



RHODE ISLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767

TDD 401-222-4462

August 5, 2009

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

Mr. Dennis G. Finlay  
Town Manager  
Town of Smithfield  
64 Farnum Pike  
Smithfield, RI 02917-3203

**RE: Final Permit Modification for Smithfield WWTF RIPDES No. RI0100251**

Dear Mr. Finlay:

Enclosed is your final Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (RIPDES) Permit Modification issued pursuant to the referenced application. State regulations, promulgated under Chapter 46-12 of the Rhode Island General Laws of 1956, as amended, require this permit modification to become effective on the date specified in the permit modification.

Also enclosed is information relative to hearing requests and stays of RIPDES Permits.

We appreciate your cooperation throughout the development of this permit modification. Should you have any questions concerning this permit modification, feel free to contact Samuel Kaplan of the State Permits Staff at (401) 222-4700, extension 7046.

Sincerely,

Eric A. Beck, P.E.  
Supervising Sanitary Engineer

EAB:sk

Enclosures

cc: David Turin, EPA  
Karen Goffe, Smithfield WWTF  
Carlene Newman, Smithfield WWTF

Ecc: Annie McFarland, RIDEM-OWR  
Joseph Haberek, RIDEM-OWR



## RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

NO SIGNIFICANT COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT PERMIT MODIFICATION FOR THIS FACILITY; THEREFORE, NO RESPONSE WAS PREPARED.

## HEARING REQUESTS

If you wish to contest any of the provisions of this permit modification, you may request a formal hearing within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. The request should be submitted to the Administrative Adjudication Division at the following address:

Bonnie Stewart, Clerk  
Department of Environmental Management  
Office of Administrative Adjudication  
235 Promenade Street, 3rd Floor  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

Any request for a formal hearing must conform to the requirements of Rule 49 of the State Regulations.

## STAYS OF RIPDES PERMITS

Should the Department receive and grant a request for a formal hearing, the contested conditions of the permit will not automatically be stayed. However, the permittee, in accordance with Rule 50, may request a temporary stay for the duration of adjudicatory hearing proceedings. Requests for stays of permit conditions should be submitted to the Office of Water Resources at the following address:

Angelo S. Liberti, P.E.  
Chief of Surface Water Protection  
Office of Water Resources  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

All uncontested conditions of the permit will be effective and enforceable in accordance with the provisions of Rule 49.

MODIFICATION

AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE  
RHODE ISLAND POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 46-12 of the Rhode Island General Laws, as amended, RIPDES Permit No. RI0100251 issued to the Town of Smithfield for the Smithfield Wastewater Treatment Facility on April 4, 2007, shall be modified as follows:

Effluent Limitations and monitoring for Copper in Part I.A.4 of the permit shall be deleted as indicated in Attachment A.

The remaining effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions in the original permit are unchanged and in effect.

This modification shall become effective on October 1, 2009.

This permit and authorization to discharge expire at midnight, April 30, 2012.

This change modifies the permit issued on April 4, 2007.

This modification consists of one (1) page.

Signed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2009.



Angelo S. Liberti, P.E., Chief of Surface Water Protection  
Office of Water Resources  
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management  
Providence, Rhode Island

## FACT SHEET

RHODE ISLAND POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (RIPDES)  
PERMIT TO DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE STATE

RIPDES PERMIT NO. **RI0100215**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

**Town of Smithfield**  
64 Farnum Pike  
Smithfield, RI 02917-3203

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

**Smithfield Wastewater Treatment Facility**  
20 Esmond Mill Drive  
Smithfield, RI 02917

RECEIVING WATER: **Woonasquatucket River**

CLASSIFICATION: **B1**

**I. Proposed Action**

Effluent limitations and monitoring for Copper in Part I.A.4 of the permit are being deleted.

**II. Permit Limitations and Conditions**

This modification eliminates the limitations and monitoring found in Part I.A.4 of the permit issued April 4, 2007.

**III. Permit Basis and Explanation of Effluent Limitation Derivation**

The Town of Smithfield owns the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility located on Esmond Mill Drive in Smithfield, Rhode Island. The Discharge to the Woonasquatucket River consists of treated domestic and industrial wastewater contributed by the municipality of Smithfield. Treatment consists of: Screening/Grinding, Primary Settling, Activated Sludge employing the A2O process, Secondary Clarification, Disc Filtration, Chlorination and Dechlorination. Treated wastewater is discharged from Outfall 001A to the Woonasquatucket River.

DEM's primary authority over the permit comes from EPA's delegation of the program in September 1984 under the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA).

