



## Indiana Department of Environmental Management

*We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.*

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**Eric J. Holcomb**  
*Governor*

**Brian Rockensuess**  
*Commissioner*

June 24, 2024

Via Email to: [kyletaylor@sweetser.in](mailto:kyletaylor@sweetser.in)  
Mr. Kyle Taylor, Town Council President  
Town of Sweetser  
111 W. Greenburg St.  
P.O. Box 486  
Sweetser, Indiana 46987

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Re: Inspection Summary Letter  
Sweetser WWTP  
NPDES Permit No. IN0064165  
Marion, Grant County

An inspection of the above-referenced facility or location was conducted by a representative of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Office of Water Quality, pursuant to IC 13-18-3-9. A summary of the inspection is provided below:

Date(s) of Inspection: June 20, 2024  
Type of Inspection: Reconnaissance Inspection  
Inspection Results: Potential problems were discovered or observed.

Effective immediately, IDEM is initiating a program strongly encouraging domestic wastewater utilities to perform cybersecurity vulnerability assessments, and to take actions to mitigate identified vulnerabilities and increase the cybersecurity resilience of Indiana's water sector. Utilities can choose any assessment tool appropriate for the water sector, but IDEM is highlighting the following websites for information and helpful vulnerability assessment tools made available from the U.S. EPA and the American Water Works Association: <https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/epa-cybersecurity-water-sector> and <https://www.awwa.org/Resources-Tools/Resource-Topics/Risk-Resilience/Cybersecurity-Guidance>. IDEM will continue to share important updates on the cybersecurity of the water sector.

A copy of the NPDES Wastewater Facility Inspection Report is enclosed for your records. Please direct any response to this letter and any questions to Jeremy Waite at 317-691-1914 or by email to [jwaite@idem.IN.gov](mailto:jwaite@idem.IN.gov).

Sincerely,

Kim Rohr, Chief  
Wastewater Inspection Section  
Office of Water Quality

Enclosure



# NPDES Wastewater Facility Inspection Report

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

NPDES Permit Number: <b>IN0064165</b>		Facility Type: Municipality		Facility Classification: Minor		TEMPO AI ID I	
Date(s) of Inspection: June 20, 2024							
Type of Inspection: Reconnaissance Inspection							
Name and Location of Facility Inspected: <b>Sweetser WWTP</b> 0923 N. 400 W. Marion IN 46952				Receiving Waters: Pipe Creek		Permit Expiration Date: 12/31/2028	
County: Grant						Design Flow: 0.150MGD	
On Site Representative(s): First Name Last Name Title Email Phone Ed Arenas Maintenance Laborer							
Was a verbal summary of findings presented to the on-site representative?							
Certified Operator: Patrick Kendall		Number: 21752	Class: I	Effective Date: 7-1-21	Expiration Date: 6-30-24	Email: patrickkendall@sweetser.in	
Cyber Security Contact: Name: _____ Email: _____							
Responsible Official: Mr. Kyle Taylor, Town Council President 111 W. Greenburg St. P.O. Box 486 Sweetser, Indiana 46987				Permittee: Town of Sweetser		Email: kyletaylor@sweetser.in	
				Phone: (765) 661-7467		Contacted?	
				Fax:			
<b>INSPECTION FINDINGS</b>							
<input type="radio"/> Conditions evaluated were found to be satisfactory at the time of the inspection. (5) <input type="radio"/> Violations were discovered but corrected during the inspection. (4) <input checked="" type="radio"/> Potential problems were discovered or observed. (3) <input type="radio"/> Violations were discovered and require a submittal from you and/or a follow-up inspection by IDEM. (2) <input type="radio"/> Violations were discovered and may subject you to an appropriate enforcement response. (1)							
<b>AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION</b>							
<i>(S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated)</i>							
S	Receiving Waters	N	Facility/Site	M	Self-Monitoring	N	Enforcement
N	Effluent	N	Operation	N	Flow Measurement	N	Pretreatment
N	Permit	N	Maintenance	N	Laboratory	M	Effluent Limits Compliance
N	Collection System	N	Sludge Disposal	M	Records/Reports	N	Other:
<b>DETAILED AREA EVALUATIONS</b>							
<b>Receiving Waters:</b>							
Comments: The receiving stream was free of notable foam, algae or solids.							
<b>Self-Monitoring:</b>							
Comments: Self-Monitoring was rated marginal due to the facility failing to monitor and report E. coli in the month of April 2024. The Operations Manager did contact inspector as soon as he realized the mistake and stated that he had misread the permit and thought the summer monitoring began in May. He also stated that they had been running the UV system since April 8th to maintain and make sure the UV was ready for disinfection season. The facility has been monitoring E. coli since May 1st. It was also noted that the facility needs to monitor the Return Activated Sludge (RAS) at the same frequency as they monitor their effluent. After records review, it was determined that the facility was only monitoring RAS once a week. Part I. B. 2 of the permit which states, in part, that the raw influent and the wastewater from intermediate unit treatment processes, as well as the final effluent shall be sampled and analyzed, at a minimum of the same frequency as that for the final effluent, for the pollutants and operational parameters, specified by the applicable Monthly Report of Operation Form, as appropriate, in							

accordance with 327 IAC 5-2-13.

**Records/Reports:**

The following records/reports were reviewed:

DMRs for the period of January 2024 to May 2024 were reviewed as part of the inspection.

Comments:

The Records/Reports evaluation generated a marginal rating due to the facility not reporting the correct number of exceedances on the DMR. February 2024, the facility reported 21 exceedances for the Ammonia parameter. After further review, the correct number of exceedances is 7. The facility must complete the correct number of exceedances on the DMR when they report effluent violations.

**Enforcement:**

Comments:

There was no Agreed Order at the time of the inspection.

**Pretreatment:**

Comments:

The facility has no industrial sources.

**Effluent Limits Compliance:**

Yes 1. Were DMRs reviewed as part of the inspection?

DMRs for the period of January 2024 to May 2024 were reviewed as part of the inspection.

Yes 2. Were violations noted during the review of DMRs?

The Effluent Limits Compliance area was rated marginal due to the following self-reported violations of the limits detailed in Part I. A. of the NPDES Permit:

Month	Year	Outfall	Parameter	Number
February	2024	001	Ammonia Nitrogen	7

Comments:

The Effluent Limits Compliance area was rated marginal due to self-reported violations of the limits detailed in Part I. A. of the NPDES Permit. A review of DMRs revealed the facility reported Ammonia violations in February 2024. At the time of the violations, the operator was in contact with the inspector to let them know that the violations were due to a RAS line being plugged when they arrived at the facility from the weekend, thus causing violations.

**IDEM REPRESENTATIVE**

Inspector Name:

Jeremy Waite

Email:

jwaite@idem.IN.gov

Phone Number:

317-691-1914

**IDEM MANAGER REVIEW**

IDEM Manager:

Kim Rohr

Date:

6/24/2024