



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

Southwest Region Office
PO Box 47775, Olympia, WA 98504-7775 • 360-407-6300

February 23, 2023

The Honorable William Finn, Mayor
City of Woodland
230 Davidson Avenue
PO Box 9
Woodland, WA 98674

Re: 2023 Inspection, Woodland Wastewater Treatment Plant

Dear Mayor Finn:

On January 19, 2023, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) conducted an inspection of the Woodland Wastewater Treatment Plant. We have enclosed a copy of our inspection report for your records and would like to express our thanks to Tracy Coleman and Derrick Amburgey for the courtesy extended during the inspection.

The wastewater treatment plant seemed to be well operated and maintained at the time of our inspection, though it currently runs an intensive solids management program and may require additional staffing to properly maintain until additional storage can be added. Derrick Amburgey also pointed out several planned or needed improvement projects that should further improve operational efficiency after completion. We appreciate the City's efforts and attention in caring for the facility.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, or if I can be of any service to you, please contact me by email at bwang461@ecy.wa.gov or directly at (360) 280-7472.

Sincerely,

Bolun Wang
Facility Manager
Southwest Region Office
Water Quality Program

Enclosure: Inspection Report

cc: Tracy Coleman, Woodland Public Works Director(w/enclosure)
Derrick Amburgey, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent (w/enclosure)
File: Woodland STP, NPDES Permit Correspondence



Water Compliance Inspection Report

Section A: National Data System Coding (i.e., PCS)

Transaction Code	NPDES	yr/mo/dy	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
1 N	2 5	3 W A 0 0 2 0 4 0 1 11	12 2 3 0 1 1 9 17	18 C	19 S
Remarks					
21 A N N O U N C E D I N S P E C T I O N					
66					
Inspection Work Days	Facility Self-Monitoring Evaluation Rating	B1	QA	Reserved	
67 0 1 69	70 5	71 N	72 N	73	74
75					
80					

Section B: Facility Data

Name and Location of Facility Inspected (<i>For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number</i>) City of Woodland 100 Treatment Plant Road Woodland, WA 98674	Entry Time/Date 9:00 A.M. 01/19/2023	Permit Effective Date 04/01/2012
	Exit Time/Date 11:30 A.M. 01/19/2023	Permit Expiration Date 03/31/2017
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number Derrek Amburgey, Group IV Operator (360) 225-7007	Other Facility Data	
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number Tracy Coleman, Public Works Director (360) 225-7999	Contacted <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection (*Check only those areas evaluated*)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flow Measurement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operations & Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> CSO/SSO (Sewer Overflow)
<input type="checkbox"/> Records/Reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Self-Monitoring Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sludge Handling/Disposal	<input type="checkbox"/> Pollution Prevention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facility Site Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Compliance Schedules	<input type="checkbox"/> Pretreatment	<input type="checkbox"/> Multimedia
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Effluent/Receiving Waters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laboratory	<input type="checkbox"/> Stormwater	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments (*Attach additional sheets of narrative and checklists as necessary*)

Findings from the last inspection on April 7, 2016:

- The laboratory accreditation was suspended.
- The UV system was having trouble meeting the effluent disinfection standards, which required extra operational efforts to correct.
- The plant was significantly understaffed.
- The spiral screen at the headworks that screens out inert materials needed repairment.
- The third sequencing reactor basin was not in a condition ready to be put into service when needed.

Findings/Comments in this 2023 inspection:

Laboratory: The laboratory appeared properly clean and organized. The laboratory accreditation is current, expires September 14, 2023.

Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) Operations: The POTW was staffed with two operators and was under good operational management. One of the two operators is approaching retirement, and a new operator is currently being trained as a replacement. The UV system was upgraded recently and is adequately sized. It significantly reduces operational concerns and efforts that the last inspection report pointed out. One new FKC screw press was recently installed and running continuously (24/7) to help with the solids processing. Little flexibility exists with the current solids processing procedures and the POTW needs improved solids handling. The extra work currently required to manage solids may also warrant additional operational

support/ staffing. The POTW is considering upgrading its Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) control system to further increase the operational efficiency and reliability and avoid issues associated with the currently unsupported control system.

The third reactor basin was still not in a “ready” status to facilitate the periodic maintenance of either of the other two reactors. The third reactor is currently being used to help manage the onsite solids by serving as temporary storage space for extra solids. Ecology requires two reactor basins to be online at all times, so any maintenance involving taking a reactor basin offline requires the third reactor basin to be put into service first. This currently is not possible at the facility and needs a solution.

The operator identified two needed upgrades during the inspection:

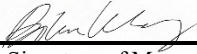

- Additional aerated solids storage needed for solids processing and management flexibility;
- An additional onsite workshop space and storage room for tools and supplies.

The current active solids management procedures require intensive attention and efforts. This is especially a concern if the POTW has any staffing issue in the future or has trouble contracting with Denali Water Solutions, LLC for hauling solids off-site for land application.

Sampling: The influent sampler tube appeared clean. Effluent flow sampler was not in working status. Staff manually composite an effluent sample.

Maintenance & Management: The rotary screen at the headworks had been replaced since the last inspection and was in good working condition. The maintenance log was updated periodically and up to date.

Overall Evaluation: The POTW was properly clean and organized. The operator put in great efforts to keep the POTW in compliance with its permit requirements and maintain the active management of solids onsite. The POTW has gone through a couple of major upgrades in the past few years to increase the operational efficiency and is anticipating more on the way.

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s) Bolun Wang 	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers Ecology/SWRO/ (360) 280-7472	Date 2/23/2023
Signature of Management Q A Reviewer Steve Ogle, P.E. 	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax numbers Ecology/SWRO/ (564) 999-3591	Date 2/23/2023