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DOCKET NO. D-2010-002-5

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

Discharge to a Tributary of Special Protection Waters

Green Top Management, LLC

**Green Top Mobile Home Park Wastewater Treatment Plant
West Rockhill Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania**

PROCEEDINGS

This docket is issued in response to an application submitted to the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC or Commission) on November 30, 2020 (Application), for renewal of the docket holder's existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) and its discharge. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. PA0055395 for this discharge was issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP).

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission has been notified of pending action. A public hearing on this project was held by the DRBC on May 11, 2022.

A. DESCRIPTION

- 1. Purpose.** The purpose of this docket is to renew approval of the docket holder's existing 0.018 million gallons per day (mgd) WWTP and its discharge.
- 2. Location.** The docket holder's WWTP is located at Roeder Lane in West Rockhill Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The WWTP will continue to discharge treated effluent to an unnamed tributary to Tohickon Creek, upstream of Nockamixon Lake at River Mile 157.0 – 10.8 – 6.5 – 3.1 – 4.1 (Delaware River – Tohickon Creek – Lake Nockamixon – Tohickon Creek – UNT Tohickon Creek) and is located in the drainage area to the Lower Delaware Special Protection Waters (SPW).

The WWTP outfall is located in the Tohickon Creek Watershed as follows:

OUTFALL NO.	LATITUDE (N)	LONGITUDE (W)
001	40° 24' 0.55"	75° 20' 4.14"

3. **Area Served.** The docket holder's WWTP will continue to serve Green Top MHP in West Rockhill Township located in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. 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. **Design Criteria.** The docket holder's 0.018 mgd WWTP utilizes a sequencing batch reactor (SBR) treatment process with ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection.

5. **Facilities.** The updated WWTP facilities consist of equalization tanks, three SBR units, 12 intermittent sand filters, a phosphorus removal chemical feed and a UV disinfection system.

The docket holder's WWTP discharges to waters classified as SPW and is required to have available standby power. The existing WWTP has a generator installed capable of providing standby power.

The docket holder's WWTP is not staffed 24 hours per day and shall have a remote alarm system that continuously monitors plant operations in accordance with the Commission's SPW requirements. The existing WWTP has a remote alarm system installed that continuously monitors plant operations.

The docket holder has prepared and implemented an emergency management plan (EMP) for the existing WWTP in accordance with Commission SPW requirements.

The project facilities are not located in the 100-year floodplain.

Wasted sludge will continue to be handled in accordance with NPDES Permit No. PA0055395.

6. **Water Withdrawals.** The potable water supply in the project service area is provided by the docket holder's water withdrawals, as described in Docket No. P-2009-030-2 approved on July 16, 2020.

7. **NPDES Permit / DRBC Effluent Requirements.** NPDES Permit No. PA0055395 issued by the PADEP includes final effluent limitations for the project discharge to surface waters classified by the PADEP as supporting trout stocking (TSF). EFFLUENT TABLES C-1 & C-2 included in Section C. DECISION Condition C.1. of this docket, contain effluent requirements for

DRBC parameters that must be met as a condition of this approval. Effluent requirements for Outfall No. 001 are based on a discharge rate of 0.018 mgd.

B. FINDINGS

The docket holder applied to renew approval of their existing 0.018 mgd WWTP and its discharge.

The upgrades to the WWTP proposed in Docket No. D-2010-002-4 have been completed and the expansion of the park is mostly complete. Some work remains to be completed on the new lots, but the docket holder has begun to rent lots. The new part of the plant has not been started, as the capacity has not been needed. Startup will occur when a sufficient number of units in the new section are occupied, and flows exceed the capacity of the existing plant.

1. Special Protection Waters

On July 16, 2008, the DRBC approved amendments to its *Water Quality Regulations (WQR)* that provide increased protection for waters that the Commission classifies as SPW. The portion of the Delaware River and its tributaries within the boundary of the Lower Delaware River Management Plan Area was approved for SPW designation. (Lower SPW)

The docket holder's WWTP discharges to the drainage area to the Lower Delaware SPW. The docket holder's WWTP discharge is required to comply with the SPW requirements, as outlined in Article 3.10.3A.2. of the WQR.

Article 3.10.3A.2.e.1). and 2). of the Commission's *WQR* states that projects subject to review under Section 3.8 of the Compact that are located in the drainage area of SPW must submit for approval a Non-Point Source Pollution Control Plan (NPSPCP) that controls the new or increased non-point source loads generated within the portion of the docket holder's service area which is also located within the drainage area of SPW. The service area of the docket holder is located in the drainage area to the SPW. Since this project does not entail additional construction and/or expansion of facilities and service area and there are no new or increased non-point source loads associated with this approval, the NPSPCP requirement is not applicable at this time. Accordingly, Section C. DECISION Conditions C.2. has been included in this docket.

West Rockhill Township is regulated by the PADEP as a Stormwater Phase II municipality and is permitted by PADEP as such. West Rockhill Township adopted and implemented a stormwater ordinance in accordance with the PADEP requirements. The PADEP Stormwater Phase II requirements satisfy the NPSPCP requirements of the Commission.

2. Other

Near the WWTP discharge location, Tohickon Creek at the Lake Nockamixon Dam has an estimated seven-day low flow with a recurrence interval of ten years (Q_{7-10}) of less than 0.1 cubic feet per second (cfs) and therefore is classified by the Commission as an intermittent stream.

The nearest surface water intake of record for public water supply is located on the Delaware River approximately 25 River Miles downstream of the docket holder's WWTP and is operated by Forest Park.

