

February 11, 2025

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

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
CENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE

RECEIVED

February 12, 2025

Received via: matthew.durkee@ecy.wa.gov

Re: January 2025 violations for outfall 1 & 2. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit # WA0052078

Mr. Durkee:

During the month of January, the Sunnyside plant exceeded its outfall 2 Schedule A limits for flow, COD pounds, and monthly flow weighted average chloride concentration. See the table below.

Outfall #	Parameter	Actual	Schedule A Limit
2	Flow (gallons)	34,274,534	31,777,209
2	COD (pounds)	1,635,789	1,203,061
2	Chloride (mg/L)	270.81	250

In addition to the outfall 2 violations, the Sunnyside plant also had three outfall 1 violations. The first violation was on the 17th, in which we were unable to collect an ammonia sample. This resulted in not being able to report ammonia mg/L and lbs/day. On 2/7, I received notification from our third-party lab that our samples for ammonia were all coming back high. See the table below for the ammonia results. The 1.6 mg/L daily maximum and the monthly 1.1 mg/L average were exceeded.

Date	Ammonia mg/L
1/22/2025	1.81
1/23/2025	5.32
1/24/2025	8.21
1/25/2025	6.27
1/26/2025	7.41
1/27/2025	8.14
1/28/2025	6.80
1/29/2025	5.98
1/30/2025	4.30
1/31/2025	4.71

Our Hach Amtax was reading ammonia levels within our permit limit. See the table below with the data. As of 2/7,

discharging through outfall 1 has been stopped. We have an investigation ongoing to try and determine the discrepancy. Our Hach technician will examine the analyzer on his next visit which is scheduled for 2/26.

DATE	Ammonia sensor minimum	Ammonia sensor average	Ammonia sensor maximum
Wednesday, January 22, 2025	0.46	0.75	1.10
Thursday, January 23, 2025	1.02	1.05	1.10
Friday, January 24, 2025	0.75	0.96	1.14
Saturday, January 25, 2025	0.38	0.74	1.06
Sunday, January 26, 2025	0.19	0.50	0.91
Monday, January 27, 2025	0.10	0.58	1.09
Tuesday, January 28, 2025	0.49	0.87	1.11
Wednesday, January 29, 2025	0.04	0.77	1.10
Thursday, January 30, 2025	0.17	0.52	1.13
Friday, January 31, 2025	0.33	0.56	1.03

The Sunnyside plant continues to work on reducing wastewater volumes and COD loading to the Port of Sunnyside. The monthly volume in January was slightly lower than what it was in December, while the monthly COD pounds did see an uptick. Outfall 1's discharge will only resume once the investigation is complete, and we confirm ammonia levels are within the permit limits. If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to me. My email is chris.babcock@darigold.com and my mobile phone number is (509) 854-4379.

Best Regards,



Chris Babcock
Darigold