



REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

NPDES Permit No TX0000612

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**AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE  
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM**

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq; the "Act"),

Targa Midstream Services Chico Gas Plant  
P.O. Box 68  
Chico, TX 76431

is authorized to discharge from a facility located at 383 County Road 1745, Chico, Wise County, Texas,

to receiving waters named Big Creek, thence to Lake Bridgeport, Segment No. 0811 of the Trinity River Basin, from

Outfall 001: Latitude 33° 18' 33.20"N; Longitude 97° 52' 47.47"W

in accordance with this cover page and the effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in Part I, Part II and Part III hereof.

This permit shall become effective on

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight,

Issued on

Prepared by

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William K. Honker, P.E.  
Director  
Water Division (6WQ)

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Maria E. Okpala  
Environmental Engineer  
Permitting Section (6WQ-PP)

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PART I – REQUIREMENTS FOR NPDES PERMITS

SECTION A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. Outfall 001

During the period beginning on the effective date of the permit and lasting until the expiration date, the permittee is authorized to discharge from outfall number 001 to Big Creek, thence to Lake Bridgeport, Segment No. 0811 of the Trinity River Basin. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
		Standard Units			
POLLUTANT	STORET CODE	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
pH	00400	6.5	9.0	Once/two weeks *1	Grab

EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS		DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS				MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
		lbs/day, unless noted		mg/l, unless noted			
POLLUTANT	STORET CODE	DAILY AVG	DAILY MAX	DAILY AVG	DAILY MAX	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
Flow	50050	Report, MGD	Report, MGD	N/A	N/A	Daily	Instantaneous*2
BOD5	00310	16.53	24.80	20	30	Once/ two weeks *1	Grab
Aluminum	01105	Report	Report	Report	Report	Once/ two weeks *1	Grab
Selenium	01147	Report	Report	Report	Report	Once/ two weeks *1	Grab
Copper	01042	0.0215	0.0454	0.02594	0.05489	Once/ two weeks *1	Grab
Mercury	71900	0.00167	0.00354	0.00202	0.00428	Once/ two weeks *1	Grab

FFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS	DISCHARGE MONITORING		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
	30-DAY AVG MINIMUM	48-HOUR MINIMUM	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY (48-Hr Static Renewal) (*3)				
Daphnia pulex	Report	Report	Once/6 months*4	24-Hr Composite
Pimephales promelas	Report	Report	Once/6 months *4	24-Hr Composite

## Footnotes:

- \*1 For any reporting period, samples shall be taken at least seven (7) days from the first sample of the previous reporting period.
- \*2 Flow shall be monitored and as million gallons per day (MGD).
- \*3 Monitoring and reporting requirements begin on the effective date of this permit. See Part II, Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing Requirements for additional WET monitoring and reporting conditions.
- \*4 There shall be no further frequency reduction during the permit term.

## SAMPLING LOCATION(S) AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the discharge from the final treatment from Outfall 001.

## FLOATING SOLIDS, VISIBLE FOAM AND/OR OILS

There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts. There shall be no discharge of visible films of oil, globules of oil, grease or solids in or on the water, or coatings on stream banks.

## B. MONITORING AND REPORTING (MINOR DISCHARGERS)

1. Monitoring results must be reported to EPA on either the electronic or paper Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) approved formats. Monitoring results can be submitted electronically in lieu of the paper DMR Form. All DMRs shall be electronically reported effective December 21, 2016, per 40 CFR 127.16. See 80 FR 64063. To submit electronically, access the NetDMR website at [www.epa.gov/netdmr](http://www.epa.gov/netdmr) and contact the [R6NetDMR@epa.gov](mailto:R6NetDMR@epa.gov) in-box for further instructions. Until you are approved for Net DMR, you must report on the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Form EPA No. 3320-1 in accordance with the "General Instructions" provided on the form. No additional copies are needed if reporting electronically, however when submitting paper form EPA No. 3320-1, the permittee shall submit the original DMR signed and certified as required by Part III.D.11 and all other reports required by Part III.D. to the EPA and other agencies as required. (See Part III.D.IV of the permit.)

Discharge Monitoring Report Form(s) shall be submitted quarterly. Each quarterly submittal shall include separate forms for each month of the reporting period.

