Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division

Offsite Compliance Monitoring (OfCM) REPORT

OfCM Completion Date:	05/04/ 2021		
Media:	Water		
Regulatory Program(s)	NPDES		
Company Name:	**City of Rio Rancho**		
Facility Name:	**City of Rio Rancho Wastewater Treatment Plant #2**		
Facility Physical Location:	100 Industrial Park Loop		
(city, state, zip code)	Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87144		
Mailing address:	3200 Civic City Circle		
(city, state, zip code)	Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87144		
County/Parish:	Sandoval		
Facility Contact:	Jim Chiasson	Utilities Director	
	rchiasson@rrnmn.gov		
FRS Number:	110022872346		
Identification/Permit Number:	NM0027987		
NAICS:	221320		
SIC:	4952		
Personnel participating in OfCM:			
Jim Chiasson	City of Rio Rancho	Utilities Director	505-896-8736
Steve Gallegos	City of Rio Rancho	Deputy Utilities Director	505-896-8736
Dennis Gonzales	City of Rio Rancho	Wastewater Operations Supervisor	
Bill Jacquez	Jacobs Engineering Group	Compliance Coordinator	505-975-1557
Jeff Heroux	Jacobs Engineering Group	OM Services Compliance and Reporting	
Pat Gallegos	Jacobs Engineering Group	Water Utilities Manager	
Susan LucasKamat	NMED-Surface Water Quality Bureau	(Acting) Program Manager, Point Source Regulation Section	505-946-8924
Jason Martinez	NMED- Surface Water Quality Bureau	Point Source Regulation Municipal Team	505-372-8376
Anthony Loston	EPA/R6-ECDWM	Environmental Engineer	214-665-3109
David A Esparza	EPA/R6-ECDWM	Environmental Engineer	505-366-8402
EPA Lead OfCM Official Signature/Date			
	David Esparza		Date
Supervisor Signature/Date	Bernier, Roberto Digitally signed by Bernier, Roberto DN: cn=Bernier, Roberto, email=bernier.roberto@epa.gov Date: 2021.08.09 10:40:22 -05'00'		
	Roberto Bernier		Date

Section I - INTRODUCTION
PURPOSE OF THE OfCM

EPA Region 6 Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division (ECAD) inspector David Esparza completed an Offsite Compliance Monitoring (OfCM) Report for City of Rio Rancho (Rio Rancho) Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) #2**.** The scope of the OfCM was to review information sufficiently detailed to form a reasonable view of the compliance status under the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the WWTP's compliance with their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit Number NM0027987. I coordinated with Mr. Jim Chiasson; Utilities Director, and Mr. Bill Jacquez; Jacobs Engineering Group Compliance to conduct a Microsoft (MS) Teams Virtual Remote Inspection in conjunction with the OfCM. Additional Rio Rancho or their contract consultants: Jacobs Engineering Group participating in the May 4th OfCM included Mr. Steve Gallegos, Dennis Gonzales, Jeff Heroux and Pat Gallegos. Furthermore, Ms. Susan LucasKamat, (Acting) Program Manager and Mr. Jason Martinez, Municipal Team represented the New Mexico Environment Department-Surface Water Quality Bureau and Point Source Regulation Section participated as well.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The WWTP #2 is a major discharger with a pre-treatment program and permitted flow of 8.2 million gallons per day (MGD) (currently operating at approximately 5.5 MGD). The WWTP is located at 100 Industrial Park Loop, Sandoval County, New Mexico (depicted in Aerial Image 2 below). The WWTP facility serves a population of approximately 98,000 (2018 US Census) residents. The WWTP facility is currently operated under a contract agreement with Jacobs Engineering Group (formerly CH2M, now a subsidiary of Jacobs) for design, build and operations, 24-hours per day, 7 days per week and consists of a staff of 6 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions.

A Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system provides around the clock monitoring of WWTP operations. After entering the WWTP facility via a series of 27 lift stations (LS) (Identified in **Table 1** below).

