

INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Entry Date/Time	09/17/2024 09:30 AM (CT)	Announced: No
Inspection Exit Date/Time	09/17/2024 11:35 AM (CT)	Access: Granted
Weather		
Media	Water	
Statute(s)/Program(s)	Clean Water Act, NPDES, WWTP	
Type of Inspection	Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI)	
Permittee Name	City of Gonzales Water System	
Facility or Site Name	City of Gonzales Water System	
Facility/Site Physical Address	3213 South Burnside Avenue	
City, State, Zip Code	Gonzales, LA 70737	
County/Borough/Parish	Ascension Parish	
Facility GPS Coordinates	30.2032, -90.9205	
Mailing Address (If different)		
City, State, Zip Code		
FRS ID	110002046884	
Permit Number(s) (If Applicable)	LA0109576	
SIC and/or NAICS	4952	
Regulatory Representatives Participating in Inspection:		
Title	Name	Organization
Inspector	Sharron Crayton	US EPA
Inspector	Ian Walsh	LDEQ
Lead Inspector:		
Kenneth AuBuchon	KENNETH AUBUCHON	
	EPA REGION 6	Digitally signed by KENNETH AUBUCHON Date: 2024.11.20 13:56:04 -06'00'
	aubuchon.kenneth@epa.gov	(281) 983-2151
Supervisor Review:		
Roberto Bernier	ROBERTO BERNIER	
	EPA REGION 6	Digitally signed by ROBERTO BERNIER Date: 2024.11.20 14:40:53 -06'00'
	bernier.roberto@epa.gov	(214) 665-8376

SECTION I – INTRODUCTION

Site Entry and Inspection Objectives

EPA REGION 6 Lead Inspector, Kenneth AuBuchon, arrived at the City of Gonzales Water System (the “Site” or “Facility”), located at 3213 South Burnside Avenue, Gonzales, LA 70737, at 09:30 AM (CT) on 09/17/2024 for an unannounced inspection. EPA REGION 6 Lead Inspector presented credentials to Darren Gautreau and informed them that this was an EPA REGION 6 inspection to determine compliance as authorized by Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 308 and implementing regulations. This report is based on information supplied by City of Gonzales Water System representatives, direct observations made by the EPA REGION 6 inspectors, records and reports maintained by the permittee and other information including: photographs taken by EPA REGION 6 inspector(s), physical evidence collected by the EPA REGION 6 inspector(s), measurements taken by EPA REGION 6 inspector(s), verbal or written statements made by information supplied by City of Gonzales Water System representatives during or subsequent to the on-site Inspection, and materials, processes, data, photographs, or documents shown, demonstrated, or submitted to the EPA REGION 6 inspector(s) by City of Gonzales Water System representatives during or subsequent to the on-site Inspection. In addition, information gathered prior to or subsequent to the Inspection from a review of EPA, State, and/or public records may be included in this report.

This inspection was an EPA Lead CEI, which also provided required On-the-Job training to new EPA staff and training to LDEQ staff. At the opening meeting we went over the objectives of the inspection and explained that this inspection was to determine compliance status with permit conditions and other program requirements, verify the accuracy of information submitted to EPA and/or LDEQ, and verify the adequacy of sampling and monitoring conducted by the facility.

Attendees

Organization	Attendee Name	Title	Present in Opening Conf.	Present in Closing Conf.
EPA REGION 6	Kenneth AuBuchon	Lead Inspector	Yes	Yes
US EPA	Sharron Crayton	Inspector	Yes	Yes
LDEQ	Ian Walsh	Inspector	Yes	Yes
City of Gonzales	Darren Gautreau	WW Supervisor	Yes	Yes

Facility/Site Description

EPA REGION 6 lead inspector confirmed the following facility information:

The facility is a municipal wastewater treatment plant that serves the City of Gonzales. The treatment system is comprised of two aerated treatment lagoons and disinfection by chlorine gas. The facility is categorized as Water Major permitted to discharge to waters of the State by the LDEQ with LPDES Permit No. LA0109576 through Outfall 001.

