

Region 6 - Enforcement & Compliance Assurance Division
INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Date(s):	08/05/2021	
Media Program:	Water	
Regulatory Program(s)	CWA	
Company Name:	Town of Bernalillo	
Facility Name:	Bernalillo Wastewater Treatment Plant	
Facility Physical Location:	585 Calle Chaparral	
(city, state, zip code)	Bernalillo, New Mexico 87004	
Mailing address:	585 Calle Chaparral	
(city, state, zip code)	Bernalillo, New Mexico 87004	
County/Parish:	Sandoval County	
Facility Phone Number	Larry Mikkelsen	
Facility Contact:	lmikkelsen@townofbernalillo.org	
FRS Number:	110010686739	
Identification/Permit Number:	NM0023485	
Media Identifier Number:	N/A	
NAICS:	221320	
SIC:	4952	
Personnel participating in inspection:		
Larry Mikkelsen	Town of Bernalillo (TOB)	Wastewater Department Chief Plant Administrator
Amy Rosebrough	Pueblo of Sandia	Water Quality Manager
David A Esparza, P.E.	USEPA/ECDWM	Environmental Engineer
EPA Lead Inspector Signature/Date		
	David Esparza	Date
Supervisor Signature/Date		
	Roberto Bernier	Date

Section I – INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF THE INSPECTION

EPA Region 6 inspector David Esparza, PE arrived at the Town of Bernalillo Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) at approximately 9:00 AM on August 5, 2021, for an unannounced inspection. I met with Larry Mikkelsen, Wastewater Department Chief Plant Administrator and Ms. Amy Rosebrough, Water Quality Manager for the Pueblo of Sandia. I met with Mr. Mikkelsen, presented my credentials, and informed him that this was an EPA inspection to determine the WWTP's compliance under the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. This Compliance Evaluation Inspection was conducted under the authority of CWA § 308. The generation of this report is based on information supplied by Bernalillo representatives, observations made by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) inspector, and records and reports maintained by the permittee (Bernalillo) and the EPA. Before leaving the facility. An exit briefing was held with the Water Quality Manager for the Pueblo of Sandia, Ms. Amy Rosebrough and Wastewater Department Chief Plant Administrator, Larry Mikkelsen to explain areas of concern noted at the time of the inspection.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

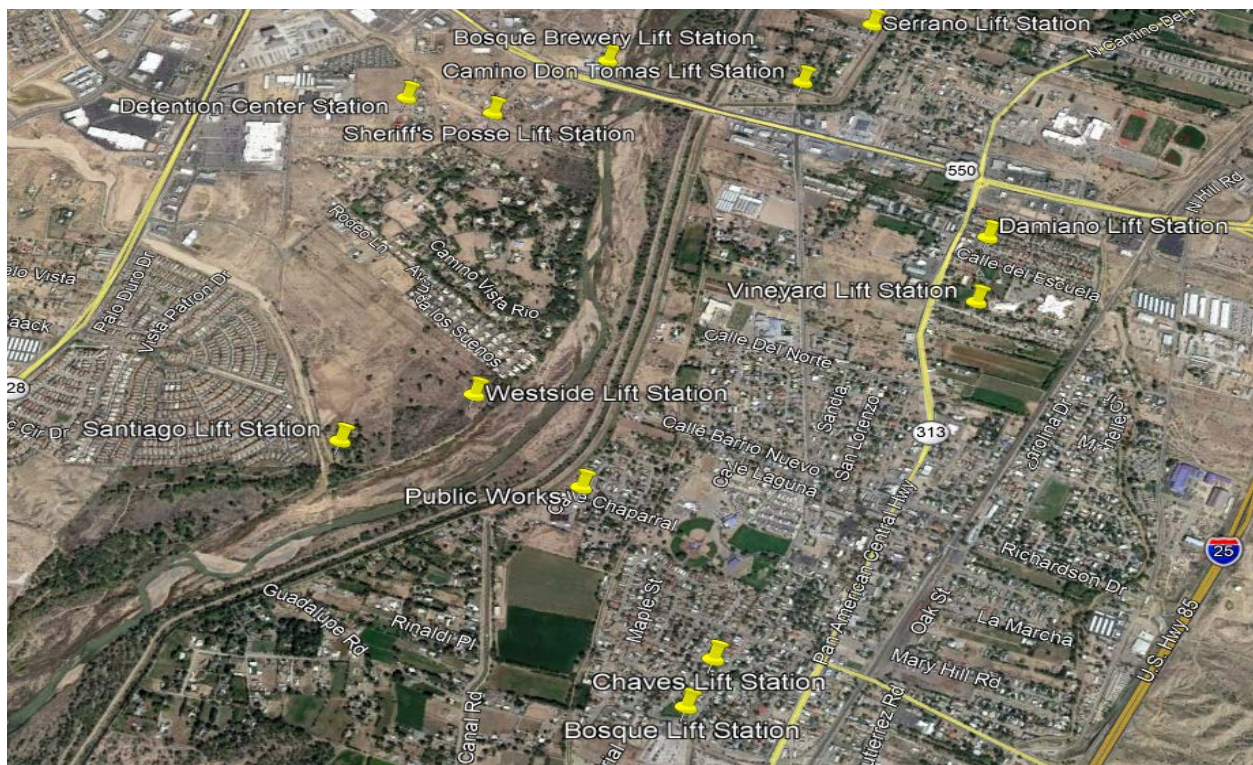
The WWTP has a design flow of 1.2 million gallons per day (MGD), inclusive of an average daily flow of roughly half. It is located at 585 Calle Chaparral, Sandoval County, New Mexico (depicted in **Aerial Image #1** below). Coordinates to the Bernalillo facility are approximately: Latitude 35°18'19.81" North, Longitude 106°33'36.13" W. The WWTP facility serves a population of approximately 10,000 (2018) residents. The WWTP is operated by staff within the Wastewater Department of the Public Works Department and consists of 4 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions on a 7AM-4PM Monday-Friday schedule, with on-call rotations the remaining of the time.

