



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1

5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, SUITE 100
BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

Drafted Date: 15 February 2022

Finalized Date: 1 March 2022

Subj: Inspection Report
Clean Water Act - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination
System ("NPDES")
City of Fall River

From: Andrew Spejewski, Enforcement Officer

Thru: David Turn

To: File

I. Facility Information

- A. *Facility Name:* City of Fall River
- B. *Facility Location:* 1979 Bay St
Fall River, MA 02724
- C. *Facility Contacts:* Paul Ferland
pferland@fallriverma.org
- D. *NPDES ID No(s):* MA0100382

II. Background Information

- A. *Date(s) of inspection:* February 11, 2022
- B. *Weather Conditions:* Clear, Dry, no recent rainfall
- C. *US EPA Representative(s):*
Andrew Spejewski
- D. *State/Local Representative(s):* none
- E. *Federally Enforceable Requirements Covered During the Inspection:* Portions of
Administrative Order CWA-AO-R01-FY22-01 covering Combined Sewer
Overflows

III. Type and Purpose of Inspection

Inspection of two outfalls with screening/disinfection facilities, to assist in evaluating compliance with portions of Order.

IV. Facility Description

Two facilities were observed, both facilities to screen and disinfect combined sewer overflow: the Cove Street facility and the President Avenue facility.

V. Inspection

A. Opening Conference

MS scheduled the inspection in advance with Mr. Ferland. By arrangement, they met at the Cove Street facility at 10:30 AM. Present were

Paul Ferland, City of Fall River

Jaysen Wetherbee, WWTP Manager for Veolia (which operates the City's plant under contract)

Marc Laferriere , WWTP Assistant Manager

Matt Murphy, an engineer at Keville Enterprises, who worked on both outfall treatment facilities.

B. Facility Tour

The Cove street facility includes a pump station and the CSO chlorination facility. The pump station is within the building on site with the wet-well for the pump station below the building.

The chlorination facility is northwest of the building. It includes an initial tank, a chlorination contact chamber adjacent to it, a pump tank past the chlorination chamber and an outlet chamber. All tanks and the outlet chamber are partially buried, with access from above.

A passive weir is upstream of the chlorination facility, which sends low flow to the pump station, while higher flow goes over the weir to the chlorination facility.

The initial tank has an overflow connection directly to the outlet chamber, so that very high flows are routed past the chlorination section.

The chlorination tank is an open concrete structure, ending in three channels. Each channel leads under a concrete wall to a pump chamber. The three pump chambers pump

from the chlorine contact chamber upwards and discharge towards the outlet chamber. According to site personnel the pumps run as-needed. They agreed that residence time in the chlorine contact chamber would be highly variable depending on flow in and the pump cycle. [Note that no dechlorination is done at this facility].

The outlet chamber discharges directly to the outfall pipe, which passes under route 79 to an outfall. According to site personnel, there are no manholes or other access to the outfall pipe, and the outfall is submerged. Additionally, access to the outfall is down a steep rip-rap slope which can only be accessed directly from Route 79.

Personnel explained that sampling is done by lowering a sample container into the outlet chamber.

Personnel stated that the site has on a couple occasions flooded during very heavy rain; the site is automated and can continue functioning, but for safety operators do not access it during flooding, so samples cannot be collected.

The facility is bordered to the northwest by a short steep slope leading to a concrete wall supporting a ramp for Route 79. An open area about 20-30 yards across is south of the chlorination structure, with a chemical storage open shed and an outdoor emergency generator.

The group then drove in their own vehicles to the President Avenue station.

A passive weir upstream directs low flow to the main interceptor and higher flow to the station. At the entrance to the station, another passive weir directs very high flow directly to the upper end of the outfall pipe, with the rest going to the station.

The station tanks are underground and covered by pavement, access hatches and the station building. Station personnel showed a flow diagram, indicating chlorine addition, a serpentine contact chamber for residence time, and a small tank for adding dechlorination. The outflow from the dechlorination tank then discharges to the upper end of the outfall pipe (joining any very high flow passing over the second weir).

The outfall pipe runs out to a usually submerged outfall at the far end of the park. Sampling is done by manually taking samples from a manhole near the upper end of the outfall pipe.

C. Records Review

No records were reviewed as part of this inspection.

D. Closing Conference

Mr. Spejewski thanked the group for their time and left at approximately 11:30 AM.

Picture List:
Cove Street

IMG_2596.JPG	Facing NW towards the initial chamber.
IMG_2597.JPG	From the top of the initial chamber over the chlorine contact chamber and towards the pump chamber
IMG_2598.JPG	Near end of the chlorine contact chamber
IMG_2599.JPG	Far end of the contact chamber, leading to pumps
IMG_2600.JPG	Above the pump chamber

President Avenue:

IMG_2601.JPG	Facing towards outfall, from upper end of outfall pipe.
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Unless otherwise noted, this report describes conditions at the facility/property as observed by EPA inspector(s), and/or through records provided to and/or information reported to EPA inspector(s) by facility representatives and as understood by the inspector(s). This report may not capture all operations or activities ongoing at the time of the inspection. This report does not make final determinations on potential areas of concern. Nothing in this report affects EPA's authorities under federal statutes and regulations to pursue further investigation or action.