



August 16, 2023

Matt Durkee
Department of Ecology Central Regional Office 1250
West Alder Street
Union Gap, WA 98903

Re: July 2023 DMR Violations for outfall 001 and outfall 002. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
Waste Discharge Permit # WA0052078

Mr. Durkee:

The total monthly hydraulic load limit set forth in the Port of Sunnyside IWWTF (outfall 002) Schedule A was violated in July. The limit is 4,144,385 cubic feet of total monthly flow, Darigold discharged 4,803,028 cubic feet.

The BOD limit set forth in the Port of Sunnyside IWWTF (outfall 002) Schedule A was also violated in July. The limit is 794,020 total monthly pounds of BOD, Darigold discharged 1,524,338 lbs.

The TKN limit set forth in the Port of Sunnyside IWWTF (outfall 002) Schedule A was also violated in July. The limit is 46,105 total monthly pounds of TKN, Darigold discharged 58,239lbs.

The July 8th Outfall 001 ammonia sample was misplaced. I was not aware of the issue until I received the July Laboratory results on 8/3.

In the beginning of July, the plant experienced a failure of its servers. This caused major issues for several days, as HMI function was limited. These unplanned issues led to much more product and water flow to wastewater than normal. In addition to the server issues, the whey pasteurizer experienced mechanical problems on several occasions resulting in spilled product on several days throughout the month.

The plant has been actively working to decrease wastewater flow by identifying and repairing leaks and reducing unnecessary water usage wherever possible. Wastewater flows have been decreasing so far in August and we expect them to continue to do so with the water reduction efforts.

If you have any questions, concerns, or want to follow up on these issues, please do not hesitate to reach out to me via email anthony.ashby@darigold.com or by phone 509-712-5824.

Best Regards,

Anthony Ashby
Environmental Manager
Darigold