2. Reporting periods shall end on the last day of the months March, June, September, and December.
3. The first Discharge Monitoring Report(s) shall represent facility operations from the effective date of the permit through the last day of the current reporting period.
4. Thereafter, the permittee is required to submit regular quarterly reports as described

above and shall submit those reports postmarked no later than the 28<sup>th</sup> day of the month following each reporting period.

5. NO DISCHARGE REPORTING - If there is no discharge from any outfall during the sampling month, place an "X" in the NO DISCHARGE box located in the upper right corner of the Discharge Monitoring Report.
6. If any daily maximum or monthly average value exceeds the effluent limitations specified in Part I. A, the permittee shall report the excursion in accordance with the requirements of Part III. D.
7. Any daily maximum or monthly average value reported in the required Discharge Monitoring Report which is in excess of the effluent limitation specified in Part I. A shall constitute evidence of violation of such effluent limitation and of this permit.
8. The permittee shall effectively monitor the operation and efficiency of all treatment and control facilities and the quantity and quality of the treated discharge.
9. All reports shall be sent both to EPA and the Texas Railroad Commission at the addresses shown in Part III of the permit.

## PART II - OTHER REQUIREMENTS

### A. MINIMUM QUANTIFICATION LEVEL (MQL)

The Permittees shall use sufficiently sensitive EPA-approved analytical methods (under 40 CFR part 136 and 40 CFR chapter I, subchapters N and O) when quantifying the presence of pollutants in a discharge for analyses of pollutants or pollutant parameters under the permit. In case the minimum quantification levels (MQLs) are not sufficiently sensitive to the limits, the actual detected values, instead of zeros, need to be reported. If there is a sensitive method with MDL (method detection limit) below the limit, but the MQL is above the limit, they cannot report zero based on MQL, but must report actual value.

If any individual analytical test result is less than the MQL listed in Appendix A, or the more sensitive MDL, a value of zero (0) may be used for that individual result for reporting purpose.

The Permittees may develop an effluent specific method detection limit (MDL) in accordance with Appendix B to 40 CFR 136. For any pollutant for which the Permittees determine an effluent specific MDL, the Permittees shall send to the EPA Region 6 NPDES Permits Branch (6WQ-P) a report containing QA/QC documentation, analytical results, and calculations necessary to demonstrate that the effluent specific MDL was correctly calculated. An effluent specific minimum quantification level (MQL) shall be determined in accordance with the following calculation:

$$\text{MQL} = 3.3 \times \text{MDL}$$

Upon written approval by the EPA Region 6 NPDES Permits Branch (6WQ-P), the effluent specific MQL may be utilized by the permittee for all future Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) reporting requirements.

A method is "sufficiently sensitive" when (1) the method minimum level (ML) of quantification is at or below the level of the applicable effluent limit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or (2) if there is no EPA-approved analytical method with a published ML at or below the effluent limit, then the method that has the lowest published ML (is the most sensitive) of the analytical methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR Chapter I, Subchapters N or O, for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or (3) the method is specified in this permit or has been otherwise approved in writing by the permitting authority (EPA Region 6) for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter. The Permittee has the option of developing and submitting a report to justify the use of matrix or sample-specific MLs rather than the published levels. Upon written approval by EPA Region 6 the matrix or sample-specific MLs may be utilized by the Permittee for all future Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) reporting requirements.

Current EPA Region 6 minimum quantification levels (MQLs) for reporting and compliance are provided in Appendix A of Part II of this permit.

#### B. 24-HOUR ORAL REPORTING: DAILY MAXIMUM LIMITATION VIOLATIONS

Under the provisions of Part III.D.7.b.(3) of this permit, violations of daily maximum limitations for the following pollutants shall be reported orally to EPA Region 6, Compliance and Assurance Division, Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-W), Dallas, Texas, at (214) 665-6595, and concurrently to Railroad Commission of Texas, at (512) 463-6804, within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the violation followed by a written report in five days.

Copper  
Mercury

#### C. 40 CFR PART 136 ANALYTICAL REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise specified in this permit, monitoring shall be conducted according to the analytical, apparatus and materials, sample collection, preservation, handling, etc., procedures listed at 40 CFR Part 136 in effect on the effective date of this permit. Appendices A, B, and C to 40 CFR Part 136 are specifically referenced as part of this requirement. Amendments to 40 CFR Part 136 promulgated after the effective date of this permit shall supersede these requirements as applicable.

