



## Indiana Department of Environmental Management

*We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.*

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**Eric J. Holcomb**  
*Governor*

**Brian Rockensuess**  
*Commissioner*

June 28, 2024

Via Email to: silvertj16@gmail.com  
Mr. Timothy Silver, Owner  
Kokomo Oaks  
15493 Hamilton-Boone County line Rd.  
Zionsville, Indiana 46077

Dear Mr. Silver:

**Re: Inspection Summary/ Noncompliance Letter**  
Kokomo Oaks WWTP  
NPDES Permit No. IN0038784  
Kokomo, Howard 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 26, 2024  
Type of Inspection: Reconnaissance Inspection  
Inspection Results: Violations were observed.

The following concerns were noted:

1. Maintenance was rated as unsatisfactory due to the final polishing pond needing maintained. This is a violation of Part II. B. 1 of the permit which states, in part, that all waste collection, control, treatment, and disposal facilities shall be operated as efficiently as possible and in a manner which will minimize upsets and discharges of excessive pollutants, with adequate operating staff which is duly qualified to carry out the operation, maintenance, and testing functions required to ensure compliance with the conditions of this permit. At the time of inspection it was noted that the polishing pond still had excessive settled solids accumulation in it. The facility noted on the October 2023 MRO the cause of the violations was contributed to excessive sludge in the pond that they have been treating with sludge reducing enzymes. The facility needs to clean the solids from the polishing pond to help prevent effluent limit violations in the future.
2. The Effluent Limits Compliance area was rated unsatisfactory due to self-reported violations of the limits detailed in Part I. A. of the NPDES Permit. A review of DMRs from May 2023 through September 2023 revealed the facility

reported 30 Ammonia, five TSS, two CBOD, and two E. Coli effluent violations of limits. These effluent limits violations were addressed in a non-compliance letter from IDEM's compliance section on 11/21/23 with an adequate response from the facility being received on 12/19/23. A review of DMRs from October 2023 through April 2024 revealed the facility reported seven Ammonia, two TSS, and two E. Coli effluent violations of limits. The facility noted on MROs the cause of the violations was contributed to excessive sludge in the pond, extremely high flows and increased chlorine due to polishing pond. A response is required with a plan and timeline stating how the facility is going to eliminate effluent limits violations in the future.

Part II. A. 1. of your permit requires you to comply with its terms and conditions. Any noncompliance with the terms of your permit may subject you to an enforcement action which can include the imposition of penalties. You are required to immediately take all necessary measures to comply with the terms and conditions of your NPDES Permit, specifically those violations identified above.

Within 30 days of receipt of this letter, a written detailed response documenting correction of the concerns listed above and/or a plan for assuring future compliance must be submitted to this office. Failure to respond adequately to this letter may result in formal enforcement action. Please direct your response to this letter to our letterhead address or via email to [wwViolationResponse@idem.IN.gov](mailto:wwViolationResponse@idem.IN.gov). Any questions should be directed to Aaron Deeter at 317-691-1915 or by email to [adeeter@idem.IN.gov](mailto:adeeter@idem.IN.gov). Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kim Rohr in black ink.

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>IN0038784</b>		Facility Type: Mixed Ownership		Facility Classification: Minor		TEMPO AI ID	
Date(s) of Inspection: June 26, 2024							
Type of Inspection: Reconnaissance Inspection							
Name and Location of Facility Inspected: <b>Kokomo Oaks WWTP</b> 2106 N CR 250 E Kokomo IN 46901				County: Howard		Receiving Waters: Prairie Creek Diversion Ditch	
						Permit Expiration Date: 8/31/2027	
						Design Flow: 0.027MGD	
On Site Representative(s):							
First Name	Last Name	Title	Email	Phone			
Greg	Warry	Contract Certified Operator	gwarry@utilityservicescorp.com	574-806-3565			
Matt	Brown	Contract Certified Operator	mbrown@utilityservicescorp.com	219-393-4330			
Tim	Sliver	New Owner	silvertj16@gmail.com	847-873-9117			
Was a verbal summary of findings presented to the on-site representative? <b>Yes</b>							
Certified Operator: Greg Warry	Number: 22127	Class: I	Effective Date: 8-4-23	Expiration Date: 6-30-26	Email: gwarry@utilityservicescorp.com		
Cyber Security Contact:							
Name: _____ Email: _____							
Responsible Official: Mr. Timothy Silver, Owner 15493 Hamilton-Boone County line Rd. Zionsville, Indiana 46077				Permittee: Kokomo Oaks			
				Email: silvertj16@gmail.com			
				Phone: 847-873-9117		Contacted? Yes	
				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 type="radio"/> Potential problems were discovered or observed. (3) <input checked="" 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>							
N	Receiving Waters	N	Facility/Site	S	Self-Monitoring	N	Enforcement
S	Effluent	S	Operation	S	Flow Measurement	N	Pretreatment
S	Permit	U	Maintenance	S	Laboratory	U	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 not observed due to the long walking distance through a muddy corn field.							
<b>Effluent:</b>							
Comments: The effluent was observed at the post aeration tank and it was clear and free of color at the time of the inspection.							
<b>Permit:</b>							
Comments: The facility was found to have a valid permit and the facility description, including units of treatment and receiving stream, is accurate. The facility is under new ownership starting 5/4/24 and it was verified the facility has submitted a transfer of ownership application to IDEM dated 6/10/24.							

