

**DOCKET NO. D-2015-019-1**

**DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION**

**Public Service Electric & Gas  
Temporary Sediment Dewatering Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant  
City of Camden, Camden County, New Jersey**

**PROCEEDINGS**

This docket is issued in response to an Application submitted to the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC or Commission) by the Public Service Electric & Gas (PSEG or docket holder) on August 26, 2015 (Application), for approval of a temporary sediment dewatering industrial wastewater treatment plant (IWTP) project. New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Permit No. G0242896 for this project was issued by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) on July 20, 2015.

The Application was reviewed for addition of the project in the Comprehensive Plan and approval under Section 3.8 of the *Delaware River Basin Compact (Compact)*. The Camden County Planning Division has been notified of pending action. A public hearing on this project was held by the DRBC on November 10, 2015.

**A. DESCRIPTION**

**1. Purpose.** The purpose of this docket is to approve a new temporary 0.35 million gallons per day (mgd) IWTP and its discharge. The IWTP will treat contaminated water from the dewatering of contaminated riverbed sediment utilizing a filtration treatment system. The sediment dewatering and IWTP operation will last approximately six to twelve months, after which the IWTP will be dismantled and removed from the site.

**2. Location.** The sediment dewatering project and IWTP will be located at the Georgia-Pacific Gypsum Corporation site (formerly the Camden Coke site) on Front Street in the City of Camden, Camden County, New Jersey. The sediment will be excavated from the Delaware River adjacent to the site, in Water Quality Zone 3 at River Mile 98.4 from a former berthing area approximately 700 feet long (along the river shoreline) by 150 feet wide (from the shoreline extending out into the river). The new IWTP discharge will be to the Delaware River Water Quality Zone 3 at River Mile 98.4 via Outfall No. 001A.

The project outfall is located in the Delaware River Watershed as follows:

OUTFALL NO.	LATITUDE (N)	LONGITUDE (W)
001A	39 ° 55' 48"	75 ° 07' 55"

3. **Area Served.** The docket holder's new IWTP will treat the contaminated water from dewatering of the sediment excavated from a former berthing area in the City of Camden, Camden County, New Jersey.

For the purpose of defining the Area Served, Section B (Type of Discharge) and D (Service Area) of the docket holder's Application are incorporated herein by reference, to the extent consistent with all other conditions contained in the DECISION Section of this docket.

4. **Physical features.**

a. **Design criteria.** PSE7G will remove contaminated sediments from approximately 2.35 acres of the Delaware River via the dredging of the former berthing area adjacent to the Georgia-Pacific Gypsum Corporation site. The dredged material will be dewatered at the site in preparation for transport to a licensed offsite approved facility where it will receive thermal treatment. The docket holder's new IWTP will be designed to treat an average flow of 0.35 mgd and will treat the contaminated water from the dewatering of contaminated sediment utilizing filtration and organics removal treatment trains. The former berthing area will be dredged to a depth ranging from 5 feet to approximately 30 feet deep, resulting in the removal of approximately 50,000 cubic yards of sediment. The IWTP treatment trains include: 1) dual train filter bags for treatment of total suspended solids (TSS) and other particulates; 2) Organoclay vessels for treatment of free-phase petroleum hydrocarbons; and 3) granular activated carbon (GAC) for the removal of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAHs), and other organic compounds. Treated effluent from the IWTP will be discharged back to the Delaware River at the point of the excavation. The dewatering and IWTP operation will be temporary, lasting approximately six to twelve months, after which the IWTP will be dismantled and removed from the site.

b. **Facilities.** The IWTP facilities will consist of an influent storage tank, dual train filter bags, two (2) parallel Organoclay vessels, two (2) parallel GAC trains, and effluent storage. Additional treatment systems may be added as needed in order to meet NJPDES permit effluent requirements.