#### D. REOPENER

The permit may be reopened and modified during the life of the permit if relevant portions of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Water Quality Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Streams are revised or remanded. In addition, the permit may be reopened and modified during the life of the permit if relevant procedures implementing the Water Quality Standards are either revised or promulgated by the TCEQ. Should the State adopt a State water quality standard, this permit may be reopened to establish effluent limitations for the parameter(s) to be consistent with that approved State standard in accordance with 40CFR122.44 (d). Modification of the permit is subject to the provisions of 40CFR124.5.

If a new or revised TMDL is determined for the receiving stream, the permit may be reopened, and new limitations based on the TMDL may be incorporated into the permit. Additionally, in accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.62 (a) (2), the permit may be reopened and modified if new information is received that was not available at the time of permit issuance that would have justified the application of different permit conditions at the time of permit issuance. Permit modifications shall reflect the results of any of these actions and shall follow regulations listed at 40 CFR Part 124.5.

## E. STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

Stormwater continues to be a component of the discharge through Outfall 001. This section applies to all stormwater discharges from the facility, either through permitted outfalls or through outfalls which are not listed in the permit. The language below has been included in this permit to control stormwater through discharges in individual permits:

1. The permittee shall continue to implement and within six (6) months of the effective date of the final permit revise as necessary, a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3). The terms and conditions of the SWP3 shall be an enforceable Part of the permit.
2. A visual inspection of the facility shall be conducted and a report made annually as described in Paragraph 3 below.

The following "limits" shall apply:

- a. The permittee shall continue to identify potential sources of pollution which may reasonably be expected to affect the quality of storm water discharges from the facility; continue to implement practices which will be used to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges from the facility; and assure compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit.
- b. The permittee shall maintain a site map which includes all areas where stormwater may contact potential pollutants or substances which can cause pollution. Any location where reportable quantities leaks or spills have previously occurred are to be documented in the SWP3. The SWP3 shall contain a description of the potential pollutant sources, including, the type and quantity of material present and what action has been taken to assure stormwater precipitation will not directly contact the substances and result in contaminated runoff.
- c. Where experience indicates a reasonable potential for equipment failure (e.g. a tank overflow or leakage), natural condition of (e.g. precipitation), or other circumstances which result in significant amounts of pollutants reaching surface waters, the SWP3 shall include a prediction of the direction, rate of flow and total quantity of pollutants which could be discharged from the facility as a result of each condition or circumstance.
- d. The permittee shall maintain for a period of three years a record summarizing the results of the inspection and a certification that the facility is in compliance with the SWP3 and the permit, and identifying any incidents of noncompliance. The summary report should contain, at a minimum, the date and time of inspection, name of inspector(s), conditions found, and changes to be made to the SWP3.

e. The summary report and the following certification shall be signed and attached to the SWP3 and provided to the local Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) operator, Environmental Protection Agency and the Railroad Commission of Texas upon request.

“I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.”

Signatory requirements for the certification may be found in Part III, Section D.11 of this permit.

f. The permittee shall make available to the Agency, the Railroad Commission of Texas, and/or the USFWS, upon request, a copy of the SWP3 and any supporting documentation.

3. The following shall be included in the SWP3, if applicable.

a. The permittee shall utilize all reasonable methods to minimize any adverse impact on the drainage system including but not limited to:

- i. maintaining adequate road and driveway surfaces;
- ii. removing debris and accumulated solids from the drainage system;
- and
- iii. cleaning up immediately any spill by sweeping, absorbent pads, or other appropriate methods.

b. All spilled product and other spilled wastes shall be immediately cleaned up and disposed of according to all applicable regulations, Spill Prevention and Control (SPC) plans or Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) plans. Use of detergents, emulsifiers, or dispersants to clean up spilled product is prohibited except where necessary to comply with State or Federal safety regulations (i.e., requirement for non-slippery work surface). In all such cases, initial cleanup shall be done by physical removal and chemical usage shall be minimized.

c. All equipment, parts, dumpsters, trash bins, petroleum products, chemical solvents, detergents, or other materials exposed to stormwater shall be maintained in a manner which prevents contamination of stormwater by pollutants.

