



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

*4601 N. Monroe Street • Spokane, Washington 99205-1295 • (509) 329-3400*

January 5, 2022

Karen LaLande  
Senior Controller  
SGL Composites, LLC.  
8781 Randolph Road NE  
Moses Lake, WA 98837

RE: Warning Letter for State Waste Discharge Permit ST0501273

Dear Karen LaLande:

SGL Composites is out of compliance with State Waste Discharge (SWD) permit ST0501273 that was issued February 25, 2021. SGL has numerous discharge monitoring report (DMR) violations, permit limit exceedances, unreported or missing samples, late submittal of DMRs and other submittals and has failed to report the violations to Ecology as required by their SWD permit. Below is an explanation of the violations during the period of April 2021 – November 2021.

**1. Effluent Limit Violations**

SGL generated 23 permit violations in the WQWebDMR database for BOD5, flow, nitrogen, and conductivity.

Section S1.A of the permit authorizes the discharge of industrial wastewater at the permitted location subject to compliance with effluent limitations set in the permit.

**2. Monitoring Requirements**

SGL received violations for 157 unreported values for monitoring under Outfall 001 & 002 on discharge monitoring reports. Values must be sampled and reported per the schedule in Section S2.A of the permit.

**3. Reporting Noncompliance**

Section S3.E of SGL's permit requires the facility to notify Ecology immediately when they violate or are unable to comply with permit conditions. The facility must follow up with a written report within five days that includes the description of the noncompliance and its cause and actions taken to prevent reoccurrence of noncompliance. SGL did not properly report their permit violations to Ecology.

**4. Missing Submittals**

Special Condition S4.A.a.1 of SGL's permit requires that an Operation & Maintenance Manual update be submitted by October 15, 2021. This submittal has not been received by Ecology to date.

**5. Late Submittals/DMRs**

SGL submitted four DMRs (Permit Section S3.A), past the due date. All DMR submittals are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month following the monitoring period.

Each non-submittal and late DMR constitutes a separate violation of the permit.

**Within 30 days from receipt of this warning letter, please provide the following to Ecology:**

1. Submit a written report explaining the cause of the violations identified in this letter.
2. Identify the steps taken to prevent future violations.

Send the report electronically to Rob Buchert, Senior Compliance Specialist at [rbuc461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:rbuc461@ecy.wa.gov) or by mail at Water Quality Program, Department of Ecology, 4601 N. Monroe Street, Spokane, Washington 99205-1265.

This warning letter is to make you aware of the importance the Department of Ecology places on the legal implications of noncompliance with the limits, monitoring requirements, and terms and/or conditions established in your permit.

Continued noncompliance will result in formal enforcement action by Ecology. Formal enforcement action may include Notice of Violation, Administrative Order, and Penalties of up to \$10,000 per day per violation.

Please contact me at (509) 329-3536 or [rbuc461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:rbuc461@ecy.wa.gov) if you have questions regarding this warning letter or Ecology's enforcement process.

Sincerely,



Rob Buchert  
Senior Compliance Specialist  
Water Quality Program  
Eastern Regional Office

RB:sj

cc. David Heller, SGL Composites, LLC.  
Lee McKinley, SGL Composites, LLC.  
Pat Hallinan, WQ Permit Manager, Ecology Eastern Region  
Art Jenkins, PE, WQ Permit Unit Supervisor, Ecology Eastern Region

**Table 1: Violations from April 2021 – November 2021**

Monitoring Month	Monitoring Point	Monitoring Parameter	Unit	Statistical Base	Value Entered	Limit	Type of Violation
April 2021	001	BOD5	mg/L	Daily sample; 4/7/2021	109	80	Permit limit exceedance
	001	BOD5	mg/L	6 month avg.	54	40	Permit limit exceedance
May 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	Late DMR
	001	pH	s.u.	Daily sample	No value entered	-	Sampling frequency
	001	BOD5	mg/L	6 month avg.	52.6	40	Permit limit exceedance
June 2021	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/3/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/4/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/5/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/6/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/7/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/8/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/9/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/10/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/11/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/12/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/13/2021	No value entered	-	O code

Monitoring Month	Monitoring Point	Monitoring Parameter	Unit	Statistical Base	Value Entered	Limit	Type of Violation
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/14/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/15/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/17/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/18/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/19/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/20/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/21/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/22/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/23/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/24/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/25/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/26/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/27/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/28/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/29/2021	No value entered	-	O code

Monitoring Month	Monitoring Point	Monitoring Parameter	Unit	Statistical Base	Value Entered	Limit	Type of Violation
	001	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/30/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	BOD5	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	TKN	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	BOD5	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	TKN	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Nitrate	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Nitrate	lbs/day	6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Nitrogen	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Nitrogen	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	TDS	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	TDS	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Ammonia	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Ammonia	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Calcium	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Calcium	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Magnesium	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code

Monitoring Month	Monitoring Point	Monitoring Parameter	Unit	Statistical Base	Value Entered	Limit	Type of Violation
	001	Magnesium	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Sodium	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Sodium	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Potassium	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Potassium	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Chloride	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Chloride	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Sulfate	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Sulfate	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Alkalinity	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Alkalinity	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Phosphorus	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Phosphorus	lbs/day	Daily sample; 6/12/2021	No value entered	-	O code
	001	BOD5	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	TKN	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Nitrate	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Nitrogen	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	TDS	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Ammonia	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code