Table 1: City of Rio Rancho Lift Stations

Lift Station Number	Location by Street Address	Comment
1	4906 Dolores Hildago SE	
2	2451 Southern Blvd. SE	
3	301 Southern Blvd.	
4	Inca & Hondo	
5	1025 Sunflower SW	
6	Alpine & Riverview Rd.	
7	7400 Hapsburg NE	
8	South of WWTP #3	Located on the west side of the canal (Aerial Image #3)
9	Sue Cleveland High School	
10	Highway 528	This LS is located behind the Walgreens/Pinehurst
11	8011 Montoya Rd.	This LS is in the proximity of Walmart
12	OFFLINE	This LS was replaced by LS-14.2 and was closed in place.
13	1650 Riverside Drive	Located at WWTP #3 (Aerial Image #3)
14.2	WWTP #2 by west gate	

Continued		
Lift Station Number	**Location by Street Address**	**Comment**
15	1385 Hwy 528	
16	2006 Grande Blvd. SE	
17	1057 Joshua Dr SE	
18	1420 Sara Way SE	
19	1712 Prairie Sage Way SE	
20	7059 Westphalia Blvd. NE	
21	1650 Riverside Drive	Located at WWTP #3 (Aerial Image #3)
22	Hwy 528 & Obregon Rd NE	
23	4903 Chaco Loop NE	
24	2300 Westside Blvd. SE	
25	3655 Hanley Rd. NE	Located at WWTP #5 (Aerial Image #5)
26	Blue Grama Rd.	
27	4300 Sara Rd. SE	
28	21st and 12th	

Table 2: City of Rio Rancho Wastewater Treatment Plant Locations

Wastewater Treatment Plant	**Location by Street Address**	**Comment**
1	4300 Sara Road	Offline (CRR photograph address indicates 106 Stephanie Rd SE). This WWTP was "closed in-place" circa April 2020.
2	100 Industrial Park Loop	
3	1650 Riverside Drive	Offline (CRR photograph address indicates 1713 Black River Court NE or email information indicates 1706 Riverside Dr. NE). NPDES permit NM0029602 was terminated on March 24. 2021
4	Unser Blvd. & Hwy 550	Offline (CRR photograph address indicates 6501 Mountain Hawk Loop NE or email information indicates 6999 Westphalia Blvd. NE). This WWTP was decommissioned circa May 2016.
5	3655 Hanley Rd. NE	CRR photograph address indicates 7024 Mountain Hawk Loop NE or email information indicates 3651 Hanley Rd. NE). NMED DP-1650 indicates an address of 3354 8th Ave. NE
6	2300 Westside Blvd. SE	CRR photograph address indicates 2336 Violeta Circle SE

Note: The locations (street addresses) in the middle column were provided by the City of Rio Rancho (CRR) in their RFI response and column 3 are indicated on their photographic documentation or by email correspondence.

WWTP#2 is one (1) of six (6) WWTPs owned or previously owned and operated by the City of Rio Rancho (see Table 2 above). Outfall 001, the outfall from WWTP#2, is the only outfall currently discharging under an NPDES permit. WWTP#3 (NPDES permit number NM0029602) issued on June 6, 2016 was terminated on March 24, 2021. All WWTP#3 waste streams are diverted to the influent flow at WWTP#2. As of April 2020, WWTP #1 was permanently closed and all flow is pumped to Water Reclamation Facility #6 (WRF #6). Ultra-violet (UV) and chlorination disinfection units are used at WWTP #2 (5.5 MGD) and

WRF #6 (2.7 MGD), where their effluents are comingled prior to discharging to the Rio Grande at Outfall 001. WRF #6 effluent is also pumped into an injection well authorized under New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) discharge permit DP-215. Additionally, circa summer 2017, effluent flow from WWTP#5 (also known as Cabezon WRF) was designated as part of a Direct Injection Recharge Demonstration Project under NMED discharge permit DP-1650 with discharge volumes up to 1MGD. Rio Rancho states the source water for Cabezon utilizes a membrane bioreactor (MBR) treatment process producing Class IA reclaimed wastewater.