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 effluent limits in the NPDES Permit conform with Commission effluent quality requirements, where applicable.

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

C. DECISION

Effective on the approval date for Docket No. D-2010-002-5 below, the project described in Docket No. D-2010-002-4 is removed to the extent that it is not included in Docket No. D-2010-002-5; Docket No. D-2010-002-4 is terminated and replaced by Docket No. D-2010-002-5. The project and appurtenant facilities as described in Section A of this docket are approved pursuant to Section 3.8 of the *Compact*, subject to the following conditions:

Monitoring and Reporting

1. The docket holder shall comply with the requirements contained in the EFFLUENT TABLES below. The docket holder shall submit the required monitoring results electronically to the DRBC Project Review Section via email aemr@drbc.gov on the **Annual Effluent Monitoring Report Form** located at this web address: <https://www.nj.gov/drbc/programs/project/docket-app-info.html#3>. 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. The following average monthly effluent limits are among those listed in the NPDES Permit and meet or are more stringent than the effluent requirements of the DRBC.

EFFLUENT TABLE C-1: DRBC Parameters Included in NPDES Permit

OUTFALL 001 (Discharge to UNT Tohickon Creek)		
PARAMETER	LIMIT	MONITORING
pH (Standard Units)	6 to 9 at all times	As required by NPDES Permit
Dissolved Oxygen	6.0 mg/l (minimum at all times)	As required by NPDES Permit
CBOD ₅ (at 20° C)	25 mg/l	As required by NPDES Permit
Ammonia Nitrogen (5-1 to 10-31) (11-1 to 4-30)	1.7 mg/l 3.0 mg/l	As required by NPDES Permit
Fecal Coliform	200 colonies per 100 ml as a geo. avg.	As required by NPDES Permit
Phosphorus	0.5 mg/l	As required by NPDES Permit
Total Dissolved Solids*	1,000 mg/l *	As required by NPDES Permit

* See Section C. DECISION Condition C.5.

The following monitoring requirements and average monthly effluent limits are for DRBC parameters not listed in the NPDES Permit.

EFFLUENT TABLE C-2: DRBC Parameters Not Included in NPDES Permit

OUTFALL 001 (Discharge to UNT Tohickon Creek)		
PARAMETER	LIMIT	MONITORING
CBOD ₅ (at 20° C) Influent	Monitor & Report	Monthly
CBOD ₅ (at 20° C)	85% Minimum Percent Removal	Monthly

Other Conditions

2. Prior to allowing connections from any new service areas or any new developments, the docket holder shall either submit and have approved by the Executive Director of the DRBC a NPSPCP in accordance with Section 3.10.3.A.2.e, or receive written confirmation from the Executive Director of the DRBC that the new service area complies with a DRBC-approved NPSPCP.
3. Prior to the docket holder initiating any substantial alterations or additions to the existing WWTP as defined in Section 3.10.3A2.a.16) of the Commission's WQR, an application must be submitted and approved by the Commission. Such an application shall be submitted prior to final design to ensure that the Commission can provide the docket holder with draft effluent limitations for SPW specific parameters as guidance for design as to not require duplication of work or cause a substantial expenditure of public funds without Commission approval. The docket holder is encouraged to contact the Commission staff during the planning stages to identify the potential effluent limitations required to meet the no measurable change parameters under SPW.
4. 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*.
5. 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.
6. The docket holder is responsible for timely submittal to the DRBC of a docket renewal application on the appropriate application form including the appropriate docket application filing fee (see 18 CFR 401.43) at least 6 months in advance of the docket expiration date set forth below. The docket holder will be subject to late filed renewal surcharges in the event of untimely submittal of its renewal application, whether or not DRBC issues a reminder notice in advance of the deadline or the docket holder receives such notice. In the event that a timely and complete application for renewal has been submitted and the DRBC is unable, through no fault of the docket holder, to reissue the docket before the expiration date below, the terms and conditions of the current docket will remain fully effective and enforceable against the docket holder pending the grant or denial of the application for docket approval.

- 7.** The docket holder is permitted to treat and discharge wastewater 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.
- 8.** 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.
- 9.** The facility and operational records shall be available at all times for inspection by the DRBC.
- 10.** The facility shall be operated at all times to comply with the requirements of the Commission's WQR.
- 11.** 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.
- 12.** 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.
- 13.** The docket holder shall discharge wastewater in such a manner as to avoid injury or damage to fish or wildlife and shall avoid any injury to public or private property.
- 14.** No sewer service connections shall be made to newly constructed premises with plumbing fixtures and fittings that do not comply with water conservation performance standards contained in Resolution No. 88-2 (Revision 2).
- 15.** 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, to ensure proper control, use and management of the water resources of the Basin.
- 16.** The docket holder shall be subject to applicable DRBC regulatory program fees, in accordance with duly adopted DRBC resolutions and/or regulations (see 18 CFR 401.43).
- 17.** This approval is transferable by request to the DRBC Executive Director provided that the project purpose and area served approved by the Commission in this docket will not be materially altered because of the change in project ownership. The request shall be submitted on the appropriate form and be accompanied by the appropriate fee (see 18 CFR 401.43).

18. The docket holder shall request a name change of the entity to which this approval is issued if the name of the entity to which this approval is issued changes its name. The request for name change shall be submitted on the appropriate form and be accompanied by the appropriate fee (see 18 CFR 401.43).

19. 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.

20. 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.

BY THE COMMISSION

APPROVAL DATE:

EXPIRATION DATE: January 31, 2030