The City of Gonzales WWTP underwent a facility upgrade which consisted of a new aerated treatment lagoon located behind the existing WWTP for additional capacity. The plant upgrades were completed in April of 2020 and included the modifications to the existing headworks structure, installation of two new mechanical bar screens, construction of a levee around the new lagoon with concrete slope paving, installation of new floating

aerators, relocation of various existing aerators within the existing lagoon, installation of new effluent pumps with VFDs, effluent pump station building roof modifications for pump access and maintenance, drainage ditch reroute modifications, piping modifications for expansion, miscellaneous asphalt paving, miscellaneous electrical work, and two fiberglass buildings for the MCCs and other electrical components.

Facility/Site Information

Location(s)

Location/Area/Sub-area	Description
1. Collection System	50 lift stations with gravity lines (majority 8", 250,000 L-ft). The 2020 population estimate from US Census Data was 11,350. Minor commercial influent.
2. Treatment System	3.5 MGD design flow consisting of aerated lagoons with disinfection by chlorination
3. Sludge	Stored and digested in the pond system with removal and disposal only when the sludge volume decreases the liquid volume to a point that reduces the treatment efficiency. Facility's Sewage Sludge/Biosolids Permit Number LAJ650000
4. Outfalls	Outfall 001 is continuous to Mississippi River, pumped via a 24" diameter force main to the discharge point.
5. Lab / Lab Reports	Curtis Environmental Services; 185 Belle Terre Blvd, Laplace, LA 70068 (Certificate No. 01984) Phone - (985) 653 - 0000 Pace Analytical, St. Rose, LA (Certificate No. 03086)
6. Stormwater	Stormwater Pollution Prevention requirements contained in LPDES Permit LA0109576

SECTION II – OBSERVATIONS

Location: 5. Lab / Lab Reports		
Observation #: KA1-OB-001	Date: 09/17/2024	Weather:
Required pH holding times could not be verified at the time of the inspection.		
Photo(s)		
1. IMG-20240917103903393125835.jpg		

Location: 6. Stormwater		
Observation #: KA1-OB-002	Date: 09/17/2024	Weather:
Facility needs to maintain stormwater inspections required by the SWP3 to include inspections of fuel tanks.		

Location: 1. Collection System		
Observation #: KA1-OB-003	Date: 09/17/2024	Weather:
Area around the head works is potential for stormwater contamination and should be included in the site SWP3.		

Photo(s)

1. [IMG-202409171055555555117065.jpg](#)
2. [IMG-202409171057195719106015.jpg](#)

SECTION III – RECORDS REVIEW

SECTION IV – SAMPLING ACTIVITIES AND ANALYTICAL RESULTS

No sampling was conducted at the time of this inspection.

SECTION V - AREA OF CONCERN

Area(s) of Concern may not be in sequential order.

The presentation of Area(s) of Concern does not constitute a formal compliance determination or violation.

AOC Reference #: KA1-OB-002	Location: 6. Stormwater
Regulation and/or Permit Requirement	
LPDES Permit LA0109576 Part I Other Conditions K. Stormwater Discharges 4. The following conditions are applicable to all facilities and shall be included in the SWP3 for the facility.	
d. The permittee shall maintain for a period of three years a record summarizing the results of the inspection and a certification that the facility is in compliance with the SWP3, and identifying any incidents of noncompliance. The summary report should contain, at a minimum, the date and time of inspection, name of inspector(s), conditions found, and changes to be made to the SWP3.	
AOC:	
At the time of the inspection, stormwater inspections were not made available for review as required by the SWP3; to include inspections of fuel tanks.	
Additional Notes:	

AOC Reference #: KA1-OB-003	Location: 6. Stormwater
Regulation and/or Permit Requirement	
LPDES Permit LA0109576 Part I Other Conditions K. Stormwater Discharges	

1. This section applies to all stormwater discharges from the facility, either through permitted outfalls or through outfalls which are not listed in the permit or as sheet flow. The purpose of the pollution prevention plan is to identify potential sources of pollution that would reasonably be expected to affect the quality of stormwater and identify the practices that will be used to prevent or reduce the pollutants in stormwater discharges.

AOC:

The area around the head works is a source for stormwater contamination. BMPs are needed to reduce contact with stormwater and/or capture contaminated stormwater in the area. This area was not included in the site's SWPPP as required.

