

**NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**  
**FACT SHEET**  
(Pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

**Permittee Name:** Lander County Combined Sewer & Water District No. 2  
P.O. Box 144  
Austin, NV 89310

**Permit Number:** NEV30015

**Location:** Town of Austin Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF)

Existing WWTF: U.S. 305 & U.S. 50, 1¼ mi. NW of Austin  
Latitude: 39° 30' 20" N, Longitude: 117° 5' 11" W  
Township 19N, Range 43E, SW¼SE¼ Section 13

New WWTF: U.S. 305 & U.S. 50, 3 mi. NW of Austin  
Latitude: 39° 31' 2" N, Longitude: 117° 7' 18" W  
Township 19N, Range 43E, NE¼NE¼ Section 15

**Bureau of Corrective Actions Sites:** There is no remediation site managed by the NDEP Bureau of Corrective Actions, which is located within a one-mile radius of the existing or new locations of the Austin WWTF.

**Wellhead Protection Area:** The existing and new (proposed) locations of the Austin WWTF are located further than 6,000 feet outside the Drinking Water Protection Area No. 4 from two community supply wells providing potable water to the Town of Austin. These two wells are owned and operated by the Lander County Combined Sewer & Water District No. 2. The new Austin WWTF would be located within the 10-yr wellhead-capture zone for these two supply wells.

**General:** The Permittee has submitted an application for a five-year permit renewal and modification. The Town of Austin WWTF provides domestic (sanitary) wastewater treatment for 275 residents. No industrial facilities are serviced by this wastewater treatment facility.

**Existing WWTF:** The Austin WWTF is located approximately 1¼ miles NW of town and is located west of U.S. 305 and across the highway from the Austin High School. The existing pond facility was constructed in 1987 and consists of a concrete metering flume (inoperable flow meter), unlined (compacted earthen basin) facultative treatment pond (1.9 acres) and a small, single disposal basin. Effluent is discharged intermittently as needed when water quality conditions dictate. Limitations with the existing treatment facility include head works erosion, inoperable flow meter, wastewater seepage (unlined pond), weed growth and lack of groundwater monitoring. Previously, a former pond operator indicated the occasional odor complaint from the high school during spring and fall pond turnover. The existing pond will be decommissioned upon relocation of the new ponds. The sludge (biosolids) will be dried and land filled. The existing pond will likely be abandoned in-place and is adjacent to two older decommissioned ponds, which provided treatment prior to 1987.

**New WWTF:** A replacement WWTF is proposed 2 miles WNW and further remote of the existing pond. Upgrades to this facility include a new gravity sewer main (12" PVC), head works (bar screen and flume), flow meter and telemetry (solar-cell panel power supply), two lined (60 mil HDPE) facultative treatment ponds (1.3 acres (surface area) x 7' (operating depth) ea.), two rapid infiltration basins for effluent disposal and a down-gradient monitoring well. Construction of the new WWTF is expected to commence in spring 2010 after this permit is issued.

**Flow:** The new treatment facility is rated for 0.045 MGD capacity or 160 GPD/resident (typical residential domestic wastewater flow is 110 GPD/capita). When last operable, the existing flow meter indicated a lower reading of 0.013 MGD or 45 GPD/resident. At the time, there was some indication that this low value could be the result of meter inaccuracy due to the higher potable water demand in town.

**Receiving Water Characteristics:** The facility does not presently monitor the groundwater quality at the existing WWTF. For the new location, groundwater monitoring will be required if groundwater is occurred within 200' of the surface during well drilling. The two supply wells, located west of the proposed WWTF, indicated static water levels of 103' and 105', respectively.

**DMR Analysis:** Over the past four reporting periods, pond effluent averaged: Flow (N/A), CBOD (37 mg/l), TSS (68 mg/l) and pH (8.6 Std. Units). Influent monitoring indicated CBOD (168 mg/l) and TSS (173 mg/l), which is indicative of a below normal-strength domestic wastewater.

**Rational for Permit Requirements:** The existing and new facilities are permitted with the same flow and effluent requirements on a quarterly sampling frequency. If groundwater depth is found within 200' of the surface, a monitoring well shall be installed and also sampled quarterly. A pond capacity  $\geq 0.01$  MGD requires operation by a Nevada certified Grade I (or higher) wastewater operator, which is presently provided at this facility by a contract operator.

**Proposed Effluent Limitations and Special Conditions:**

**Table 1: Existing & Proposed Pond Systems**

PARAMETER	DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
	30-Day Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow, MGD (Influent)	0.045	0.045	Continuous	Flow Meter
CBOD, mg/L (Influent)	-	M&R	Quarterly	Discrete
CBOD, mg/L (Effluent)	-	45	Quarterly	Discrete
TSS, mg/L (Influent)	-	M&R	Quarterly	Discrete
TSS, mg/L (Effluent)	-	90	Quarterly	Discrete
pH, Std. Units (Effluent)	-	6.0 – 9.0	Quarterly	Discrete

**Table 2: Groundwater Monitoring (MW-1)<sup>1</sup>**

PARAMETER	GROUNDWATER LIMITATIONS	MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
		Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
TDS, mg/L	Monitor & Report	Quarterly	Discrete
Chlorides, mg/L	Monitor & Report	Quarterly	Discrete
Nitrate as N, mg/L	Monitor & Report	Quarterly	Discrete
Total Nitrogen as N, mg/L	10.0	Quarterly	Discrete
Depth to Groundwater, ft	Monitor & Report	Quarterly	Field Measurement
Groundwater Elevation, ft	Monitor & Report	Quarterly	Field Measurement

1. Groundwater samples shall be taken after purging at least three (3) well volumes of groundwater from the monitoring well.

**Schedule of Compliance: (all compliance deliverables shall be addressed to the attention of the Compliance Coordinator, Bureau of Water Pollution Control):**

- The Permittee shall notify the Division in writing not more than fourteen (14) calendar days upon completion and startup of the new pond system.
- Within thirty (30) days of completion and startup of the new pond system, the Permittee shall submit a copy of the engineer's Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) letter indicating that the facility was constructed in accordance with the approved design plans.
- Within ninety (90) days of completion and startup of the new pond system, the Permittee shall submit a copy of an Operations & Maintenance (O&M) that was prepared in accordance with NDEP Water Technical Sheet No. WTS-2: Minimum Information Required for an Operation and Maintenance Manual.
- Within ninety (90) days of completion and startup of the new pond system, the Permittee shall submit a copy of a driller's well log for a down-gradient monitoring well installed in accordance with NDEP Water Technical Sheet No. WTS-4: Guidance Document for Design of Monitoring Wells.

**Procedures for Public Comment:** The Notice of the Division's intent to renew and modify discharge permit # NEV30015, subject to the conditions contained within the permit is being sent to the **Battle Mountain Bugle** and **Reno Gazette-Journal** newspapers for publication. The notice is also being electronically mailed to all interested persons requesting listing on our public notification mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing within a period of thirty (30) calendar days of the date of publication of the public notice in the newspaper. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator. The deadline date and time by which all comments are to be submitted (via postmarked mail or time-stamped faxes, e-mails, or hand-delivered items) to the Division is **Friday, March 12, 2010, by 5:00 P.M. PST.**

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator 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 determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

**Proposed Determination:** The Division has made the tentative determination to issue the proposed water pollution control discharge permit for a period of five (5) years.

Prepared by: Mark A. Kaminski, P.E., Staff Engineer III  
Bureau of Water Pollution Control

Date: February 8, 2010