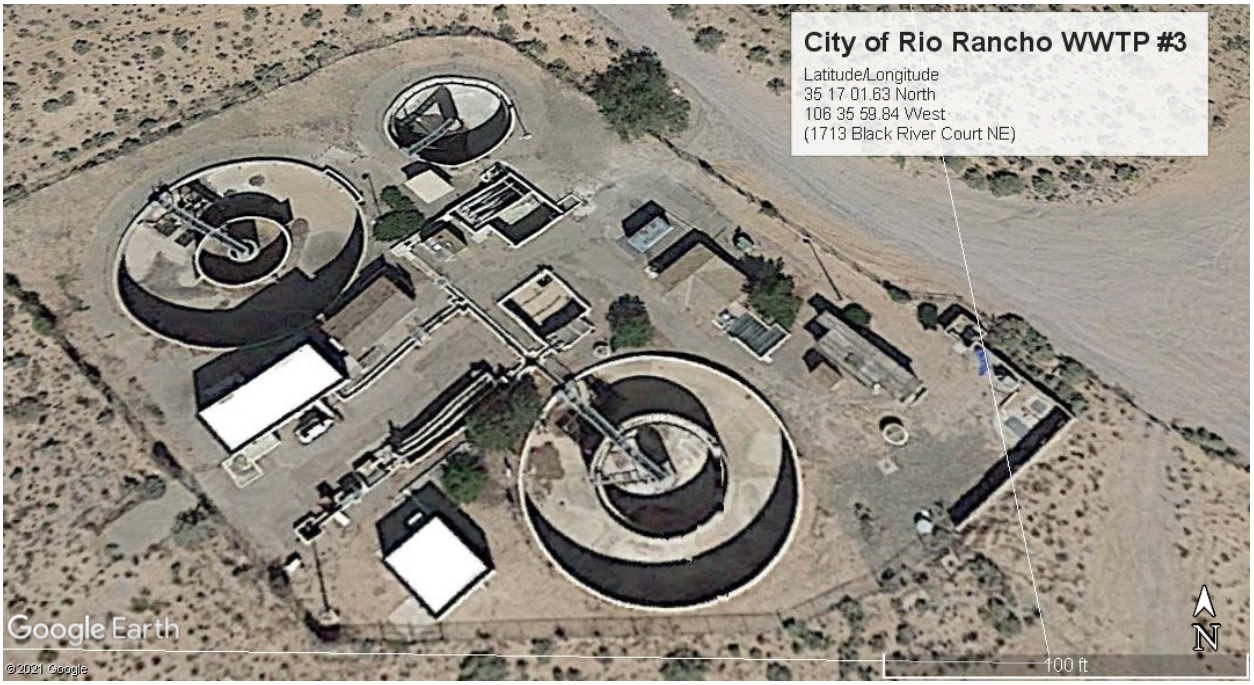
The 27 lift stations identified in Table 1 above are equipped with permanent generators in case of power failure, and are exercised on a routine basis.

WWTP#2 is comprised of two separate treatment streams, 2A and 2B. 2A is a Schreiber Process Unit that was built circa 1995, and consists of a bar screen, aeration basin and clarifier basin. 2B has approximately twice the treatment volume of 2A, and utilizes an activated sludge treatment process with an automatic grit belt and climber screen system, anoxic basins, fine bubble aeration basins, and clarifiers. Both 2A and 2B flows recombine prior to the ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system and discharge to Outfall 001.

Aerial Image 1: Overall view of the City of Rio Rancho's Wastewater Treatment Plant #1. As of April 2020, WWTP #1 was permanently closed; all flow is pumped to WRF #6. Aerial from Google Earth maps.

Aerial Image 2: Overall view of the City of Rio Rancho's Wastewater Treatment Plant #2. Aerial from Google Earth maps.

Aerial Image 3: Overall view of the City of Rio Rancho's Wastewater Treatment Plant #3 (former NPDES permit NM0029602), inclusive of the various addresses provided by the City of Rio Rancho. Aerial from Google Earth maps.



Aerial Image 3a: Overall view of the City of Rio Rancho's Wastewater Treatment Plant #3 (former NPDES permit NM0029602). Aerial from Google Earth maps.

Aerial Image 4: Overall view of the City of Rio Rancho's Wastewater Treatment Plant #4. Aerial from Google Earth maps.

Aerial Image 4a: Overall view of the City of Rio Rancho's Wastewater Treatment Plant #4, inclusive of the various addresses provided by the City of Rio Rancho. Aerial from Google Earth maps.

Aerial Image 5: Overall view of the City of Rio Rancho's Wastewater Treatment Plant #5 (aka Cabezon WRF; NMED DP-1650). Aerial from Google Earth maps.