- d. All waste fuel, lubricants, coolants, solvents, or other fluids used in repair or maintenance of vehicles or equipments shall be recycled or contained for proper disposal. Spills of these materials are to be cleaned up by dry means whenever possible.
- e. All storage tank installations (with a capacity greater than 660 gallons for an individual container, or 1, 320 gallons for two or more containers in aggregate within a common storage area) shall be constructed so that a secondary means of containment is provided for the entire contents of the largest tank plus sufficient freeboard to allow for precipitation. Diked areas should be sufficiently impervious to contain spills.
- f. All diked areas surrounding storage tanks or stormwater collection basins shall be free of residual oil or other contaminants so as to prevent the accidental discharge of these materials in the event of flooding, dike failure, or improper draining of the diked area. All drains from diked areas shall be equipped with valves which shall be kept in the closed condition except during periods of supervised discharge.
- g. Prior to discharge of uncontaminated stormwater from a secondary containment area, the permittee will conduct a visual inspection of the containment area for a visible sheen, an odor associated with the tanked products, and/or a stain pattern with the contained area that is indicative of a spill or leak into that area. No dewatering of the area is allowed under the condition of this permit, if evidence exists of a spill or leak, unless the discharge will not exceed 50 mg/l TOC, 15 mg/l Oil and Grease, or having a pH less than 6.0 or greater than 9.0 standard units.
- h. All check valves, tanks, drains, or other potential sources of pollutant releases shall be inspected and maintained on a regular basis to assure their proper operation and to prevent the discharge of pollutants.
- i. The permittee shall assure compliance with all applicable regulations promulgated under 40 CFR Part 257. Management practices required under regulations found in this Part shall be referenced in the SWP3.
- j. The permittee shall amend the SWP3 whenever there is a change in the facility or change in the operation of the facility which materially increases the potential for the ancillary activities to result in a discharge of significant amounts of pollutants.
- k. If the SWP3 proves to be ineffective in achieving the general objectives preventing the release of significant amounts of pollutants to water of the state, then the specific objectives and requirements of the SWP3 shall be subject to modification to incorporate revised SWP3 requirements.
6. The facility shall maintain SWP3 describing how the above limits will be met.

F. WHOLE EFFLUENT TOXICITY TESTING (48-HOUR ACUTE NOEC FRESHWATER)

*It is unlawful and a violation of this permit for a permittee or his designated agent, to manipulate test samples in any manner, to delay sample shipment, or to terminate or to cause to terminate a toxicity test. Once initiated, all toxicity tests must be completed unless specific authority has been granted by EPA Region 6 or the State NPDES permitting authority.*

1. SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

- a. The permittee shall test the effluent for toxicity in accordance with the provisions in this section.

APPLICABLE TO FINAL OUTFALL(S): 001

REPORTED ON DMR AS FINAL OUTFALL: 001

CRITICAL DILUTION (%): 47.3%

EFFLUENT DILUTION SERIES (%): 19.9%, 26.6%, 35.5%, 47.3% & 63.1%

COMPOSITE SAMPLE TYPE: Defined at PART I

TEST SPECIES/METHODS: 40 CFR Part 136

Daphnia pulex acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using EPA-821-R-02-012, or the latest update thereof. A minimum of five (5) replicates with eight (8) organisms per replicate must be used in the control and in each effluent dilution of this test.

Pimephales promelas (Fathead minnow) acute static renewal 48-hour definitive toxicity test using EPA-821-R-02-012, or the latest update thereof. A minimum of five (5) replicates with eight (8) organisms per replicate must be used in the control and in each effluent dilution of this test.

- b. The NOEC (No Observed Lethal Effect Concentration) is defined as the greatest effluent dilution at and below which lethality that is statistically different from the control (0% effluent) at the 95% confidence level does not occur. Acute test failure is defined as a demonstration of a statistically significant lethal effect at test completion to a test species at or below the critical dilution.
- c. This permit may be reopened to require whole effluent toxicity limits, chemical specific effluent limits, additional testing, and/or other appropriate actions to address toxicity.

## 2. PERSISTENT LETHALITY

The requirements of this subsection apply only when a toxicity test demonstrates significant lethal effects at or below the critical dilution. Significant lethal effects are herein defined as a statistically significant difference at the 95% confidence level between the survival of the appropriate test organism in a specified effluent dilution and the control (0% effluent). The purpose of additional tests (also referred to as 'retests' or confirmation tests) is to determine the duration of a toxic event. A test that meets all test acceptability criteria and demonstrates significant toxic effects does not need additional confirmation.