The 2007 permit included provisions for monitoring and limitations for Copper that were developed using the 2006 Rhode Island Water Quality Regulations. The DEM recently modified the Rhode Island Water Quality Regulations to include site-specific water quality criteria for the Woonasquatucket River downstream of the Smithfield WWTF. Using the new water quality criteria, the DEM calculated revised Copper limits using the following equation:

$$\text{Limit} = (\text{Dilution Factor})(90\%)(\text{Water Quality Criteria}) \\ - (\text{Dilution Factor} - 1)(\text{Background})$$

Based on the new criteria from the revised Water Quality Regulations and the Dilution Factor and Background concentration from the previous permit, the Daily Maximum limit was calculated to be 33.25 ug/l and the monthly average limit to be 23.29 ug/l. These limits are approximately twice the historic daily maximum and monthly average historic discharge concentrations. Therefore, it has been determined that the Smithfield WWTF does not have “reasonable potential” to cause an exceedance of the water quality criteria. As a result, limitations and monitoring for Copper is being eliminated from this permit through this modification.

Attachment A of this modification shall be substituted for page 5 of the permit signed April 4, 2007.

#### **IV. Comment Period, Hearing Requests, and Procedures for Final Decisions**

All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of the draft permit is inappropriate must raise all issues and submit all available arguments and all supporting material for their arguments in full by the close of the public comment period, to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Office of Water Resources, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, Rhode Island, 02908-5767. In accordance with Chapter 46-17.4 of Rhode Island General Laws, a public hearing will be held prior to the close of the public comment period. In reaching a final decision on the draft permit the Director will respond to all significant comments and make these responses available to the public at DEM's Providence Office.

Following the close of the comment period, and after a public hearing, the Director will issue a final permit decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments, provided oral testimony, or requested notice. Within thirty (30) days following the notice of the final permit decision any interested person may submit a request for a formal hearing to reconsider or contest the final decision. Requests for formal hearings must satisfy the requirements of Rule 49 of the Regulations for the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (16 July 1984).

V. **DEM Contact**

Additional information concerning the permit may be obtained between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays from:

Samuel Kaplan, P.E.  
Department of Environmental Management  
Office of Water Resources  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908  
Telephone: (401) 222-4700 ext. 7046

6/12/2009  
Date

  
Eric A. Beck, P.E.  
Supervising Sanitary Engineer  
RIPDES Program  
Office of Water Resources

*Attachment A*

**PART I**

**A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

4. During the period beginning effective date and lasting through permit expiration, the permittee is authorized to discharge from outfall serial number(s) 001A. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

| <i>Effluent Characteristic</i>                          | <b>Discharge Limitations</b> |                                 | <b>Monitoring Requirements</b> |                         |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
|   | Quantity - lbs/day           | Concentration - units specified | Measurement Frequency          | Sample Type             |
|   | Average Monthly              | Average Monthly                 | Daily                          |                         |
|   | Maximum Daily                | Average Weekly                  | Daily                          |                         |
| Influent and Effluent shall be sampled for <sup>1</sup> |                              |                                 |                                |                         |
| Total Cadmium   | 0.16 µg/l <sup>2</sup>       | 0.98 µg/l                       | 1/Week                         | 24-hr comp              |
| Total Cyanide   | 7.42 µg/l <sup>2</sup>       | 31.4 µg/l                       | 1/Quarter <sup>3</sup>         | 24-hr comp <sup>4</sup> |
| Total Lead  | 0.88 µg/l <sup>2</sup>       | 28.07 µg/l                      | 1/Week                         | 24-hr comp              |
| Total Silver  | --- µg/l                     | 0.80 µg/l <sup>2</sup>          | 1/Week                         | 24-hr comp              |
| Total Zinc  | 50.1 µg/l                    | 50.1 µg/l                       | 1/Week                         | 24-hr comp              |

<sup>1</sup> Influent and effluent shall be sampled for the above parameters once per week, except where noted. Sampling of influent and effluent shall be done to account for detention time through the plant.

<sup>2</sup> The limit at which compliance/noncompliance determinations will be based is the Minimum Level (ML) which is defined as 0.5 µg/l for cadmium, 3.0 µg/l for lead, 10.0 µg/l for cyanide, and 2.0 µg/l for silver. These values may be reduced by permit modification as more sensitive methods are approved by EPA and the State.

<sup>3</sup> Bioassay sampling required in Part B. VII. may be used to fulfill this requirement.

<sup>4</sup> Compliance with these limitations shall be determined by taking three (3) grab samples per day with a minimum of three (3) hours between grabs and preserved immediately upon collection. All three samples shall be composited then analyzed. Samples must be collected during a dry weather period (no rain forty-eight (48) hours prior to or during sampling unless approved by RIDEM).

--- signifies a parameter which must be monitored and data must be reported; no limit has been established at this time.

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken Monday through Friday at the following location: Outfall 001A. (Final discharge after dechlorination).