



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Brian Sandoval, Governor

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director

Colleen Cripps, Ph.D., Administrator

FACTSHEET (pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

Permittee Name: CITY OF TONOPAH-PUBLIC UTILITIES
PO BOX 151
TONOPAH, NV - 89049

Permit Number: NS0010018

Location: TONOPAH AIRPORT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, NYE
TONOPAH AIRPORT, TONOPAH, NV - 89049
LATITUDE: 38.041111, LONGITUDE: -117.087778
TOWNSHIP: T2N, RANGE: R44E, SECTION: S07

Outfall / Well Num	Outfall / Well Name	Location Type	Well Log Num	Outfall City	Outfall State	Outfall Zip	Outfall County	Latitude	Longitude	Receiving Water
001	INFLUENT	Internal Outfall		TONOPAH	NV	89049	NYE	38.041111	-117.087778	GROUNDWATER
002	EFFLUENT	External Outfall		TONOPAH	NV	89049	NYE	38.039444	-117.088333	GROUNDWATER
003	SEPTAGE DRYING BEDS	External Outfall		TONOPAH	NV	89049	NYE	38.041389	-117.088333	GROUNDWATER

General:

The Tonopah Airport Wastewater Treatment Plant (TAWWTP) is located near the south end of the Tonopah Airport, approximately 7.5 miles east-southeast of the town of Tonopah. This facility dates from the early 1940s when the Army Air Corp operated the Tonopah Army Air Field for air warfare training. Following base deactivation in 1945, the airfield property was transferred to Nye County and is currently used as the Tonopah airport/industrial park. TAWWTP includes a 15" vitrified clay pipe (VCP) gravity main, one Imhoff tank, two un-lined sludge drying/emergency overflow basins, nine rapid infiltration basins, and six concrete-lined septage drying beds.

The original treatment facility consisted of two Imhoff tanks, West tank and East tank, which treated an estimated peak flow of 0.4 million gallons per day (MGD). Imhoff tanks are open to the atmosphere but function essentially the same as a septic tank. In an Imhoff tank, scum and sludge traps remove floatable (scum/grease) and settleable (sludge) materials from the wastewater. The accumulated sludge partially liquefies and gasifies through anaerobic digestion; non-digested solids are periodically pumped out to the un-lined sludge drying beds. In 1981, renovations/repairs were made to the West Imhoff tank. There are no plans to rehabilitate the East Imhoff tank which remains inoperable due to its poor structural integrity and the minimal flow demand. Imhoff tanks provide only primary treatment and are no longer approved for treating non-domestic (industrial) wastewater flows.

In 1998, the Division approved this facility to receive domestic septage. The septage is dried in six concrete-lined drying beds and may remain on-site for up to two years. During the previous permit cycle, TAWWTP accepted an average of 124,000 gallons of septage per year.

TAWWTP currently serves fewer than 10 service connections and daily wastewater flows are estimated to be less than 0.001 MGD from these sources. This flow is not sufficient to fully fill the sewer line and reach the treatment plant. The Permittee indicates that the Imhoff tank only receives any measurable flow twice per year when the sewer lines are flushed out with potable water to remove solids and grease buildup. Since daily flow is negligible, representative influent/effluent sampling has not been practical for many

years.

Discharge Characteristics:

There has been no measurable discharge to the treatment facility during the previous 5-year permit cycle other than flows generated during the semi-annual line flushing.

Receiving Water:

Groundwater has been reported to be greater than 200' below ground surface. Groundwater monitoring is not required at this time.

Summary of Changes From Previous Permit:

In order to maintain consistency with current NDEP policy, and the monitoring requirements of similar treatment facilities, the following permit changes have been made:

1. The requirement to monitor sewage influent for BOD has been removed from this permit. This requirement is applicable to facilities that require an NPDES permit.
2. The requirement to monitor sewage influent for total suspended solids has been removed from this permit. This requirement is applicable to facilities that require an NPDES permit.
3. The requirement to report the number of persons served by the treatment system has been removed from this permit.
4. The requirement to monitor the amount of total nitrogen in the treated effluent has been added to this permit.
5. Due to a new permit naming convention at NDEP, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, the permit ID has been changed from NEV10018 to NS0010018. This change does not reflect a change in the type of permit being issued.

Proposed Effluent Limitations:

The Division proposes the following permit limitations and monitoring requirements:

WWTP Discharge Limitations Table for Sample Location 001 (Internal Outfall) To Be Reported Monthly^[1]

Parameter	Discharge Limitations			Monitoring Requirements			
	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	Sample Loc	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow rate	30 Day Average	<= 0.095 Million Gallons per Day (Mgal/d)		Raw Sewage Influent	001	Continuous	METER
Flow rate	Daily Maximum	<= 0.095 Million Gallons per Day (Mgal/d)		Raw Sewage Influent	001	Continuous	METER

Notes (WWTP Discharge Limitations Table):

1. If no discharge takes place from this outfall during the reporting period, enter "No Discharge" on the DMR for this outfall.

Biosolids Table for Sample Location 003 (External Outfall) To Be Reported Quarterly

Parameter	Discharge Limitations			Monitoring Requirements			
	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	Sample Loc	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Septage discharged to treatment fac. ^[1]	Quarterly Total	M&R Gallons (gal)		See Footnote ^[2]	003	Quarterly	CALCTD ^[3]

Notes (Biosolids Table):

1. Septage discharged to the drying beds.
2. Drying beds.
3. Septage volume shall be tracked via logbook entry maintained on-site at the facility.

