITY OF HOT SPRINGS

Utilities Department

780 Adams Street

Hot Springs, Arkansas 71901

September 15, 2025

VIA Email

Leslie Allen-Daniel
Enforcement Analyst – Water Division
Arkansas Energy & Environment – Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

**RE: City of Hot Springs Utilities
Permit No. AR0033880 / AFIN 26-00145 / CAO LIS 08-099-002 - Semi-Annual Report on
Gulpha Sewer Basin / Davidson Drive Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements**

Dear Ms. Allen-Daniel,

This semi-annual report is submitted to the Arkansas Energy & Environment, Division of Environmental Quality to comply with CAO LIS 08-009-002. The City of Hot Springs engaged four engineering firms to address the primary deficiencies in the Gulpha Sewer Basin and at the Davidson Drive Wastewater Treatment Plants.

DAVIDSON DRIVE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS

The City awarded a Guaranteed Maximum Price via Construction Manager at Risk contract to Max Foote Construction Company, Inc. for improvements at the Davidson Drive Plant. The project, designed by Crist Engineers includes:

- New aeration diffuser equipment to increase treatment capacity throughout the existing basins. Two basins are complete. Improvements to a third basin is scheduled to begin the last of September.
 - A new chemical building with enhanced addition of coagulant chemicals to aid in suspended solids and reduce ammonia and phosphorus.
 - Expansion of UV Disinfection System to a treatment capacity of 72 MGD
 - Replacement of the 54" discharge line and diffuser that carries treated wastewater back to the environment in Lake Catherine.
 - Temporary relocation of an existing headworks generator during construction.
 - New 2,500 kW backup diesel generator and ATS installed to power entire plant during adverse conditions.
-

Progress over the past six months includes:

- Completion of the new Chemical Building
- Installation of three blowers
- Installation of the new 2,500 kW generator
- Installation of a new 100' diameter secondary clarifier.



*Filter
Improvements
Under
Construction*



Settling Basin Under Construction



High-load Emergency Backup Generator Installation

Work currently in progress:

- Kajacs Construction mobilization for the new Outfall/Diffuser - 9/15/2025 (Pipe delivery scheduled for October 2025)
- The estimated completions date is August 31, 2026.

GULPHA SEWER BASIN COLLECTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Lower Gulpha Interceptor – RJN Group designed the Gulpha Sewer Basin Gravity Sewer Interceptor. The construction contract was awarded to the Coakley Company, Inc. with Notice to Proceed issued on July 16, 2025. Construction began in August 2025. End of construction is estimated to be in 460 days. Belt Construction holds the contract for Schedule 2,3,4 of the project. A preconstruction conference was held on August 28, 2025. Construction began on September 2, 2025 and is scheduled for completion in 550 days.

Gulpha Force Main – Hanson Engineering, LLC holds the engineering contract for the Gulpha Force Main from the Gulpha Pump Station to the Davidson Drive Wastewater Treatment Plant. Phase I (replacement of an existing 24" force main with parallel 24" and 30" PVC force mains) and Phase II (a single 30" to 36" force main terminating at the Davidson Drive WWTP) are complete.

Gulpha Pump Station Improvements – Crist Engineers holds the engineering and construction management contracts for the Gulpha Basin Pump Station Improvements. Construction, by Max Foote Construction Company, LLC is about 80% complete. End of construction is set for November 18, 2025. While power transformers may not be in place by then, the new station will be operable using generator power.



Gulpha Pump Station Construction

Filamentous Algae Study on Lake Catherine - Completed and submitted to DEQ in January 2025 (attached).

Spring Street Collection System Improvements – Designed by Hawkins-Weir Engineers, Inc., Boyles Construction holds the Schedule I Contract; Diamond Construction will complete Schedules 2,3 &4. A pre-construction meeting was held for each contractor on September 11, 2025. Boyles Notice to Proceed start date is September 29, 2025. Diamond's start date is pending due to pipe/fittings delivery.

Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Study – RJN is conducting a new SSES for the City of Hot Springs. Phase I of the study is underway with smoke testing (with public notification), manhole inspections and gravity main cleaning/CCTV. Rain gauge monitors have been set up. This project should be completed with 2 years.

Hot Springs Creek Pump Station and Hot Springs Pump Station #3 – Pump station improvements are under contract with Max Foote Construction Company, LLC.

Other Continuing Activities Within the Collections Division include:

- Routine CCTV inspection of sewer mains
- Ongoing removal of roots/debris from mains
- Repair and replacement of defective mains and services
- Routine hydro flushing of mains and services
- Disconnection of abandoned services
- Manhole rehabilitation (I&I)

Should you need further information, please contact me at (501)651-7730 or by email at mledbetter@cityhs.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Monty Ledbetter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Monty" and last name "Ledbetter" clearly distinguishable.

Monty Ledbetter
Utilities Director

Attachment: Olsson Final Report – Summary of 2024 Field Data Collected in Lake Catherine, Arkansas (Filamentous Study)

cc: **Arkansas Energy & Environment** | Richard Healey, Enforcement Manager
City of Hot Springs - Bill Burrough, City Manager; Denny McPhate, Deputy City Manager; Harold Mauldin, Wastewater Facilities Operations Manager; Todd Piller, Capital Project Manager;
Consultants - Karl Hanson, Hanson McLaughlin; Chris Leathers, RJN Group; Craig Johnson, Crist Engineers; Elizabeth Heiles, Hawkins-Weir Engineers