Residuals and spent media from the treatment system will be managed on-site for waste characterization and prior to offsite disposal at a state approved facility.

c. **Water withdrawals.** The contaminated water to be treated at the IWTP and returned to the Delaware River at the location of withdrawal. This docket approves the temporary withdrawal of this water prior to treatment and discharge.

d. **NPDES Permit / DRBC Docket.** NJPDES Permit No. G0242896 was issued by the NJDEP on July 20, 2015 and includes final effluent limitations for the project discharge to surface waters classified by the NJDEP as Delaware River Water Quality Zone 3. The following effluent limits are among those listed in the NJPDES Permit and meet or are more stringent than the effluent requirements of the DRBC.

EFFLUENT TABLE A-1

OUTFALL 001A (Delaware River Water Quality Zone 3)		
PARAMETER	LIMIT	MONITORING
pH (Standard Units)	6 to 9 at all times	As required by the NJPDES permit

The following average monthly effluent limits are DRBC requirements not listed in the NJPDES Permit.

EFFLUENT TABLE A-2

OUTFALL 001A (Delaware River Water Quality Zone 3)		
PARAMETER	LIMIT	MONITORING
Total Suspended Solids	30 mg/l	Monthly
Total Dissolved Solids*	1,000 mg/l	Monthly

\* See Condition II.r. in DECISION section

e. **Cost.** The overall cost of this project is estimated to be \$26,650,000.00.

## B. **FINDINGS**

The purpose of this docket is to approve a new temporary 0.35 mgd IWTP and its discharge. The IWTP will treat contaminated water from dewatered riverbed sediment utilizing a filtration treatment system. The sediment dewatering and IWTP operation will last approximately six to twelve months.

### **Project / Site History**

The Georgia-Pacific Gypsum Corporation site was formerly the Camden Coke Plant site, approximately 28 acres in area. The Camden Coke plant was dismantled in 1959; however, the site contains waste from former site operations. The contaminated materials are located mainly within a large dock area, and include sediment in the Delaware River in an area approximately 2 ½ acres in size. The docket holder (PSEG) has proposed a project to clean up contaminated Delaware riverbed sediment by dredging the sediment, dewatering the sediment, and treating the water (supernatant) that is removed from the sediment. The riverbed will be excavated and dredged to a depth ranging from 5 feet to approximately 30 feet deep, and will be replaced by clean sand. Dewatered sediment will be transported to a licensed offsite approved facility where it will receive thermal treatment. The project is expected to take approximately six to twelve months.

### PCBs

The docket holder proposes to monitor the sediment, contaminated water (influent) and treated water discharge for PCBs prior to discharge via Outfall 001A.

There are no surface water intakes of record for public water supply downstream of the IWTP discharge.

The project does not conflict with the Comprehensive Plan and is designed to prevent substantial adverse impact on the water resources related environment, while sustaining the current and future water uses and development of the water resources of the Basin.

The limits in the NJPDES Permit for the existing discharge are in compliance with Commission effluent quality requirements, where applicable.

The project is designed to produce a discharge meeting the effluent requirements as set forth in the Commission's Water Quality Regulations (*WQR*.)

## C. DECISION

I. Effective on the approval date for Docket No. D-2015-019-1 below, the project and appurtenant facilities as described in Section A "Physical Features" of this docket are approved pursuant to Section 3.8 of the *Compact*, subject to the following conditions:

a. Docket approval is subject to all conditions, requirements, and limitations imposed by the NJDEP in its NJPDES permit, and such conditions, requirements, and limitations are incorporated herein, unless they are less stringent than the Commission's.

b. The facility and operational records shall be available at all times for inspection by the DRBC.

c. The facility shall be operated at all times to comply with the requirements of the Commission's *WQR*.

d. The docket holder shall comply with the requirements contained in the EFFLUENT TABLES in Section A.4.d. of this docket. The docket holder shall submit the required monitoring results electronically to the DRBC Project Review Section via email [aemr@drbc.state.nj.us](mailto:aemr@drbc.state.nj.us) on the **Annual Effluent Monitoring Report Form** located at this web address: <http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/programs/project/application/index.html>. The monitoring results shall be submitted annually, absent any observed limit violations, by January 31. If a DRBC effluent limit is violated, the docket holder shall submit the result(s) to the DRBC within 30 days of the violation(s) and provide a written explanation that states the action(s) the docket holder has taken to correct the violation(s) and protect against any future violations.