Such testing cannot confirm or disprove a previous test result.

If any valid test demonstrates significant lethal effects to a test species at or below the critical dilution, the frequency of testing for this species is automatically increased to once per quarter with no option for frequency reduction.

### a. Part I Testing Frequency Other Than Monthly

- i. The permittee shall conduct a total of three (3) additional tests for any species that demonstrates significant lethal effects at or below the critical dilution. The ~~two~~ additional tests shall be conducted monthly during the next three consecutive months. If testing on a quarterly basis, the permittee may substitute one of the additional tests in lieu of one routine toxicity test. A full report shall be prepared for each test required by this section in accordance with procedures outlined in Item 4 of this section and submitted with the period discharge monitoring report (DMR) to the permitting authority for review.
- ii. If any of the additional tests demonstrates significant lethal effects at or below the critical dilution, the permittee shall initiate Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) requirements as specified in Item 5 of this section. The permittee shall notify EPA in writing within 5 days of the failure of any retest, and the TRE initiation date will be the test completion date of the first failed retest. A TRE may also be required due to a demonstration of intermittent lethal effects at or below the critical dilution, or for failure to perform the required retests.
- iii. The provisions of Item 2.a are suspended upon submittal of the TRE Action Plan.

### b. Part I Testing Frequency of Monthly

The permittee shall initiate the Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) requirements as specified in Item 5 of this section when any two of three consecutive monthly toxicity tests exhibit significant lethal effects at or below the critical dilution. A TRE may also be required due to a demonstration of intermittent lethal effects at or below the critical dilution, or for failure to perform the required retests.

### 3. REQUIRED TOXICITY TESTING CONDITIONS

#### a. Test Acceptance

The permittee shall repeat a test, including the control and all effluent dilutions, if the procedures and quality assurance requirements defined in the test methods or in this permit are not satisfied, including the following additional criteria:

- i. Each toxicity test control (0% effluent) must have a survival equal to or greater than 90%.
- ii. The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the control (0% effluent) for: Daphnia pulex survival test; and Fathead minnow survival test.
- iii. The percent coefficient of variation between replicates shall be 40% or less in the critical dilution, unless significant lethal effects are exhibited for: Daphnia pulex survival test; and Fathead minnow survival test.

Test failure may not be construed or reported as invalid due to a coefficient of variation value of greater than 40%. A repeat test shall be conducted within the required reporting period of any test determined to be invalid.

#### b. Statistical Interpretation

For the Daphnia pulex survival test and the Fathead minnow survival test, the statistical analyses used to determine if there is a statistically significant difference between the control and the critical dilution shall be in accordance with the methods for determining the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) as described in EPA-821-R-02-012 or the most recent update thereof.

If the conditions of Test Acceptability are met in Item 3.a above and the percent survival of the test organism is equal to or greater than 90% in the critical dilution concentration and all lower dilution concentrations, the test shall be considered to be a passing test, and the permittee shall report an NOEC of not less than the critical dilution for the DMR reporting requirements found in Item 4 below.

#### c. Dilution Water

- i. Dilution water used in the toxicity tests will be receiving water collected as close to the point of discharge as possible but unaffected by the discharge. The permittee shall substitute synthetic dilution water of similar pH, hardness, and alkalinity to the closest downstream perennial water for;
  - (A) toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges to receiving water classified as intermittent streams; and

- (B) toxicity tests conducted on effluent discharges where no receiving water is available due to zero flow conditions.
- ii. If the receiving water is unsatisfactory as a result of instream toxicity (fails to fulfill the test acceptance criteria of Item 3.a), the permittee may substitute synthetic dilution water for the receiving water in all subsequent tests provided the unacceptable receiving water test met the following stipulations:
  - (A) a synthetic dilution water control which fulfills the test acceptance requirements of Item 3.a was run concurrently with the receiving water control;
  - (B) the test indicating receiving water toxicity has been carried out to completion (i.e., 48 hours);
  - (C) the permittee includes all test results indicating receiving water toxicity with the full report and information required by Item 4 below; and
  - (D) the synthetic dilution water shall have a pH, hardness, and alkalinity similar to that of the receiving water or closest downstream perennial water not adversely affected by the discharge, provided the magnitude of these parameters will not cause toxicity in the synthetic dilution water.
- d. Samples and Composites
  - i. The permittee shall collect two flow-weighted composite samples from the outfall(s) listed at Item 1.a above.
  - ii. The permittee shall collect a second composite sample for use during the 24-hour renewal of each dilution concentration for both tests. The permittee must collect the composite samples so that the maximum holding time for any effluent sample shall not exceed 36 hours. The permittee must have initiated the toxicity test within 36 hours after the collection of the last portion of the first composite sample. Samples shall be chilled to 6 degrees Centigrade during collection, shipping, and/or storage.
  - iii. The permittee must collect the composite samples such that the effluent samples are representative of any periodic episode of chlorination, biocide usage or other potentially toxic substance discharged on an intermittent basis.
  - iv. If the flow from the outfall(s) being tested ceases during the collection of effluent samples, the requirements for the minimum number of effluent samples, the minimum number of effluent portions and the sample holding time are waived during that sampling period. However, the permittee must collect an effluent composite sample volume during the

