



REGION 6
DALLAS, TX 75270

June 11, 2025

TRANSMITTED VIA E-MAIL

Tyson Clark, Wastewater Operator
Pilgrim's Pride Corporation
P.O. Box 1268
Mount Pleasant, Texas 75455
tyson.clark@pilgrims.com

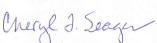
RE: Administrative Order; Docket Number: CWA-06-2025-1759
Pilgrim's Pride Corporation Wastewater Treatment Facility
TPDES Permit Number: TX0062936

Dear Mr. Clark:

Enclosed is an Administrative Order (AO) issued to the Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, for violations of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq. Violations were identified during a review of the permit file and discharge monitoring reports submitted for the Pilgrim's Pride Corporation Wastewater Treatment Facility. The violations alleged are for failure to meet permit effluent and monitoring requirements. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requests that you immediately confirm receipt of this e-mail and the attached order by a response e-mail to montoya.david01@epa.gov.

The AO does not assess a monetary penalty; however, it does require compliance with applicable federal regulations. The first compliance deadline is within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the AO. EPA is committed to ensuring compliance with the requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program and my staff will assist you in any way possible. Please reference AO Docket Number CWA-06-2025-1759 and TPDES Permit Number TX0062936 on your response. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. David Montoya Jr. of my staff, at (214) 665-6478 or montoya.david01@epa.gov.

Sincerely,


Digitally signed by Seager, Cheryl
Date: 2025.06.11 15:55:59 -05'00'

Cheryl T. Seager, Director
Enforcement and
Compliance Assurance Division

Enclosure(s)

ec: amy.settemeyer@tceq.texas.gov



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 6

FINDINGS OF VIOLATION AND COMPLIANCE ORDER

Docket Number: CWA-06-2025-1759; TPDES Permit Number: TX0062936

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The following findings are made, and Order issued, under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Section 309(a) of the Clean Water Act (the Act), 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a). The Administrator of EPA delegated the authority to issue this Order to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 6, who delegated this authority to the Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division.

FINDINGS

1. Pilgrim's Pride Corporation (Respondent) is a "person," as that term is defined at Section 502(5) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(5), and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.
2. At all times relevant to this Order (all relevant times), Respondent owned or operated the Pilgrim's Pride Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant (facility) located at 664 Farm-to-Market Road 127 West in the City of Mount Pleasant in Titus County, Texas 75455, and was, therefore, an "owner or operator" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.
3. At all relevant times, the facility acted as a "point source" of "discharges" of "pollutants" with its final wastewater discharge to Tankersley Creek; thence to Big Cypress Creek Below Lake Bob Sandlin in Segment No. 0404 of the Cypress Creek Basin, which are "waters of the United States," within the meaning of Section 502 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362, and 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.
4. Because Respondent owned or operated a facility that acted as a point source of discharges of pollutants to waters of the United States, Respondent and the facility were subject to the Act and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program.
5. Under Section 301 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311, it is unlawful for any person to discharge any pollutant from a point source to waters of the United States, except with the authorization of, and in compliance with, an NPDES permit issued pursuant to Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342.
6. Section 402(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342(a), provides that the Administrator of EPA may issue permits under the NPDES program for the discharge of pollutants from point sources to waters of the United States. Any such discharge is subject to the specific terms and conditions prescribed in the applicable permit.
7. Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342, authorizes states to request approval from EPA to administer their own permit programs for discharges into navigable waters within their jurisdiction. Pursuant to this provision, the State of Texas requested approval from EPA to administer its own permit program for discharges into navigable waters within Texas, and such approval was granted by EPA on September 14, 1998. Therefore, pursuant to the State's permit program, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) issued Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) permits. Violation of a TPDES permit is a violation of Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a).
8. Respondent applied for and was issued TPDES Permit No. TX0062936 (permit) under Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342, which was issued on November 19, 2018, and is currently administratively continued. At all relevant times, Respondent was authorized to discharge pollutants from the facility to waters of the United States only in compliance with the specific terms and conditions of the permit.
9. The permit includes "Monitoring and Reporting Requirements" that require Respondent to sample and test its effluent and monitor its compliance with permit conditions according to specific procedures, in order to determine the facility's compliance or noncompliance with the permit and applicable regulations. The permit also requires Respondent to file with TCEQ certified Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) of the results of monitoring, and Noncompliance Reports when appropriate.
10. The permit contains "Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements" that place certain limitations on the quality and quantity of effluent discharged by Respondent. The relevant discharge limitations are specified in Attachment A, which is incorporated herein by reference.
11. Certified DMRs filed by Respondent with TCEQ in compliance with the permit show discharges of pollutants from the facility that exceed the permitted effluent limitations established in the permit, as specified in Attachment B, which is incorporated herein by reference.
12. Each instance in which Respondent discharged pollutants to waters of the United States in amounts exceeding the effluent limitations contained in the permit was a violation of the permit and Section 301 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311.