Additional Notes:**Photo(s)**

1. [IMG-20240917105555555117065.jpg](#)
2. [IMG-202409171057195719106015.jpg](#)

AOC Reference #: KA1-OB-001**5. Lab / Lab Reports****Regulation and/or Permit Requirement**

LPDES Permit LA0109576 Standard Conditions for LPDES Permits Section C. Monitoring and Records

4. Records Content

Records of monitoring information shall include:

- a. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
- b. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
- c. The date(s) analyses were performed;
- d. The time(s) analyses were begun;
- e. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
- f. The analytical techniques or methods used;
- g. The results of such analyses; and
- h. The results of all quality control procedures.

AOC:

Required pH holding times could not be verified at the time of the inspection. The time of sampling was not included in the provided sampling logs.

Additional Notes:**Photo(s)**

1. [IMG-20240917103903393125835.jpg](#)

SECTION VI – CLOSING CONFERENCE AND FOLLOW UP

Closing Conference

The EPA REGION 6 Lead Inspector held a closing conference with Facility personnel at 11:35 AM (CT) on 09/17/2024 for the inspection. During the closing conference, EPA REGION 6 Lead Inspector discussed the observations and Area(s) of Concern identified during the inspection. Observations and Area(s) of Concern have not yet been evaluated for a formal compliance determination.

Follow Up

No follow up was required after exiting the facility on 09/17/2024.

Communication Log

No additional information received by EPA REGION 6 after exiting the Facility on 09/17/2024.

SECTION VII – LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Photo Log

APPENDIX 1: PHOTO LOG

Date Collected	Type Samples	Person Collecting	ph	Cl2	Temp.
6-3-24	Comp / Grab	LV	7.86	1.9	25.8
6-5-24	Comp / Grab	LV	7.63	1.4	26.8
6-6-24	Comp / Grab	RV	7.60	1.0	28.1
6-13-24	Grab / Grab	RV	7.47	1.0	27.3
6-17-24	Comp / Grab	RV	7.35	1.3	25.3
6-18-24	Comp / Grab	RV	7.92	1.4	26.2
6-24-24	Grab / Comp	RV	8.32	1.44	29.5
6-26-24	Grab / Comp	RV	7.96	1.72	29.6
7-1-24	Grab / Comp / Int	LV	7.73	1.3	29.9
7-3-24	Grab / Comp	DG	7.72	1.25	20.1
7-8-24	Grab / Int	RV	7.63	1.3	28.4
7-16-24	Grab / Int	RV	7.85	1.6	27.4
7-18-24	Grab / Comp	RV	7.68	1.4	28.6
7-20-24	Comp / Grab	RV	7.35	1.41	27.6
7-24-24	Comp / Grab	RV	7.40	1.63	27.5
7-29-24	Comp / Grab	LV	7.86	1.0	29.9
7-31-24	Comp / Grab	LV	7.65	1.0	29.2
8-5-24	Comp / Grab	RV	7.19	1.7	27.0
8-7-24	Comp / Grab	RV	7.54	1.6	25.1
8-12-24	Comp / Grab	RV	8.57	1.1	25.7
8-14-24	Comp / Grab	RV	7.35	1.7	25.3
8-19-24	Comp / Grab	RV	7.05	1.5	29.4
8-21-24	Comp / Grab	RV	7.46	1.6	28.6
8-26-24	Grab / Comp	LV	7.55	1.0	27.8
8-28-24	Grab / Comp	LV	7.76	1.8	27.6
7-9-24	Grab / Comp	RV	7.39	1.6	27.6
7-5-24	Grab / Comp / Int	RV	7.92	1.4	26.9
9-8-24	Grab / Comp	RV	7.46	1.6	26.0
9-10-24	Grab / Comp	RV	6.75	1.8	25.5
9-16-24	Comp / Grab	RV	7.18	0.8	26.4

pH sample log			IMG-20240917103903393125835.jpg
09/17/2024 10:39 AM (CT)	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Kenneth Aubuchon
5. Lab / Lab Reports			
pH sample logs that do not contain the pH sampling time. pH holding times could not be verified.			

CURTIS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.

