



NPDES PERMIT NO: NM0020150

AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq; the "Act"),
City of Belen
100 South Main Street
Belen, NM 87002

is authorized to discharge from a facility located at 1300 Conservancy Road, Belen, in Valencia County, New Mexico. The discharge will be to receiving waters named Bosque Drain, thence to the Rio Grande, in Segment No. 20.6.4.105 of the Rio Grande Basin,

the discharge is located on that water at the following coordinates:

Outfall 001: Latitude 34° 38' 32" North, Longitude 106° 46' 36" West,

in accordance with this cover page and the effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in Part I, Part II, Part III, and Part IV hereof.

This permit is prepared by Jim Afghani, Environmental Engineer, Permitting Section (6WQ-PE).

This is a reissuance of the current NPDES permit and shall become effective on December 1, 2025.

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, November 30, 2030.

Issued on October 15, 2025.

Acting for Troy C. Hill, P.E.
Director
Water Division

DOCUMENT ABBREVIATIONS

In the document that follows, various abbreviations are used. They are as follows:

4Q3	Lowest four-day average flow rate expected to occur once every three-years
BAT	Best available technology economically achievable
BCT	Best conventional pollutant control technology
BPT	Best practicable control technology currently available
BMP	Best management plan
BOD	Biochemical oxygen demand (five-day unless noted otherwise)
BPJ	Best professional judgment
CBOD	Carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (five-day unless noted otherwise)
CD	Critical dilution
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	Cubic feet per second
COD	Chemical oxygen demand
COE	United States Corp of Engineers
CWA	Clean Water Act
DMR	Discharge monitoring report
ELG	Effluent limitation guidelines
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FCB	Fecal coliform bacteria
FWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
mg/L	Milligrams per liter
ug/L	Micrograms per liter
lbs	Pounds
MGD	Million gallons per day
NMAC	New Mexico Administrative Code
NMED	New Mexico Environment Department
NMIP	New Mexico NPDES Permit Implementation Procedures
NMWQCC	New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission.
NMWQS	New Mexico State Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Surface Waters
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
ML	Minimum quantification level
O&G	Oil and grease
PFAS	Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances
POTW	Publicly owned treatment works
RP	Reasonable potential
SS	Settleable solids
SIC	Standard industrial classification
SU	Standard units (for parameter pH)
SWQB	Surface Water Quality Bureau
TDS	Total dissolved solids
TMDL	Total maximum daily load
TRC	Total residual chlorine
TSS	Total suspended solids
UAA	Use attainability analysis
USGS	United States Geological Service
WLA	Waste load allocation
WET	Whole effluent toxicity
WQCC	New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission
WQMP	Water Quality Management Plan
WWTP	Wastewater treatment plant

In this document, references to State WQS and/or rules shall collectively mean the State of New Mexico.

PART I – REQUIREMENTS FOR NPDES PERMITS

SECTION A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. Effluent Limits – 1.20 MGD Design Flow

During the period beginning the effective date of the permit and lasting through the expiration date of the permit (unless otherwise noted), the permittee is authorized to discharge treated municipal wastewater from Outfalls 001. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

POLLUTANT	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	FREQUENCY	TYPE
pH	6.6 s.u.	9.0 s.u.	Twice/Week	Grab

POLLUTANT	30-DAY AVERAGE	7-DAY AVERAGE	30-DAY AVERAGE	7-DAY AVERAGE	DAILY MAXIMUM	FREQUENCY	TYPE
Flow	Report MGD	Report MGD	***	***	***	Continuous	Totalizing Meter
Biochemical Oxygen Demand, 5-day	300.42 lbs/day	450.63 lbs/day	30 mg/L	45 mg/L	N/A	3/Week	6-Hr Composite
BOD% Removal	≥85% (*1)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/Month	N/A
TSS% Removal	≥85% (*1)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/Month	N/A
Total Suspended Solids	300.42 lbs/day	450.63 lbs/day	30 mg/L	45 mg/L	N/A	3/Week	6-Hr Composite
E. Coli Bacteria	5.73X 10 ⁹ (*3)	Report (*3)	126 (*2)	N/A	410 (*2)	3/Week	Grab (*4)
Total Residual Chlorine	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	11 ug/L	Daily	Grab (*4)
Nitrate	N/A	N/A	N/A	Report	10,000 ug/L (*5)	3/Week	6-Hr Composite
Dichlorobromomethane	N/A	N/A	N/A	Report	5.6 ug/L (*5)	3/Week	6-Hr Composite
PFAS Analytes, (Influent)(*7)(*10)	***	***	***	***	***	Quarterly	Grab
PFAS Analytes, (Effluent)(*7)(*10)	***	***	***	***	***	Quarterly	Grab
PFAS Analytes, (Biosolids)(*8, 9, 10)	***	***	***	***	***	Quarterly	Grab

WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING (7-day Chronic Static Renewal/NOEC) (*6)	VALUE	FREQUENCY	TYPE
<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i> (Cd)	Report	1/Quarter (*6)	24-Hr Composite
<i>Pimephales promelas</i> (Pp)	Report	1/Quarter (*6)	24-Hr Composite

Footnotes:

- *1. Percent removal = $\{(Avg. Influent concentration - Avg. effluent concentration) / Avg. Influent concentration\} \times 100\}$
- *2. Colony forming units (cfu) per 100 mL or Most Probable Number (MPN/100 mL). The 30-day average must be calculated and reported using the Geometric Mean of the sample during the monitoring period.
- *3. Colony forming units (cfu) per day. Loading is calculated by multiplying the bacteria concentration (in cfu/100 mL) * flow (in MGD) * 3.79×10^7 [a conversion factor].
- *4 Instantaneous Grab. Regulations at 40 CFR Part 136 define "instantaneous grab" as analyzed within 15 minutes of collection. For TRC, the effluent limitation is the instantaneous maximum and cannot be averaged for reporting purposes. TRC limitations will apply when chlorine is used in any part of the treatment process, either alone, or in combination with ultraviolet light treatment.
- *5. Monitoring to begin from the effective date and continue during initial three (3) years of the final permit. After initial three (3) years of monitoring, effluent limits shall be met.
- *6. Monitoring and reporting requirements begin on the effective date of this permit. See Part II of the permit for WET testing requirements and additional WET monitoring and reporting conditions. Grab samples are allowed per method, if needed.
- *7 Report in nanograms per liter (ng/L). This reporting requirement for the 40 PFAS parameters takes effect the first full calendar quarter after the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the permit. Until there is an analytical method approved in 40 CFR Part 136 for PFAS in wastewater, monitoring shall be conducted using Method 1633. Additionally, report in Net-DMR the results of all 40 PFAS analytes required to be tested as part of the method as shown in Appendix B of Part II.
- *8 Report in nanograms per gram (ng/g). This reporting requirement for the 40 PFAS parameters takes effect the first full calendar quarter after the effective date of the authorization to discharge under the permit. Until there is an analytical method approved in 40 CFR Part 136 for PFAS in sludge, monitoring shall be conducted using Method 1633. Additionally, report in Net-DMR the results of all 40 PFAS analytes required to be tested as part of the method, as shown in Appendix B of Part II.
- *9 Biosolids sampling shall be as representative as possible based on guidance found at <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-11/documents/potw-sludge-sampling-guidance-document.pdf>
- *10 PFAS Analysis data should be submitted annually to NMED at SWQ.Reporting@env.nm.gov and NMENV-PFAS-DATA@env.nm.gov. The data submittal should include the electronic data deliverable and sampling narrative report provided by the analytical laboratory used to complete the analysis.

A. FLOATING SOLIDS, VISIBLE FOAM AND/OR OILS

There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts. There shall be no discharge of visible films of oil, globules of oil, grease or solids in or on the water, or coatings on stream banks. In addition, samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the discharge from the final treatment unit prior to the receiving stream. The sample point shall be clearly marked by the facility if it is not at the final outfall location. There shall be no flow from any source into the piping system after the sample point and prior to the final outfall.

B. SCHEDULES OF COMPLIANCE

The permittee shall submit a detailed plan to test for nitrate and dichlorobromomethane (bromodichloromethane) within two (2) months after the effective date of the permit to both EPA and NMED for review. The plan must also include strategies to control effluent concentrations of dichlorobromomethane (bromodichloromethane) and nitrate to meet the NMQWS at the treatment facility. Once approved, the permittee must collect and analyze samples for nitrate and dichlorobromomethane (bromodichloromethane) three (3) times per week or more frequent during first (1), second (2) and third (3) year of the permit. The results of this study shall be attached to the DMR reports to EPA. At the end of third year, the treatment facility shall meet the effluent limitations for both pollutants.