SECTION 309(a)(3) COMPLIANCE ORDER

13. Based on the foregoing Findings and pursuant to the authority of Section 309(a)(3) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a)(3), EPA hereby orders Respondent to take the following action:

A. Take such measures as are necessary to comply with all permit conditions, including Effluent Limitations and Monitoring and Reporting Requirements, no later than thirty (30) days from the effective date of the Order.

B. Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall submit a list of the specific actions taken to correct the Carbonaceous Biological Oxygen Demand [5-day, 20°C], Biological Oxygen Demand [5-day, 20°C], General Fecal Coliform, E. Coli, Total Ammonia Nitrogen, Total Nitrogen, Oil & Grease, Total Phosphorus, Total Suspended Solids, and Whole Effluent Toxicity.

C. Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall provide written certification to EPA Region 6 that the violations cited herein have been corrected and the facility is compliant with the requirements of the permit.

D. In the event the Respondent believes complete correction of the violations cited herein is not possible within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Order, submit a comprehensive written plan for the elimination of the cited violations within the shortest possible time. Such plan shall describe in detail the specific corrective actions to be taken and why such actions are sufficient to correct the violations. The plan shall include a detailed schedule for the elimination of the violations within the shortest possible time, as well as measures to prevent these or similar violations from recurring.

E. Any information or correspondence submitted by Respondent to EPA under this Order shall be submitted, via e-mail, to the following:

Mr. David Montoya Jr.
montoya.david01@epa.gov

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Respondent may seek federal judicial review of the Order pursuant to Chapter 7 of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 701-706.

Issuance of this Section 309(a)(3) Compliance Order shall not be deemed an election by EPA to waive any administrative, judicial, civil, or criminal action to seek penalties, fines or other relief under the Act for the violations cited herein, or other violations that become known to EPA. EPA reserves the right to seek any remedy available under the law that it deems appropriate.

Failure to comply with this Section 309(a)(3) Compliance Order or the Act may result in further administrative action, or a civil judicial action initiated by the United States Department of Justice.

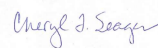
For purposes of the identification requirement in Section 162(f)(2)(A)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 162(f)(2)(A)(ii), and 26 C.F.R. § 1.162-21(b)(2), performance of Paragraph 13 is restitution, remediation, or satisfaction of requirements to come into compliance with the law.

This Order does not constitute a waiver or modification of the terms or conditions of Respondents NPDES permit, which remain in full force and effect. Compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order does not relieve Respondent of its obligation to comply with any applicable federal, state, or local law or regulation.

The effective date of this Order is the date it is received by Respondent.

June 11, 2025

Date



Digitally signed by Seager,
Cheryl
Date: 2025.06.11 15:54:49
-05'00'

Cheryl T. Seager, Director
Enforcement and
Compliance Assurance Division

Attachment A
Pilgrim's Pride Corporation
TPDES Permit ID: TX000062936

Effluent Parameter	Daily Avg. mg/L (lbs/day)	Daily Max mg/L (lbs/day)
Carbonaceous Biological Oxygen Demand [5-day, 20°C]	5 (146)	10 (292)
Biological Oxygen Demand [5-day, 20°C]	16 (454)	26 (738)
General Fecal Coliform	N/A	200 MPN/100mL
E. Coli	126 CFU/100mL	394 CFU/100mL
Total Ammonia Nitrogen (April – October)	1 (29)	2 (58)
Total Ammonia Nitrogen (November – March)	4 (113)	6 (170)
Total Nitrogen	103 (2,922)	147 (4,171)
Oil & Grease	8 (227)	14 (376)
Total Phosphorus	Report (144.89)	Report
Total Suspended Solids	15 (376)	30 (751)
Whole Effluent Toxicity	Lethal WET Limit: 98% Sublethal WET Limit: 80%	

Attachment B
Pilgrim's Pride Corporation
TPDES Permit ID: TX0062936

Monitoring Period End Date	Parameter Desc	Statistical Base	Limit Unit	Limit Value	DMR Value
07/31/2023	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	lb/d	751	1927.6
07/31/2023	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	mg/L	30	87
08/31/2023	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	5	5.6
08/31/2023	E. coli	DAILY MX	CFU/100mL	394	649
12/31/2023	E. coli	DAILY MX	CFU/100mL	394	613
06/30/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	5	5.3
06/30/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	10	11
06/30/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	lb/d	376	532.3
06/30/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	mg/L	15	31.3
06/30/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	lb/d	751	1381
06/30/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	mg/L	30	56
07/31/2024	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	454	493.4
07/31/2024	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	16	18.9
07/31/2024	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	lb/d	738	967.3
07/31/2024	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	26	39
07/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	146	358.5
07/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	5	13.7
07/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	lb/d	292	793.7
07/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	10	32
07/31/2024	E. coli	DAILY AV	CFU/100mL	126	140
07/31/2024	E. coli	DAILY MX	CFU/100mL	394	1550
07/31/2024	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	lb/d	58	104.3
07/31/2024	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	mg/L	2	4.46
07/31/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	lb/d	376	2500.7
07/31/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	mg/L	15	98.5