WATER/WASTEWATER TESTING - CONSULTING - OPERATION
BIOASSAY - OP CERT # 18-427 - LAB CERTIFICATION # 01984

185 BELLE TERRE BLVD.
SUITE D
LAPLACE, LA. 70068

PH: 885-653-0000
FX: 885-653-0001
TF: 888-653-0008
EM: cesa@curtislab.com

RECEIVED

JUL 17 2024

CLIENT: CITY OF GONZALES
120 S. IRMA BLVD.
GONZALES, LA 70737
ATTN: DARREN GAUTREAU

LPDES PERMIT # LA0109526
REPORT DATE: 7/11/2024

CITY OF GONZALES

FACILITY: CITY OF GONZALES EFFLUENT

APPROVED BY:

Jeff Dupuy, Mechanical Director/Lab Supervisor

All CES Sampling Analyses Adhere To EPA Protocol, except for non-permitted samples. These results relate only to the samples listed as they were received in the laboratory. No reports shall be reproduced, in full or in part, without the client's approval. For any Questions, please Contact CES at 885-653-0000

Lab Ref # A150588	Collection Date: 06/03/2024	Sample Collector: LV	Comment:
Chain # 287117-01	Collection Time: 15:00		

Analysis	Units	Results	MDL	Tech	Start Date:	Start Time	Method Reference	Lab Cert No.
BIOCHEMICAL OXYGEN DEMAND	mg/L	14	1.5	JD	6/5/24	07:10	SM 5210B-2015	01984
SYSTEM FLOW RATE	MGD	3.01			6/3/24	15:00		
TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS	mg/L	11	1.0	D&H	6/4/24	07:30	SM 2540D-2015	01984

Lab Ref # A150589	Collection Date: 06/03/2024	Sample Collector: LV	Comment:
Chain # 287117-02	Collection Time: 15:00		

Analysis	Units	Results	MDL	Tech	Start Date:	Start Time	Method Reference	Lab Cert No.
FECAL COLIFORM	col/100 mL	<4	4	DP	6/3/24	16:10	SM 9222D-2015	01984

Lab Ref # A150591	Collection Date: 06/03/2024	Sample Collector: LV	Comment:
Chain # 287117-06	Collection Time: 15:00		

Analysis	Units	Results	MDL	Tech	Start Date:	Start Time	Method Reference	Lab Cert No.
PH-HYDROGEN ION CONTENT - FIELD	su	7.51	0.10	LV	6/3/24	15:00		

Lab Results from Curtis			IMG-202409171044404440107289.jpg
09/17/2024 10:44 AM (CT)	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Kenneth Aubuchon
5. Lab / Lab Reports			
Lab Results from Curtis			



Treatment System			IMG-202409171047424742112459.jpg
09/17/2024 10:47 AM (CT)	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Kenneth Aubuchon
Aeration lagoon			



Aerators and duckweed in aeration lagoon 1.			IMG-202409171047454745125168.jpg
09/17/2024 10:47 AM (CT)	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Kenneth Aubuchon
Aerators and duckweed in aeration lagoon 1.			



Aerator in aeration lagoon 1			IMG-20240917104837483768758.jpg
09/17/2024 10:48 AM (CT)	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Kenneth Aubuchon
Aerator in aeration lagoon 1			



Backup power source			IMG-202409171053235323124081.jpg
09/17/2024 10:53 AM (CT)	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Kenneth Aubuchon
New generator from the recent upgrades to the facility			



New Aeration lagoon			IMG-202409171055555555117065.jpg
09/17/2024 10:55 AM (CT)	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Kenneth Aubuchon
Aeration lagoon			



New Headworks			IMG-20240917105714571466637.jpg
09/17/2024 10:57 AM (CT)	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Kenneth Aubuchon
New screen that is a potential stormwater pollution source.			



New Headworks			IMG-202409171057195719106015.jpg
09/17/2024 10:57 AM (CT)	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Kenneth Aubuchon
New screen that is a potential stormwater pollution source.			



Chlorine Contact Chamber			IMG-2024091711052452493137.jpg
09/17/2024 11:05 AM (CT)	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Kenneth Aubuchon
Chlorine Contact Chamber			