Aerial Image 5a: Overall view of the City of Rio Rancho's Wastewater Treatment Plant #5 (aka Cabezon WRF; NMED DP-1650), inclusive of the various addresses provided by the City of Rio Rancho. Aerial from Google Earth maps.

Aerial Image 5b: Overall view of the City of Rio Rancho's Wastewater Treatment Plant #5 (aka Cabezon WRF; NMED DP-1650). Aerial from Google Earth maps.

Aerial Image 6: Overall view of the City of Rio Rancho's Wastewater Treatment Plant #6 (aka NMED DP-215). Aerial from Google Earth maps.

Additionally, Rio Rancho has implemented written policies and procedures to address any potential sanitary sewer overflow events (SSOs), and standard operating procedures (SOPs) pertaining to facility operations and maintenance (O&M). Furthermore, by City Ordinance a Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) program was enacted with respect to new and existing FOG contributors.

Currently the only established Industrial User (IU) is Insight Lighting, Inc. (Insight), located at 4341 Fulcrum Way NE. Rio Rancho. Insight entered into an individual wastewater discharge agreement (Permit No. S07002, Appendix **3** Insight Lighting Discharge Service Agreement) for the disposal of Insight's effluent into the City's WWTP #2 in December 2007. This 2007 agreement was updated in July 2019 incorporating streamlining regulations. Insight is designated by the Control Authority as a Middle Tier CIU because its categorical discharge of wastewater does not exceed the 5,000 gpd or the 0.01 percent maximum allowable headworks loading in accordance with 40 CFR 433- Metal Finishing Point Source Category (Subpart A- Metal Finishing Subcategory (§§433.10-433.17)).

Section II – QUALIFYING OfCM REVIEW/DESCRIPTION

Mr. Chiasson and Mr. Jaquez provided background information prior to the Microsoft Teams (MS Teams) video conferencing meeting, wherein specific and previously indentified WWTP processes were viewed and discussed. Additionally, facility reports, WWTP photographs, sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) reports/policies, lift station location and status, standard operating procedures (SOPs), documentation of the FOG Program, identification of any industrial users and clarification of the 2019 Alpha Southwest disposal were discussed.

Section III – OFFSITE COMPLIANCE MONITORING DESCRIPTION

The OfCM, inclusive of the MS Teams video conference meeting focused on WWTP's operational and administrative aspects appurtenant to the Rio Rancho's current NPDES permit.

Section IV – RESULTS AND/OR AREAS OF CONCERN

The May 5, 2021, OfCM or MS Teams video conference meeting focused on the discussion of Rio Rancho's WWTP upgrades and equipment replacement, delineation of the locations and status of the 6 WWTPs/WRFs, delineation of the locations and status of the 27 lift stations, standard operating procedures, SSO policies and procedures, FOG ordinance and clarification of the 2019 Alpha Southwest disposal.

- Confusion arises over the correct locations and status of several of the WWTPs/WRFs identified in Table 1. Initial information, and subsequent photographic and email documentation provided by Rio Rancho is inconsistent in each response. For example, WWTPs/WFs #3 (former NPDES permit NM0029602), #4, #5 (DP-1650) and #6 (DP-215). Of most significance is WWTP #5 aka Cabezon WRF. There are 3 different locations/addresses provided by Rio Rancho versus the description cited on the NMED DP-1650 permit and permit application (Appendix 3 NMED DP-1650). This equates to an approximate location 8-mile southwest of any of the other WWTP #5 stated locations.
- Initial CRR correspondence and OfCM discussion stated WWTP #1 was "closed in-place" circa April 2020; however, CRR photographic documentation (dated May 6, 2021) indicates various infrastructure and appurtenances remain.
- The 2019 Alpha Southwest disposal of approximately 6000+ gallons of brine water into a CRR manhole was conditioned on the premise of receipt of the analytical analysis prior to disposal. Without receipt of confirmation sample analysis, the brine water disposal occurred unbeknownst to Rio Rancho. Several months later, Rio Rancho received the analytical report, which did not include testing for radio nuclides.

Section V – LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Photo Log- Taken by the City of Rio rancho
Appendix 2 – Insight Lighting, Inc. Discharge Service Agreement (Industrial permit S07002)
Appendix 3 – NMED DP-1650 (excerpts)