07/31/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	lb/d	751	8675.9
07/31/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	mg/L	30	360
08/31/2024	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	454	651.7
08/31/2024	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	16	25.1
08/31/2024	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	lb/d	738	3275.4
08/31/2024	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	26	125
08/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	146	651.8
08/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	5	25.1
08/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	lb/d	292	3275.4
08/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	10	125
08/31/2024	E. coli	DAILY AV	CFU/100mL	126	461
08/31/2024	E. coli	DAILY MX	CFU/100mL	394	2420
08/31/2024	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY AV	lb/d	29	38
08/31/2024	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY AV	mg/L	1	1.3
08/31/2024	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	lb/d	58	226.5
08/31/2024	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	mg/L	2	7.8
08/31/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	lb/d	376	5403.
08/31/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	mg/L	15	205.3
08/31/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	lb/d	751	36,815
08/31/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	mg/L	30	1405
09/30/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	146	208.4
09/30/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	5	8
09/30/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	lb/d	292	391.5
09/30/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	10	15
09/30/2024	E. coli	DAILY MX	CFU/100mL	394	411
09/30/2024	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	lb/d	58	82
09/30/2024	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	mg/L	2	2.42
09/30/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	lb/d	376	480.8

09/30/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	mg/L	15	18.2
09/30/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	lb/d	751	1763.7
09/30/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	mg/L	30	52
10/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	5	5.5
10/31/2024	E. coli	DAILY MX	CFU/100mL	394	866
10/31/2024	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	lb/d	58	116.2
10/31/2024	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	mg/L	2	4.7
11/30/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	146	162.7
11/30/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	5	6.6
11/30/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	10	11
12/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	146	208.9
12/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	5	8.8
12/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	lb/d	292	377.4
12/31/2024	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	10	13
12/31/2024	E. coli	DAILY MX	CFU/100mL	394	866
12/31/2024	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	lb/d	751	805.9
12/31/2024	Whole effluent toxicity	7 DA MIN	%	80	1
12/31/2024	Whole effluent toxicity	7 DA MIN	%	98	1
12/31/2024	Whole effluent toxicity	MO AV MN	%	80	1
12/31/2024	Whole effluent toxicity	MO AV MN	%	98	1
01/31/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	146	207.9
01/31/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	5	7.1
01/31/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	lb/d	292	354.5
01/31/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	10	11
01/31/2025	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY AV	lb/d	113	301.8
01/31/2025	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY AV	mg/L	4	9.6

01/31/2025	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	lb/d	170	1204.9
01/31/2025	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	mg/L	6	37.7
01/31/2025	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	mg/L	15	27.85
01/31/2025	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	mg/L	30	68
02/28/2025	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	454	2367.6
02/28/2025	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	16	79.7
02/28/2025	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	lb/d	738	22065.1
02/28/2025	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	26	873.
02/28/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	146	2367.6
02/28/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	5	79.7
02/28/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	lb/d	292	26279.5
02/28/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	10	873
02/28/2025	E. coli	DAILY AV	CFU/100mL	126	202.9
02/28/2025	E. coli	DAILY MX	CFU/100mL	394	2420
02/28/2025	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	lb/d	170	402.5
02/28/2025	Nitrogen, ammonia total [as N]	DAILY MX	mg/L	6	11.9
02/28/2025	Nitrogen, total [as N]	DAILY MX	lb/d	4171	4726.1
02/28/2025	Nitrogen, total [as N]	DAILY MX	mg/L	147	157
02/28/2025	Phosphorus, total [as P]	DAILY AV	lb/d	144.89	186.5
02/28/2025	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	lb/d	376	2128.5
02/28/2025	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	mg/L	15	73.1
02/28/2025	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	lb/d	751	22,065.1
02/28/2025	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	mg/L	30	733
03/31/2025	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	454	1104.3
03/31/2025	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	16	43.2
03/31/2025	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	lb/d	738	3188.4
03/31/2025	BOD [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	26	129
03/31/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	lb/d	146	1104.2
03/31/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY AV	mg/L	5	43.2
03/31/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	lb/d	292	3188.4

03/31/2025	BOD, carbonaceous [5-day, 20°C]	DAILY MX	mg/L	10	129
03/31/2025	Coliform, fecal general	DAILY MX	#/100mL	200	5800
03/31/2025	E. coli	DAILY AV	CFU/100mL	126	1018.5
03/31/2025	E. coli	DAILY MX	CFU/100mL	394	2420
03/31/2025	Oil & Grease	DAILY MX	lb/d	376	845.1
03/31/2025	Oil & Grease	DAILY MX	mg/L	14	35.3
03/31/2025	Phosphorus, total [as P]	DAILY AV	lb/d	144.89	379.7
03/31/2025	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	lb/d	376	17,174.3
03/31/2025	Solids, total suspended	DAILY AV	mg/L	15	603
03/31/2025	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	lb/d	751	132,231.7
03/31/2025	Solids, total suspended	DAILY MX	mg/L	30	4040