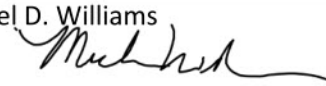


Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division

INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Date(s):	07/19/2022		
Media:	Water		
Regulatory Program(s)	Clean Water Act		
Company Name:	City of Ville Platte		
Facility Name:	City of Ville Platte WWTP		
Facility Physical Location:	1081 Heritage Manor Rd		
(city, state, zip code)	Ville Platte, LA 70586		
Mailing address:	P.O. Box 390		
(city, state, zip code)	Ville Platte, LA 70586		
County/Parish:	Evangeline Parish		
Facility Contact:	Jennifer Vidrine	Mayor	
	337-459-1528		
FRS Number:			
Identification/Permit Number:	LA0038814		
Media Number:	AI#19117		
NAICS:	221320		
SIC:	4952		
Personnel participating in inspection:			
Michael Williams	EPA/ 6EN-WMH	Inspector	281-983-2150
Erwin Benoit	City of Ville Platte	Operator	337-459-1528
EPA Lead Inspector Signature/Date	Michael D. Williams 		Date 9/22/22
Supervisor Signature/Date	Bernier, Roberto 		Digitally signed by Bernier, Roberto Date: 2022.09.22 07:55:18 -05'00' Date
	Roberto Bernier		Date

Section I - Introduction

PURPOSE OF THE INSPECTION

EPA Region 6 inspector, Michael Williams, arrived at the City of Ville Platte at 10:49 am on July 19, 2022, for an unannounced NPDES wastewater treatment plant inspection. During the opening conference, I met with Erwin Benoit, city operator. Mr. Benoit was informed that this was an EPA lead compliance evaluation inspection to determine compliance with the facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and the Clean Water Act. The scope of the inspection was with permit LA0038814, facility operations and maintenance under the Clean Water Act. The inspection was conducted under the authority of the NPDES permit program, in accordance with the Federal CWA.

The information presented in this report is based on the materials and information supplied by City of Ville Platte representatives, observations made during the inspection and records and reports maintained by the permittee.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The City of Ville Platte Wastewater Treatment Plant has a design flow of the plant is 2.0 mgd. The headworks consist of a mechanical bar screen and grit chamber. The treatment is supposed to have identical trains of a combined oxidation orbital ditch and intraclarifier or BOAT clarifier designed by United Industries. The intraclarifier in the form of an elongated clarifier vessel positioned on the top of a section of the center partition between the ditch sidewalls so that the overall clarifier vessel extends laterally into both of a pair of flow channels formed between the ditch sidewalls and the center partition but is spaced from the ditch sidewalls so as to minimize impediment of the mixed liquor flow being treated in the channels. A gated inlet below the flow surface is provided in the one half of the bow of the vessel facing into the mixed liquor flow for diverting a portion of the flow into the clarifier. That flow portion is distributed over the entire width of the vessel and arrested in flow velocity so that settling of sludge can be performed downstream in the vessel. Clarified liquid removal troughs are provided at the stern end of the vessel and sludge ports are provided in the vessel bottom to transport settled sludge into the mixed liquor flowing under the vessel width. The facility has six drying beds to dewater sludge. The site also has tertiary treatment system and chlorine contact chamber for disinfection. The plant is located at 1081 Heritage Drive, Ville Platte, LA in Evangeline Parish. The plant discharges into Bayou Joe Marcel – Bayou des Cannes in Mermentau Basin via Outfall 001 of the permit.

Section II- Observations

This inspection revealed the following observations:

The City of Ville Platte Wastewater Treatment Plant is in complete disrepair. The plant is only providing minimal treatment from disinfection. The plant mechanical bar screen and grit chamber were not working on the day of the inspection. Influent is only flowing through one aeration basin train. The other is completely out of service. The tertiary filter system is not used. The plant has been neglected. The plant has a long history of exceeding permit limits or effluent violations.

The City of Ville Platte has violated their permit each month the last 3 years due to system failure and apparent neglect. The City of Ville Platte switched engineering firms in April of 2022. J. Ronald

Landreneau & Associates, Inc. was the previous firm and now the city has a partnership with Sustainability Partners. The city is planning to use private funds to construct a new plant (Attachment A).

Section III- Areas of Concerns

This inspection revealed the following areas of concerns:

The City of Ville Platte has violated Section B. General Conditions of their LPDES Permit LA0038814. The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

- The City of Ville Platte has failed to operate the treatment plant as designed. The facility has several units that are bypassed or is not operable that are supposed to be a part of the process.
- The City of Ville Platte has failed to develop a method to manage solid inventory. Currently, the plant is not wasting to drying beds and bypassing the filter due to too many solids in the aeration basin.
- The City of Ville Platte has been issued several enforcement orders from the State of Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality without penalty. These orders have yet to bring Ville Platte into compliance.

Section IV – LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix A – Sustainability Partners outline of corrective actions planned
- Appendix B – Photo Log

Appendix A

Sustainability Partners outline of corrective
actions planned

Appendix B

Photo Log

NPDES Inspection Photo Log					
Location:		City of Ville Platte WWTP LA0038814			
Photographer:		Michael Williams			
Photo#	1	Date:	7/19/2022	Time:	10:53am
Description		Mechanical Bar Screen not operable			



NPDES Inspection Photo Log					
Location:		City of Ville Platte WWTP LA0038814			
Photographer:		Michael Williams			
Photo#	2	Date:	7/19/2022	Time:	10:55am
Description		Aeration Basin #1 with Internal Boat Clarifier Not operable			



NPDES Inspection Photo Log

Location:	City of Ville Platte WWTP LA0038814				
Photographer:	Michael Williams				
Photo#	3	Date:	7/19/2021	Time:	10:55am
Description	Aeration Basin #2				



NPDES Inspection Photo Log					
Location:		City of Ville Platte WWTP LA0038814			
Photographer:		Michael Williams			
Photo#	4	Date:	7/19/2022	Time:	10:59 am
Description		BOAT internal Clarifier			



NPDES Inspection Photo Log

Location:	City of Ville Platte WWTP LA0038814				
Photographer:	Michael Williams				
Photo#	5	Date:	7/19/2022	Time:	11:04am
Description	Chlorine Contact Chamber				



NPDES Inspection Photo Log

Location:	City of Ville Platte WWTP LA0038814				
Photographer:	Michael Williams				
Photo#	6	Date:	7/19/2022	Time:	11:05am
Description	Chlorine Contact Chambers with closer view of solids in chlorine chamber denitrifying due to excess solids				



NPDES Inspection Photo Log

Location:	City of Ville Platte WWTP LA0038814				
Photographer:	Michael Williams				
Photo#	7	Date:	7/19/2022	Time:	11:04am
Description	Drying Beds				



NPDES Inspection Photo Log

Location:	City of Ville Platte WWTP LA0038814				
Photographer:	Michael Williams				
Photo#	8	Date:	7/19/2022	Time:	11:09am
Description	Filters not in operation				



NPDES Inspection Photo Log

Location:		City of Ville Platte WWTP LA0038814			
Photographer:		Michael Williams			
Photo#	9	Date:	7/19/2022	Time:	11:17am
Description		WWTP Schematic			

