Sampled March 2, 2012
AR-1324

Northeast Utilities System

Public Service of New Hampshire
Northeast Utilities System
Merrimack Station
97 River Road
Bow, New Hampshire 03304

Phone (603) 224-4081
Fax (603) 634- 2334

March 30, 2012

Mr. Dana Clement
Superintendent
Allenstown Wastewater Treatment Facility
35 Canal Street
Allenstown, New Hampshire 03275

Re: Effluent Screening Level Report
Treated Wastewater
Merrimack Station
Public Service Company of New Hampshire
Bow, New Hampshire

Dear Dana:

In accordance with Part 3, Section D of Industrial Discharge Permit No. HWIU-PSNH, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) hereby notifies the Allenstown Wastewater Treatment Facility (AWTF) of screening level exceedances identified on March 26, 2012. This written report is a follow-up to a verbal notification communicated by Ronald A. Breton of GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. (GZA) via voice mail to Dana L. Clement of the AWTF at 8:40 a.m. on March 27, 2012.

As summarized in the attached **Table 1,** an analytical data report prepared by Eastern Analytical, Inc. dated March 26, 2012 from a sampling event conducted at Merrimack Station on March 2, 2012 indicated a cyanide concentration of 0.02 milligrams per liter (mg/L) which exceeds the screening level of 0.01 mg/L; a total dissolved solids (TDS) concentration of 24,000 mg/L which exceeds the screening level of 20,000 mg/L; and a total suspended solids (TSS) concentration of 43 mg/L which exceeds the screening level of 15 mg/L.

PSNH monitors the performance of the wastewater treatment process on a regular basis to optimize removals of contaminants of concern. Cyanide is not inherent to the process, and we suspect it is associated with materials of construction in the relatively new treatment system. TDS is, however, inherent to the wastewater, and existing treatment technologies employed at Merrimack Station are not specifically designed to remove TDS to below the screening level. It is our understanding that TDS is not a pollutant of concern at AWTF and that the Town is able to process moderate concentrations of TDS without environmental or permit concerns. The elevated TSS concentration was unexpected and is likely an artifact of the laboratory procedure caused by the high TDS. Our contract laboratory is currently adding a recommended laboratory step to the TSS method designed specifically to eliminate interferences presented by elevated TDS concentrations that we fully expect will resolve the issue.

We trust that this submittal adequately addresses your informational needs. We look forward to discussing this issue further, including the possibility of adjusting certain screening levels. Should you have any questions, please contact Ron Breton at 232-8744 or me at 224-4081.

Sincerely,

PUBLIC SERVICE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Harold Keyes

Harold Keyes
Station Manager

Attachment(s)

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TABLE

TABLE 1 - SUMMARY OF ANALYTICAL RESULTS COMPARED TO ALLENSTOWN SCREENING LEVELS

Public Service Company of New Hampshire
Merrimack Station
Bow, New Hampshire

PARAMETER	EXISTING SCREENING LEVEL (mg/L)	RESULTS (mg/L) 3/2/2012 EAI/Frontier
Cyanide (T)	0.01	0.02
TDS	20,000	24,000
TSS	15	43

NOTE: Screening levels are daily maximum limitations.