Flow enters the WWTP facility via a series of twelve (12) lift stations (LS) (depicted in **Aerial Image #2** and described in **Table 1** and below).

Additionally, Bernalillo is in the process of implementing written policies and procedures to address any potential sanitary sewer overflow events (SSOs), and standard operating procedures (SOPs) pertaining facility operations and maintenance (O&M). Furthermore, an updated Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) program is also being completed with respect to existing and/or new FOG contributors.



Aerial Image #1- Overall view of the Town of Bernalillo Wastewater Treatment Plant. Aerial from Google Earth.



Aerial Image #2- Overall view of the Town of Bernalillo Lift Stations. Aerial from Google Earth.

Table 1: Town of Bernalillo Lift Stations

Lift Station Name	Location/Address	Coordinates
Bosque Brewery	834 US-550	35°19'22.86" N - 106°33'32.91" W
Bosque	Camino Del Bosque Rd.	35°17'53.07" N - 106°33'21.92" W
Chaves	West ally at Intersection of Calle San Lorenzo/ Calle Don Rodrigo	35°17'58.99" N - 106°33'18.58" W
Damiano	Calle Damiano/Calle Jaramillo	35°18'55.85" N - 106°32'41.33" W
Detention Center	Montoya Rd (in enclosure located on Fire Department Property)	35°19'16.78" N - 106°34'00.59" W
Don Tomas	North end of Camino Don Tomas/ US-550	35°19'19.48" N - 106°33'05.70" W
Santiago	South end of Sheriff's Posse Rd through gated property at Cul de Sac.	35°18'29.61" N - 106°34'03.38" W
Serrano	400 El Valle Serrano	35°19'28.56" N - 106°32'55.77" W
Sheriff's Posse	Sheriff's Posse Rd/ Nazcon Rd.	35°19'14.61" N - 106°33'48.58" W
Vineyard	SR 313/ Riesling Rd.	35°18'46.58" N - 106°32'43.36" W
Westside	South end of Sheriff's Posse Rd through gated property at Cul de Sac.	35°18'33.54" N - 106°33'49.53" W
Public Works	585 Calle Chaparral	35°18'19.42" N - 106°33'36.18" W

Section II - OBSERVATIONS

I observed the following on August 5, 2021:

- Overall maintenance and operation (O&M) of the WWTP appeared to be satisfactory. All equipment appeared to be running properly and effectively. The WWTP is still attempting to resolve the issues with the cascade aeration treatment.
- The WWTP had undergone significant improvements in 2007, where the entire plant was demolished and replaced.
- The only industry contributing to the system is a micro-brewery (Bosque Brewing), but it is increasing the plant's load by about 40%.
- The WWTP has a laboratory on site, but samples are typically sent to Hall Environmental Analysis Laboratory.
- The WWTP does not have a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system in place but is continuing to work on getting a system.
- The outfall pipe previously observed to be misaligned with the concrete flume has been repaired.

Section III – SUMMARY/AREAS OF CONCERN

A review of the Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) database for the period from January 1, 2018 to August 5, 2021 indicates the following areas of concern (AOCs):

- NPDES permit excursion- dissolved oxygen (DO) - January 2019, February 2019, March 2019, April 2019, May 2019, June 2019, July 2019, August 2019, September 2019, October 2019, November 2019, December 2019, March 2020, April 2020, May 2020, June 2020, April 2021, May 2021, and June 2021. This issue was thought to have been addressed with the installation of their "cascade aeration" system, which is again undergoing review by the design engineer/manufacturer.
- NPDES permit excursion- total chlorine residual (TCR)- January 2019, February 2019, March 2019, April 2019, May 2019, June 2019, July 2019, August 2019, September 2019, October 2019, November 2019, December 2019, January 2020, February 2020, March 2020, April 2020, May 2020, June 2020, July 2020, August 2020, September 2020, October 2020, November 2020, December 2020 and January 2021, February 2021, March 2021, April 2021, May 2021, and June 2021.
- NPDES permit excursion- E coli- April 2021 and May 2021
- **Note:** a majority of the TCR and some of the Phosphorus excursions have been resolved. Additionally, as stated above the "DO" excursions are currently being evaluated and reviewed. Furthermore, the DO, Phosphorus and E coli excursions for the months of July 2020, August 2020, September 2020, October 2020, November 2020, December 2020, January 2021, February 2021, March 2021, (Phosphorus)-September 2019 , September 2020, December 2020, and March 2021 and (E coli)- June 2019, October 2019, November 2019, August 2020, September 2020, October 2020, January 2021, respectively were addressed in an Administrative Order (AO) (Docket # CWA-06-2021-1752) issued on August 3, 2021 (Appendix 1 Town of Bernalillo's August 2021 Administrative Order Response).

EPA Region 6 inspector David Esparza conducted a closing conference at the Town of Bernalillo WWTP on August 5, 2021 for the inspection. During the closing conference, Mr. Esparza reviewed and discussed Areas of Concern noted during the inspection.

Section V – LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Town of Bernalillo’s August 2021 Administrative Order Response

Appendix 2 – Opening and closing conference sign-in sheet

Appendix 3 – Town of Bernalillo Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Emergency
Notification