



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

Northwest Region
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November 14, 2014

Tony Owen
Pacific City Joint Water-Sanitary Authority
Box 520
Pacific City, OR 97135



Re: WQ-Pacific City
Approval of Preliminary Engineering Report Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade
File 66100
PCJWSA, Tillamook County

Dear Mr. Owen:

The Department of Environmental Quality (Department) has reviewed of the above referenced document received in our Portland Office in October 9, 2014 as prepared by Thomas Nielsen PE, of Parametrix of Portland, OR.

The Department agrees with the conclusions of the report. A Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) would be most likely the least expensive alternative choice for an upgrade of the wastewater treatment plant. An SBR would produce a high quality, biologically nutrient-reduced effluent, low in nitrogen containing constituents. Although there are no specific rules for nutrient reduction proposed, there are several possible that may be imposed in the future. Also, an SBR also allows the facility to grow in increments, with the addition of SBR basins, as flows increase.

Something else for PCJWA to be aware of is the outfall in the Nestucca River. The tidal influence and seasonal fluctuations can create unstable and possibly poor mixing at times. The fact that the highest WWTP influent flow levels occur during the lowest river flows (July and August) demands that the WWTP perform to a high level of treatment and stability. A detailed mixing zone study will likely be required as part of a renewed permit..

One change coming with the 2016 permit renewal will be the monitoring of effluent bacteria to enterococcus and fecal coliform from the current ecoli.

Time is of the essence. The treatment plant is near its capacity and regularly has difficulty meeting the permit. Keep moving forward. Proceed with arranging financing for the project.

Continue with the choice of treatment desired and design documents. Technical review fees will be applied at that point.

INQUIRIES

If there is anything I can do to assist in the treatment choice questions and future needs, please don't hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at (503) 229-5310. I may emailed at pinney.mike@deq.state.or.us.

We appreciate the City's many efforts to comply with our water quality regulations and endeavor to assist you through the process.

Respectfully,



Michael L. Pinney PE
Senior Environmental Engineer
Northwest Region Water Quality

Cc : Thomas Nielson PE, Parametrix, 700 NE Multnomah, Ste.1000, Portland Or., 97232-4110
Tiffany Yelton-Bram, NWR-WQ
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