Monitoring Month	Monitoring Point	Monitoring Parameter	Unit	Statistical Base	Value Entered	Limit	Type of Violation
	001	Calcium	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Magnesium	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Sodium	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Potassium	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Chloride	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Sulfate	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Alalinity	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Phosphorus	lbs/day	Maximum	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Flow	gpd	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Volume	Gallons	Monthly Total	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Volume	Million gallons	Annual Total	No value entered	-	O code
	001	BOD5	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	TKN	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Nitrate	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Nitrogen	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Nitrogen	Pounds	Annual Total	No value entered	-	O code
	001	TDS	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	TDS	Pounds	Annual Total	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Ammonia	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Calcium	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Magnesium	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Sodium	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Potasssium	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Chloride	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Sulfate	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Alkalinity	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	Phosphorus	lbs/day	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	O code
	001	BOD5	mg/L	6 month average	No value entered	-	O code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/1/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	E code

Monitoring Month	Monitoring Point	Monitoring Parameter	Unit	Statistical Base	Value Entered	Limit	Type of Violation
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/3/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/4/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/5/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/6/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/7/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/8/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/9/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/10/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/11/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/12/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/13/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/14/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/15/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/17/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/18/2021	No value entered	-	E code

Monitoring Month	Monitoring Point	Monitoring Parameter	Unit	Statistical Base	Value Entered	Limit	Type of Violation
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/19/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/20/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/21/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/22/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/23/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/24/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/25/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/26/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/27/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/28/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/29/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Daily sample; 6/30/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/1/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/2/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/3/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/4/2021	No value entered	-	E code

Monitoring Month	Monitoring Point	Monitoring Parameter	Unit	Statistical Base	Value Entered	Limit	Type of Violation
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/5/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/6/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/7/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/8/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/9/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/10/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/11/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/12/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/13/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/14/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/15/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/16/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/17/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/18/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/19/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/20/2021	No value entered	-	E code

Monitoring Month	Monitoring Point	Monitoring Parameter	Unit	Statistical Base	Value Entered	Limit	Type of Violation
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/21/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/22/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/23/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/24/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/25/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/26/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/27/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/28/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/29/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 6/30/2021	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Avg. Monthly	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Flow	gpd	Maximum	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Minimum	No value entered	-	E code
	002	Conductivity	Micromhos/cm	Maximum	No value entered	-	E code
July 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	Late DMR
	001	pH	mg/L	Monthly sample	No value entered	-	Sampling frequency
	001	BOD5	mg/L	Daily sample; 67/2021	163	80	Permit limit exceedance
	001	Flow	gpd	7/12/2021	163	80	Permit limit exceedance
	001	Flow	Gpd	7/13/2021	294,080	195,833	Permit limit exceedance
	001	Flow	gpd	7/19/2021	231,888	195,833	Permit limit exceedance
	001	Flow	gpd	7/20/2021	195,856	195,833	Permit limit exceedance

Monitoring Month	Monitoring Point	Monitoring Parameter	Unit	Statistical Base	Value Entered	Limit	Type of Violation
	001	BOD5	mg/L	7/21/2021	259	80	Permit limit exceedance
	001	Flow	gpd	Maximum	294,080	195,833	Permit limit exceedance
	001	Flow	gpd	Avg. Monthly	140,411	112,500	Permit limit exceedance
	001	BOD5	mg/L	6 month average	77	40	Permit limit exceedance
August 2021	001	-	-	-	-	-	Late DMR
	001	BOD5	mg/L	Daily sample; 8/11/2021	82	80	Permit limit exceedance
	001	Flow	gpd	Avg. Monthly	129,537	112,500	Permit limit exceedance
	001	BOD5	mg/L	Daily sample; 8/11/2021	82	80	Permit limit exceedance
September 2021	001	Flow	gpd	Avg. Monthly	147,293	112,500	Permit limit exceedance
	001	BOD5	Mgd	6 month average	77.6	40	Permit limit exceedance
October 2021	001	-	-	-	-	-	Late DMR
	001	BOD5	mg/L	Daily sample; 10/27/2021	106	80	Permit limit exceedance
	001	BOD5	mg/L	6 month average	74.4	40	Permit limit exceedance
	001	Nitrogen	Pounds	Annual Total	21,235.8	20,548	Permit limit exceedance
November 2021	001	Conductivity	micromhos/cm	Daily sample; 11/11/2021	3,595.29	3,130	Permit limit exceedance
	001	BOD5	mg/L	6 month average	77.4	40	Permit limit exceedance
	001	Nitrogen	Pounds	Annual Total	22,546.77756	20,548	Permit limit exceedance
						Total	

**Table Notes:**

**Permit limit exceedance**– the report value exceeds the permit limit for that parameter.

**E code** – means that the analysis is not complete/not conducted/not reported. This reporting code generates a violation for the missing value for that parameter for that day.

**O code** – Any value entered with this code generates a violation.

**Late DMR** – discharge monitoring report was submitted past the due date

**Frequency of sampling** – the sampling frequency required for the parameter for that reporting period was not met.

**Table 2: Late or Missing Permit Submittals Between April 2021 – November 2021**

<b>Name of Submittal</b>	<b>Permit Section</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Status</b>
May 2021 Monthly DMR	S2.A	6/15/2021	6/17/2021
July 2021 Monthly DMR	S2.A	8/15/2021	8/17/2021
August 2021 Monthly DMR	S2.A	9/15/2021	9/16/2021
October 2021 Monthly DMR	S2.A	11/15/2021	11/18/2021
Operations & Maintenance Manual Update	S4.A.a.1	10/15/2021	Not received

**Table 3: Total Number of Violations between April 2021 – November 2021**

<b>Violations</b>	<b>#</b>
Late DMRs	4
Permit limit exceedance	23
O Reporting Code	91
Sampling Frequency	2
E Reporting Code	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>184</b>