e. Except as otherwise authorized by this docket, if the docket holder seeks relief from any limitation based upon a DRBC water quality standard or minimum treatment

requirement, the docket holder shall apply for approval from the Executive Director or for a docket revision in accordance with Section 3.8 of the *Compact* and the *Rules of Practice and Procedure*.

f. If at any time the receiving treatment plant proves unable to produce an effluent that is consistent with the requirements of this docket approval, no further connections shall be permitted until the deficiency is remedied.

g. Nothing herein shall be construed to exempt the docket holder from obtaining all necessary permits and/or approvals from other State, Federal or local government agencies having jurisdiction over this project.

h. Sound practices of excavation, backfill and reseedling shall be followed to minimize erosion and deposition of sediment in streams.

i. Within 10 days of the date that construction of the project has started, the docket holder shall notify the DRBC of the starting date and scheduled completion date.

j. Within 30 days of completion of construction of the approved project, the docket holder is to submit to the attention of the Project Review Section of DRBC a Construction Completion Statement (“Statement”) signed by the docket holder’s professional engineer for the project. The Statement must (1) either confirm that construction has been completed in a manner consistent with any and all DRBC-approved plans or explain how the as-built project deviates from such plans; (2) report the project’s final construction cost as such cost is defined by the project review fee schedule in effect at the time the application was made; and (3) indicate the date on which the project was (or is to be) placed in operation. In the event that the final project cost exceeds the estimated cost used by the docket holder to calculate the DRBC project review fee, the statement must also include (4) the amount of any outstanding balance owed for DRBC review. The outstanding balance will equal the difference between the fee paid to the Commission and the fee calculated on the basis of the project’s final cost, using the formula and definition of “project cost” set forth in the DRBC’s project review fee schedule in effect at the time application was made.

k. This docket approval shall expire three years from date below unless prior thereto the docket holder has commenced operation of the IWTP project or has expended substantial funds (in relation to the cost of the project) in reliance upon this docket approval.

l. The docket holder is permitted to treat and discharge wastewaters as set forth in the Area Served Section of this docket, which incorporates by reference Sections B (Type of Discharge) and D (Service Area) of the docket holder’s Application to the extent consistent with all other conditions of this DECISION Section.

m. The docket holder shall make wastewater discharge in such a manner as to avoid injury or damage to fish, wildlife, and/or other aquatic life and shall avoid any injury to public or private property.

n. Nothing in this docket approval shall be construed as limiting the authority of DRBC to adopt and apply charges or other fees to this discharge or project.

o. The issuance of this docket approval shall not create any private or proprietary rights in the waters of the Basin, and the Commission reserves the right to amend, suspend or rescind the docket for cause, in order to ensure proper control, use and management of the water resources of the Basin.

p. The Executive Director may modify or suspend this approval or any condition thereof, or require mitigating measures pending additional review, if in the Executive Director's judgment such modification or suspension is required to protect the water resources of the Basin.

q. Any person who objects to a docket decision by the Commission may request a hearing in accordance with Article 6 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure. In accordance with Section 15.1(p) of the Delaware River Basin Compact, cases and controversies arising under the Compact are reviewable in the United States district courts.

r. The docket holder may request of the Executive Director in writing the substitution of specific conductance for TDS. The request should include information that supports the effluent specific correlation between TDS and specific conductance. Upon review, the Executive Director may modify the docket to allow the substitution of specific conductance for TDS monitoring.

s. The docket holder is prohibited from treating/pre-treating any hydraulic fracturing wastewater from sources in or out of the Basin at this time. Should the docket holder wish to treat/pre-treat hydraulic fracturing wastewater in the future, the docket holder will need to first apply to the Commission to renew this docket and be issued a revised docket allowing such treatment and an expanded service area. Failure to obtain this approval prior to treatment/pre-treatment will result in action by the Commission.

**BY THE COMMISSION**

**DATE APPROVED: December 9, 2015**

**EXPIRATION DATE: December 9, 2020**