



Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division
INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Date(s):	08/01-02/2017		
Media:	Water		
Regulatory Program(s)	Clean Water Act / NPDES		
Company Name:	Vallourec Star, LP		
Facility Name:	Vallourec Star Houston		
Facility Physical Location:	8603 Sheldon Road		
(city, state, zip code)	Houston, Texas 77049-1812		
Mailing address:	8603 Sheldon Road		
(city, state, zip code)	Houston, Texas 77049-1812		
County/Parish:	Harries County		
Facility Contact:	Karl Crouch	Plant Manager	
	Karl.crouch@vallourec.com		
FRS Number:	110000462179		
Identification/Permit Number:			
Media Number:	TX0088455		
NAICS:			
SIC:	3498		
Personnel participating in inspection:			
Kenneth L. AuBuchon	USEPA/6EN-WMH	Environmental Engineer	281-983-2151
Karl Crouch	Vallourec Star - Houston	Plant Manager	281-456-6087
Ian Grayson	Vallourec Star - Houston	EHS Coordinator	281-456-6096
Kristin Malosh	Vallourec Star	N.A. EHS Director	330-742-1915
Dick Pursley	HDR	Commissioning Manager	713-576-3547
Lovie Spidle	HDR	Operator	832-675-2318
EPA Lead Inspector	Kenneth L. AuBuchon		11/29/2017
Signature/Date	Kenneth L. AuBuchon		Date
Supervisor	Carol Peters		12/11/17
Signature/Date	Carol Peters		Date

Section I – INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF THE INSPECTION

EPA Region 6 inspector Kenneth L. AuBuchon arrived at Vallourec Star, LP - Houston at approximately 9:30 am on August 01, 2017 for an unannounced Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI). I met with Ian Grayson, Vallourec Star, LP - Houston EHS Coordinator and Karl Crouch, Vallourec Star, LP - Houston Plant Manager, at the Opening Conference. I presented my credentials to both Mr. Grayson and Mr. Crouch and explained that this was an EPA inspection to determine compliance with the facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and Clean Water Act (CWA). The inspection was conducted under the authority of the NPDES permit program, in accordance with the Federal CWA.

This report is based on information supplied by Vallourec Star, LP - Houston representatives (the permittee), observations made by the U.S. EPA inspector, and records and reports maintained by the permittee, the State of Texas, and the U.S. EPA.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The Vallourec Star, LP - Houston facility is located in the southern region of East Texas at 8603 Sheldon Road, approximately 1.5 miles south of U.S. Highway 90 and approximately 0.75 miles north of Miller Rd. No. 1 in Houston, Harries County, near Channelview, Texas. The Vallourec Star, LP - Houston facility heat-treats and end finishes alloy "green" tubes into alloy Oil Country Tubular Goods (OCTG). "Green" tubes are manufactured at the company's Youngstown, Ohio pipe mill, and shipped via rail to the Houston facility. After arriving at the Houston facility, the pipe is heated to 1,600 degrees Fahrenheit and rapidly cooled by water quenching, and charged into an indirect gas-fired tempering furnace. The pipe is also cut, threaded, and coated with a corrosion inhibitor and stenciled, as appropriate.

Section II – OBSERVATIONS

The current Vallourec Star, LP TPDES Permit (TX0088455), as issued on August 11, 2014, permits the discharge of wastewaters from two Outfalls. Outfall 001 is authorized to discharge treated domestic wastewaters per permit effluent limitations. Outfall 002 is authorized to discharge treated process wastewater per permit effluent limitations. At the time of this inspection, it was explained that Outfall 002 was not in use and had not discharge for many years. Use of the Outfall was discontinued due to recycling of process waters. Kristin Malosh, EHS Director North America, said that Outfall 002 is planned to be removed from the 2018 permit renewal application.

Storm water permit TXR05P20 was reviewed during this inspection. Benchmark sampling was elevated but, facility is reviewing the site SWPPP in accordance with TPDES Permit requirements.

Section III – AREAS OF CONCERN

At the time of this inspection, no areas of concern were noted during the inspection.

Section IV – FOLLOW UP

No information was received by EPA after exiting the Facility.

Section V – LIST OF APPENDICES

No Appendices follow.