C. MONITORING AND REPORTING (MAJOR DISCHARGERS)

1. The permittee shall effectively monitor the operation and efficiency of all treatment and control facilities and the quantity and quality of the treated discharge.
2. Applicable reports (DMRs, Biosolids/Sewage Sludge, Sewer Overflow/Bypass Event Pretreatment Program) shall be electronically reported to EPA at <https://cdx.epa.gov/>. The permittee may seek a waiver from electronic reporting or until approved for electronic reporting, the permittee shall first submit an electronic reporting waiver request to U.S. EPA - Region 6, Water Enforcement Branch, New Mexico State Coordinator (6EN-WC; 214-665-7179).

If paper reporting is granted, the permittee shall submit reports on paper in accordance with signature and certification as required by Part III.D.11, and all other reports required by Part III.D.

e-Reporting Programs (if applicable)	e-Reporting Compliance Date	Frequency
DMRs	Permit effective date Monthly	Monthly
Biosolids/Sewage Sludge Report	Permit effective date Annually	Annually
Pretreatment Program Reports	By 21 December 2025 Annually	Annually
Sewer Overflow/Bypass Event Reports and Anticipated Bypass Notices	By 21 December 2025 Monthly	Monthly

3. If any 30-day average, monthly average or daily maximum value exceeds the effluent limitations specified in Part I.A, the permittee shall report the excursion in accordance with the requirements of Part III.D.
4. Any 30-day average, monthly average, or daily maximum value reported in the required DMR which is more than the effluent limitation specified in Part I.A shall constitute evidence of violation of such effluent limitation and of this permit.
5. Other measurements of oxygen demand (e.g., TOC and COD) may be substituted for five-day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅) or for five-day Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD₅), as applicable, where the permittee can demonstrate long-term correlation of the method with BOD₅ or CBOD₅ values,

as applicable. Details of the correlation procedures used must be submitted and prior approval granted by the permitting authority for this procedure to be acceptable. Data reported must also include evidence to show that the proper correlation continues to exist after approval.

6. The permittee shall submit a copy of an annual summary of the data that results from whole effluent toxicity testing to each of the following entities:

EPA
Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division
Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-W)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500, Dallas, TX 75270-2102

Program Manager, Surface Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 5469, 1190 Saint Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469

7. NO DISCHARGE REPORTING: A list of the NODI codes is available in the Net-DMR system. For example, if there is no discharge from any outfall during the sampling month, enter a NODI code "C."

D. OVERFLOW REPORTING

The permittee is required to report all overflow and bypass events through the designated website by the compliance date specified above. If paper reports are submitted before this compliance date, they will be summarized and presented in a table. The summaries must include the following information: date, time, duration, location, estimated volume, cause of the overflow, observed environmental impacts, actions taken to address the overflow, and the ultimate discharge location if it was not contained (for example, storm sewer system, ditch, or tributary).

Sewer overflow and bypass events that pose a risk to health or the environment must be reported via email to R6_NPDES_Reporting@epa.gov and to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau at (505) 827-0187 or swq.reporting@env.nm.gov (email is preferred) as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours after the permittee becomes aware of the event.

Additionally, the permittee must use NeT-SewerOverflow, accessible at <https://cdx.epa.gov/>, to submit a Sewer Overflow/Bypass Event Report to the EPA and NMED within five days of becoming aware of any sewer overflow or bypass event that poses a threat to health or the environment. For all other overflow or bypass events that do not pose a similar threat, the permittee must file a Sewer Overflow/Bypass Event Report with the EPA using NeT-SewerOverflow by the due date of the next Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) submission.

Furthermore, the permittee must coordinate with downstream users and stakeholders to develop a communication plan for notifying the public about any sewer overflow and bypass events that affect a water body. A copy of this public notification should also be sent to NMED at swq.reporting@env.nm.gov.

E. POLLUTION PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS

The permittee shall institute a program within 12 months of the effective date of the permit (or continue an existing one) directed towards optimizing the efficiency and extending the useful life of the facility. The permittee shall consider the following items in the program:

- a. The influent loadings, flow and design capacity;
- b. The effluent quality and plant performance;
- c. The age and expected life of the wastewater treatment facility's equipment;
- d. Bypasses and overflows of the tributary sewerage system and treatment works;
- e. New developments at the facility;
- f. Operator certification and training plans and status;
- g. The financial status of the facility;
- h. Preventative maintenance programs and equipment conditions and;
- i. An overall evaluation of conditions at the facility.

F. APPLICATION, DMR, AND COMPLIANCE STATUS REPORT

A duplicate copy of application for permit renewal, monthly Discharge Monitoring Report, and compliance status report, if there are any, shall be sent to New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) at the mailing address listed in Part III.D of this permit.