period of discharge that is sufficient to complete the required toxicity tests with daily renewal of effluent. When possible, the effluent samples used for the toxicity tests shall be collected on separate days. The effluent composite sample collection duration and the static renewal protocol associated with the abbreviated sample collection must be documented in the full report required in Item 4 of this section.

4. REPORTING

- a. The permittee shall prepare a full report of the results of all tests conducted pursuant to this Part in accordance with the Report Preparation Section of EPA-821-R-02-012, for every valid or invalid toxicity test initiated, whether carried to completion or not. The permittee shall retain each full report pursuant to the provisions of PART III.C.3 of this permit. The permittee shall submit full reports upon the specific request of the Agency. For any test which fails, is considered invalid or which is terminated early for any reason, the full report must be submitted for agency review.
- b. A valid test for each species must be reported on the DMR during each reporting period specified in PART I of this permit unless the permittee is performing a TRE which may increase the frequency of testing and reporting. Only ONE set of biomonitoring data for each species is to be recorded on the DMR for each reporting period. The data submitted should reflect the LOWEST Survival results for each species during the reporting period. All invalid tests, repeat tests (for invalid tests), and retests (for tests previously failed) performed during the reporting period must be attached to the DMR for EPA review.
- c. The permittee shall report the following results of each valid toxicity test on the subsequent monthly DMR for that reporting period in accordance with PART III.D.4 of this permit. Submit retest information clearly marked as such with the following month's DMR. Only results of valid tests are to be reported on the DMR.
  - i. Pimephales promelas (Fathead minnow)
    - (A) If the No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC) for survival is less than the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TEM6C.
    - (B) Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOM6C.
    - (C) Report the highest (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQM6C.
  - ii. Daphnia pulex
    - (A) If the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution, enter a "1"; otherwise, enter a "0" for Parameter No. TEM3D
    - (B) Report the NOEC value for survival, Parameter No. TOM3D.

(C) Report the highest (critical dilution or control) Coefficient of Variation, Parameter No. TQM3D.

- d. Enter the following codes on the DMR for retests only:
- i. For retest number 1, Parameter 22415, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."
  - ii. For retest number 2, Parameter 22416, enter a "1" if the NOEC for survival is less than the critical dilution; otherwise, enter a "0."

5. TOXICITY REDUCTION EVALUATION (TRE)

- a. Within ninety (90) days of confirming lethality in the retests, the permittee shall submit a Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) Action Plan and Schedule for conducting a TRE. The TRE Action Plan shall specify the approach and methodology to be used in performing the TRE. A Toxicity Reduction Evaluation is an investigation intended to determine those actions necessary to achieve compliance with water quality-based effluent limits by reducing an effluent's toxicity to an acceptable level. A TRE is defined as a step-wise process which combines toxicity testing and analyses of the physical and chemical characteristics of a toxic effluent to identify the constituents causing effluent toxicity and/or treatment methods which will reduce the effluent toxicity. The TRE Action Plan shall lead to the successful elimination of effluent toxicity at the critical dilution and include the following:
- i. **Specific Activities.** The plan shall detail the specific approach the permittee intends to utilize in conducting the TRE. The approach may include toxicity characterizations, identifications and confirmation activities, source evaluation, treatability studies, or alternative approaches. When the permittee conducts Toxicity Characterization Procedures the permittee shall perform multiple characterizations and follow the procedures specified in the documents "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase I Toxicity Characterization Procedures" (EPA-600/6-91/003) or alternate procedures. When the permittee conducts Toxicity Identification Evaluations and Confirmations, the permittee shall perform multiple identifications and follow the methods specified in the documents "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase II Toxicity Identification Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity" (EPA/600/R-92/080) and "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations, Phase III Toxicity Confirmation Procedures for Samples Exhibiting Acute and Chronic Toxicity" (EPA/600/R-92/081), as appropriate.

