

FACT SHEET

PERMITTEE: United States Department of the Air Force
FACILITY: Air Force Academy Wastewater Treatment Facility
PERMIT NO.: CO-0020974
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PERMIT TYPE Major Federal Facility, Permit Renewal

Background Information

This fact sheet (statement of basis) is for the minor amendment of the NPDES permit for the wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) that treats the sanitary wastewater from the Air Force Academy (AFA) and was issued effective February 1, 2015.

Shortly after the permit was issued, the permittee notified this writer via telephone that the contract laboratories that were going to be doing the analyses of the samples for self-monitoring could not meet the practical quantitation limits (PQLs) specified in the permit for free cyanide and total phosphorus. The PQL values in the permit were based on what the Colorado Water Quality Control Division was putting into its permits at the time the AFA permit was being drafted. The PQL values in the AFA permit for free cyanide and total phosphorus were 5 ug/L and 10 ug/L, respectively. The contract laboratories had indicated that they could meet a PQL of 10 ug/L for free cyanide and a PQL of 50 ug/L for total phosphorus.

Upon checking, it was subsequently learned that the Colorado WQCD had approved a revised policy on PQLs on December 30, 2014, with an effective date of February 3, 2015. (Implementation Policy Number: CW 6, Title: Practical Quantitation Limits (PQLs)). The PQL value for cyanide in the new policy is 10 ug/L and applies to free, WAD, and total forms of cyanide. The PQL value for phosphorus in the new policy is 0.050 mg/L (50 ug/L).

Permit Modification

The pages 8 and 9 of the permit will be modified by changing the PQL value for free cyanide to 10 ug/L and for total phosphorus to 50 ug/L. These changes are considered minor modifications and a new public notice is not required. The modifications are effective on the date the transmittal letter is signed.

Permit modifications and fact sheet prepared by Robert D Shankland, SEE, 8P-W-WW, EPA Region 8, March 23, 2015.