**Facility/Site:**

Comments:

The facility grounds are well maintained and access to the units of treatment and to the entire facility was adequate.

**Operation:**

Comments:

All units of treatment appeared to be operating efficiently at the time of inspection. The influent lift station was in service and appeared to be working properly. There was good mixing and color noted in the aeration tank. The secondary clarifier weir was clear and free of solids and algae and the clarifier appeared to be operating efficiently. The facility had the chlorination system in operation at the time of inspection. The contact tank was clean and clear and appeared to be operating correctly. The polishing pond was covered in duck weed and had weeds growing in it and appeared to be in need of being cleaned out. Sludge wasting appeared to be adequate and is determined by the certified operator.

**Maintenance:**

Comments:

Maintenance was rated as unsatisfactory due to the final polishing pond needing to be maintained. This is a violation of Part II. B. 1 of the permit which states, in part, that all waste collection, control, treatment, and disposal facilities shall be operated as efficiently as possible and in a manner which will minimize upsets and discharges of excessive pollutants, with adequate operating staff which is duly qualified to carry out the operation, maintenance, and testing functions required to ensure compliance with the conditions of this permit. At the time of inspection, it was noted that the polishing pond still had excessive settled solids accumulation in it. The facility noted on the October 2023 MRO the cause of the violations was contributed to excessive sludge in the pond that they have been treating with sludge reducing enzymes. The facility needs to clean the solids from the polishing pond to help prevent effluent limit violations in the future.

**Self-Monitoring:**

Comments:

The Self Monitoring Program was rated as satisfactory. All sampling practices, including raw and intermediate unit process testing, are conducted accurately and at the frequency required by the permit. The facility has greatly improved procedures for meeting holding temperatures for samples analyzed at the contract lab since noted in last inspection on 5/9/23.

**Flow Measurement:**

Comments:

The facility's flow measurement program, including all documentation, was found to be adequate and representative. The effluent flow meter was last calibrated on 2/6/24 by Frakes Engineering.

**Laboratory:**

The following laboratory records were reviewed:

- D. O. Bench Sheets                      Chlorine Bench Sheets                      pH Bench Sheets
  
- Contract Lab Reports                      Chain-of-Custody

- S 1. The laboratory practices and protocol reviewed were adequate, including:
  - a. A written laboratory QA/QC manual was available.
  - b. Samples were found to be properly stored.
  - c. Approved analytical methods were found to be used.
  - d. Calibration and maintenance of instruments was found to be adequate.
  - e. QA/QC procedures were found to be adequate.
  - f. Dates of analyses (and times where required) were recorded.
  - g. Name of person performing analyses was recorded.

- S 2. Review of lab records and/or on-site field testing equipment and protocols was found to be adequate.

**Contract Lab Information**

Utility Services Lab	Wanatah, IN
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Comments:

Analyses for pH, DO, and Chlorine residual are performed on-site by contract operators with all other parameters of the permit being performed at the contract lab. The pH/DO/Cl bench sheets, contract lab reports and chain-of

custody sheets for October 2023 and April 2024 were reviewed during the inspection and appeared to be accurate and complete. The facility has improve the documentation of analyses times for pH and Total Residue Chlorine since noted in last inspection on 5/9/23.

**Records/Reports:**

The following records/reports were reviewed:

DMRs for the period of May 2023 to April 2024 were reviewed as part of the inspection.

Comments:

The Records/Reports evaluation generated a marginal rating due to not reporting the results for pH, DO, and TRC on the October 2023 MRO. In reviewing the October 2023 MRO, it was noted during the week of the 15th through the 21st the facility only report pH, DO, and TRC once in that week. In reviewing the pH, DO, and TRC bench sheets, the facility sampled and analyzed pH, DO, and TRC twice in that week but did not report it on the MRO. The facility must correct the October 2023 MRO and DMR and resubmit them in NetDMR.

**Effluent Limits Compliance:**

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

DMRs for the period of May 2023 to April 2024 were reviewed as part of the inspection.

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

Comments:

The Effluent Limits Compliance area was rated unsatisfactory due to self-reported violations of the limits detailed in Part I. A. of the NPDES Permit. A review of DMRs from May 2023 through September 2023 revealed the facility reported 30 Ammonia, five TSS, two CBOD, and two E. Coli effluent violations of limits. These effluent limits violations were addressed in a non-compliance letter from IDEM's compliance section on 11/21/23 with an adequate response from the facility being received on 12/19/23. A review of DMRs from October 2023 through April 2024 revealed the facility reported seven Ammonia, two TSS, and two E. Coli effluent violations of limits. The facility noted on MROs the cause of the violations was contributed to excessive sludge in the pond, extremely high flows and increased chlorine due to polishing pond. A response is required with a plan and timeline stating how the facility is going to eliminate effluent limits violations in the future.

**IDEM REPRESENTATIVE**

Inspector Name:

Aaron Deeter

Email:

adeeter@idem.IN.gov

Phone Number:

317-691-1915

Other staff participating in the inspection:

Name(s)

Porfirio Ascencio-IDEM

Phone Number(s)

219-216-3235

**IDEM MANAGER REVIEW**

IDEM Manager:

Kim Rohr

Date:

6/27/2024