The documents referenced above may be obtained through the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) by phone at (703) 487-4650, or by writing:

U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Technical Information Service  
5285 Port Royal Road  
Springfield, VA 22161

- ii. Sampling Plan (e.g., locations, methods, holding times, chain of custody, preservation, etc.). The effluent sample volume collected for all tests shall be adequate to perform the toxicity test, toxicity characterization, identification and confirmation procedures, and conduct chemical specific analyses when a probable toxicant has been identified;  
  
Where the permittee has identified or suspects specific pollutant(s) and/or source(s) of effluent toxicity, the permittee shall conduct, concurrent with toxicity testing, chemical specific analyses for the identified and/or suspected pollutant(s) and/or source(s) of effluent toxicity. Where lethality was demonstrated within 24 hours of test initiation, each composite sample shall be analyzed independently. Otherwise the permittee may substitute a composite sample, comprised of equal portions of the individual composite samples, for the chemical specific analysis;
  - iii. Quality Assurance Plan (e.g., QA/QC implementation, corrective actions, etc.); and
  - iv. Project Organization (e.g., project staff, project manager, consulting services, etc.).
- b. The permittee shall initiate the TRE Action Plan within thirty (30) days of plan and schedule submittal. The permittee shall assume all risks for failure to achieve the required toxicity reduction.
  - c. The permittee shall submit a quarterly TRE Activities Report, with the Discharge Monitoring Report in the months of January, April, July and October, containing information on toxicity reduction evaluation activities including:
    - i. any data and/or substantiating documentation which identifies the pollutant(s) and/or source(s) of effluent toxicity;
    - ii. any studies/evaluations and results on the treatability of the facility's effluent toxicity; and
    - iii. any data which identifies effluent toxicity control mechanisms that will reduce effluent toxicity to the level necessary to meet no significant lethality at the critical dilution.

A copy of the TRE Activities Report shall also be submitted to the state agency.
  - d. The permittee shall submit a Final Report on Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Activities no later than twenty-eight (28) months from confirming lethality in the

retests, which provides information pertaining to the specific control mechanism selected that will, when implemented, result in reduction of effluent toxicity to no significant lethality at the critical dilution. The report will also provide a specific corrective action schedule for implementing the selected control mechanism.

A copy of the Final Report on Toxicity Reduction Evaluation Activities shall also be submitted to the state agency.

- e. Quarterly testing during the TRE is a minimum monitoring requirement. EPA recommends that permittees required to perform a TRE not rely on quarterly testing alone to ensure success in the TRE, and that additional screening tests be performed to capture toxic samples for identification of toxicants. Failure to identify the specific chemical compound causing toxicity test failure will normally result in a permit limit for whole effluent toxicity limits per federal regulations at 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(v).

6. MONITORING FREQUENCY REDUCTION

- a. The permittee may apply for a testing frequency reduction upon the successful completion of the first four consecutive quarters of testing for one or both test species, with no lethal effects demonstrated at or below the critical dilution. If granted, the monitoring frequency for that test species may be reduced to not less than once per year for the less sensitive species (usually the Fathead minnow) and not less than twice per year for the more sensitive test species (usually the *Daphnia pulex*).
- b. **CERTIFICATION** - The permittee must certify in writing that no test failures have occurred and that all tests meet all test acceptability criteria in item 3.a. above. In addition the permittee must provide a list with each test performed including test initiation date, species, NOECs for lethal effects and the maximum coefficient of variation for the controls. Upon review and acceptance of this information the agency will issue a letter of confirmation of the monitoring frequency reduction. A copy of the letter will be forwarded to the agency's Permit Compliance System section to update the permit reporting requirements.
- c. **SURVIVAL FAILURES** - If any test fails the survival endpoint at any time during the life of this permit, three monthly retests are required and the monitoring frequency for the affected test species shall be increased to once per quarter until the permit is re-issued. Monthly retesting is not required if the permittee is performing a TRE.
- d. This monitoring frequency reduction applies only until the expiration date of this permit, at which time the monitoring frequency for both test species reverts to once per quarter until the permit is re-issued.