Biosolids Table for Sample Location 003 (External Outfall) To Be Reported Annually

Parameter	Discharge Limitations			Monitoring Requirements			
	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	Sample Loc	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Septage discharged to treatment fac. ^[1]	Year-To-Date Total	<= 200000 Gallons (gal)		See Footnote ^[2]	003	Annual	CALCTD ^[3]

Notes (Biosolids Table):

1. Septage discharged to the drying beds.
2. Drying beds.
3. Septage volume shall be tracked via logbook entry maintained on-site at the facility.

Ponds / Rapid Infiltration Basins for Sample Location 002 (External Outfall) To Be Reported Quarterly

Parameter	Discharge Limitations			Monitoring Requirements			
	Base	Quantity	Concentration	Monitoring Loc	Sample Loc	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Nitrogen, total	Value		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	Effluent Gross	002	Quarterly ^[1]	DISCRT
pH, minimum	Quarterly Minimum [2]		>= 6.0 Standard Units (SU)	Effluent Gross	002	Quarterly ^[1]	DISCRT
pH, maximum	Quarterly Maximum [2]		<= 9.0 Standard Units (SU)	Effluent Gross	002	Quarterly ^[1]	DISCRT
BOD, 5-day	Value		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	Effluent Gross	002	Quarterly ^[1]	DISCRT
Solids, total suspended	Value		M&R Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)	Effluent Gross	002	Quarterly ^[1]	DISCRT

Notes (Ponds / Rapid Infiltration Basins):

1. When discharging to the RIBs.
2. If fewer than two samples are taken during the monitoring period, enter the single result as both the minimum and maximum value.

Rationale for Permit Requirements:

Monitoring is required to ensure that the treatment plant capacity is not exceeded and to assess the quality of the effluent being discharged.

Flow rate: 0.095 million gallons per day – This is the maximum capacity of this treatment system.

Septage discharged: ≤200,000 gallons per year – This is the annual capacity of the septage drying beds.

5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD): Monitor & Report – The Division's daily maximum standard of 45 mg/L does not apply as this system does not provide secondary treatment.

Total suspended solids (TSS): Monitor & Report – The Division's daily maximum standard of 90 mg/L does not apply as this system does not provide secondary treatment.

Total nitrogen: Monitor & Report – The Division's maximum standard of 10.0 mg/L does not apply as the depth to groundwater in the vicinity of the treatment plant has been reported to be in excess of 200 feet below ground surface.

pH: 6.0 - 9.0 Standard Units: This range is applicable to all discharges of treated effluent to groundwater of the State.

Given the current minimal flow demand on this facility, representative influent/effluent flow monitoring at this

facility will not be feasible until new residential/commercial connections are established and daily flow is received at the headworks in a measurable quantity.

Special Conditions:

SA – Special Approvals / Conditions Table

Item #	Description
1	The wastewater and septage treatment and disposal facilities are approved for domestic wastewater and septage only. The discharge of industrial wastewater or septage to the treatment facility is prohibited.

Flow:

The remaining Imhoff tank is designed to treat a maximum daily flow of 0.26 MGD. The Permittee has requested a 30-day average and daily maximum flow rate of 0.095 MGD.

Corrective Action Sites:

There are no NDEP Bureau of Corrective Actions remediation sites within a one-mile radius of this facility.

Wellhead Protection Program:

This facility is not located within a Drinking Water Protection Area or a Wellhead Protection Area established for any well sources.

Schedule of Compliance:

SOC – Schedule of Compliance Table

Item #	Description	Due Date
1	The Permittee shall submit two (2) copies of an updated Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual for review and approval by the Division. The O&M Manual shall be prepared by a Nevada Registered Professional Engineer or other Division-approved qualified person. If no updates or revisions are required, the Permittee shall submit a letter by the due date stating that there have been no changes to the previously approved O&M Manual. ^[1]	5/30/2014

Notes (Schedule of Compliance Table):

- 1. O&M Manuals prepared by Nevada Registered Professional Engineers must be signed and stamped in accordance with NAC 625.610.

Deliverable Schedule:

DLV– Deliverable Schedule for Reports, Plans, and Other Submittals

Item #	Description	Interval	First Scheduled Due Date
1	Discharge Monitoring Reports	Quarterly	4/28/2014
2	Annual Reports	Annually	1/28/2015
3	Biosolids Monitoring Report ^[1]	Annually	1/28/2015

Notes (Deliverable Schedule for Reports, Plans, and Other Submittals):

- 1. Required by permit section B.BS.7.

Procedures for Public Comment:

The Notice of the Division's intent to reissue a permit authorizing the facility to discharge to groundwater of the State of Nevada subject to the conditions contained within the permit, is being sent to the **Tonopah Times-Bonanza & Goldfield News and the Las Vegas Review Journal** for publication. The notice is

being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing until 5:00 P.M. **2/24/2014**, a period of 30 days following the date of the public notice. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator of EPA Region IX or any interested agency, person or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determined to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted to accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.650.

Proposed Determination:

The Division has made the tentative determination to issue / re-issue the proposed 5-year permit.

Prepared by: **Arthur B. Marr III**

Date: **1/15/2014**

Title: **P.E.**