**APPENDIX A of PART II**

The following Minimum Quantification Levels (MQL's) are to be used for reporting pollutant data for NPDES permit applications and/or compliance reporting.

<b>POLLUTANTS</b>	<b>MQL µg/l</b>	<b>POLLUTANTS</b>	<b>MQL µg/l</b>
<b>METALS, RADIOACTIVITY, CYANIDE and CHLORINE</b>			
Aluminum	2.5	Molybdenum	10
Antimony	60	Nickel	0.5
Arsenic	0.5	Selenium	5
Barium	100	Silver	0.5
Beryllium	0.5	Thallium	0.5
Boron	100	Uranium	0.1
Cadmium	1	Vanadium	50
Chromium	10	Zinc	20
Cobalt	50	Cyanide	10
Copper <sup>0</sup>	.5	Cyanide, weak acid dissociable	10
Lead	0.5	Total Residual Chlorine	33
Mercury *1	0.0005 0.005		
<b>DIOXIN</b>			
2,3,7,8-TCDD	0.00001		
<b>VOLATILE COMPOUNDS</b>			
Acrolein	50	1,3-Dichloropropylene	10
Acrylonitrile	20	Ethylbenzene	10
Benzene	10	Methyl Bromide	50
Bromoform	10	Methylene Chloride	20
Carbon Tetrachloride	2	1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	10
Chlorobenzene	10	Tetrachloroethylene	10
Clorodibromomethane	10	Toluene	10
Chloroform	50	1,2-trans-Dichloroethylene	10
Dichlorobromomethane	10	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	10
1,2-Dichloroethane	10	Trichloroethylene	10
1,1-Dichloroethylene	10	Vinyl Chloride	10
1,2-Dichloropropane	10		
<b>ACID COMPOUNDS</b>			
2-Chlorophenol	10	Pentachlorophenol	5
2,4-Dichlorophenol	10	Phenol	10
2,4-Dimethylphenol	10	2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	10
4,6-Dinitro-o-Cresol	50		
2,4-Dinitrophenol	50		

<b>POLLUTANTS</b>	<b>MQL µg/l</b>	<b>POLLUTANTS</b>	<b>MQL µg/l</b>
<b>BASE/NEUTRAL</b>			
Acenaphthene	10	Dimethyl Phthalate	10
Anthracene	10	Di-n-Butyl Phthalate	10
Benzidine	50	2,4-Dinitrotoluene	10
Benzo(a)anthracene	5	1,2-Diphenylhydrazine	20
Benzo(a)pyrene	5	Fluoranthene	10
3,4-Benzofluoranthene	10	Fluorene	10
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	5	Hexachlorobenzene	5
Bis(2-chloroethyl)Ether	10	Hexachlorobutadiene	10
Bis(2-chloroisopropyl)Ether	10	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	10
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)Phthalate	10	Hexachloroethane	20
Butyl Benzyl Phthalate	10	Indeno(1,2,3-cd)Pyrene	5
2-Chloronaphthalene	10	Isophorone	10
Chrysene	5	Nitrobenzene	10
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	5	n-Nitrosodimethylamine	50
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	10	n-Nitrosodi-n-Propylamine	20
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	10	n-Nitrosodiphenylamine	20
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	10	Pyrene	10
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine	5	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	10
Diethyl Phthalate	10		
<b>PESTICIDES AND PCBs</b>			
Aldrin	0.01	Beta-Endosulfan	0.02
Alpha-BHC	0.05	Endosulfan sulfate	0.02
Beta-BHC	0.05	Endrin	0.02
Gamma-BHC	0.05	Endrin Aldehyde	0.1
Chlordane	0.2	Heptachlor	0.01
4,4'-DDT and derivatives	0.02	Heptachlor Epoxide	0.01
Dieldrin	0.02	PCBs	0.2
Alpha-Endosulfan	0.01	Toxaphene	0.3

(MQL's Revised November 1, 2007)

**Footnotes:**

\*1 Default MQL for Mercury is 0.005 unless Part I of your permit requires the more sensitive Method 1631 (Oxidation / Purge and Trap / Cold vapor Atomic Fluorescence Spectrometry), then the MQL shall be 0.0005.