STATE OF LOUISIANA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

IN THE MATTER OF:

CITY OF BREAUX BRIDGE

AI # 30578, 75125

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT


* Settlement Tracking No.
  * SA-AE-20-0083
  * Enforcement Tracking No.
  * AE-CN-15-01151

SETTLEMENT

The following Settlement is hereby agreed to between the City of Breaux Bridge ("Respondent") and the Department of Environmental Quality ("DEQ" or "the Department"), under authority granted by the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act, L.a. R.S. 30:2001, et seq. ("the Act").

I

Respondent is a governmental entity that owns and/or operates wastewater treatment plants located in Breaux Bridge, St. Martin Parish, Louisiana ("the Facilities").

II

On January 11, 2017, the Department issued to Respondent a Consolidated Compliance Order & Notice of Potential Penalty, Enforcement No. AE-CN-15-01151 (Exhibit 1).

III

Respondent denies it committed any violations or that it is liable for any fines, forfeitures and/or penalties.

IV

Nonetheless, Respondent, without making any admission of liability under state or federal
statute or regulation, agrees to pay, and the Department agrees to accept, a payment in the amount of
THIRTY THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS ($30,000.00), of which Seven Hundred Eighty-Five and 61/100 Dollars ($785.61) represents the Department’s enforcement costs, in settlement of
the claims set forth in this agreement. The total amount of money expended by Respondent on cash
payments to the Department as described above, shall be considered a civil penalty for tax purposes,
as required by La. R.S. 30:2050.7(E)(1).

V

Respondent further agrees that the Department may consider the inspection report(s), permit
record(s), the Consolidated Compliance Order & Notice of Potential Penalty and this Settlement for
the purpose of determining compliance history in connection with any future enforcement or
permitting action by the Department against Respondent, and in any such action Respondent shall be
estopped from objecting to the above-referenced documents being considered as proving the
violations alleged herein for the sole purpose of determining Respondent's compliance history.

VI

This agreement shall be considered a final order of the Secretary for all purposes, including,
but not limited to, enforcement under La. R.S. 30:2025(G)(2), and Respondent hereby waives any
right to administrative or judicial review of the terms of this agreement, except such review as may
be required for interpretation of this agreement in any action by the Department to enforce this
agreement.

VII

This settlement is being made in the interest of settling the state's claims and avoiding for
both parties the expense and effort involved in litigation or an adjudicatory hearing. In agreeing to
the compromise and settlement, the Department considered the factors for issuing civil penalties set

VIII

As required by law, the Department has submitted this Settlement Agreement to the Louisiana Attorney General for approval or rejection. The Attorney General’s concurrence is appended to this Settlement Agreement.

IX

The Respondent has caused a public notice advertisement to be placed in the official journal of the parish governing authority in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana. The advertisement, in form and wording approved by the Department, announced the availability of this settlement for public view and comment and the opportunity for a public hearing. Respondent has submitted an original proof-of-publication affidavit and an original public notice to the Department and, as of the date this Settlement is executed on behalf of the Department, more than forty-five (45) days have elapsed since publication of the notice.

X

Payment is to be made within ten (10) days from notice of the Secretary's signature. If payment is not received within that time, this Agreement is voidable at the option of the Department. Payments are to be made by check, payable to the Department of Environmental Quality, and mailed or delivered to the attention of Accountant Administrator, Financial Services Division, Department of Environmental Quality, Post Office Box 4303, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70821-4303. Each payment shall be accompanied by a completed Settlement Payment Form (Exhibit A).

XI

In consideration of the above, any claims for penalties are hereby compromised and settled in accordance with the terms of this Settlement.
XII

Each undersigned representative of the parties certifies that he or she is fully authorized to execute this Settlement Agreement on behalf of his or her respective party, and to legally bind such party to its terms and conditions.
CITY OF BREAUX BRIDGE

BY: ____________
   (Signature)

   Ricky Calais
   (Printed)

TITLE: ____________

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this 8th day of
FEBRUARY, 2021, at Breaux Bridge, LA.

   Judy Bellard
   NOTARY PUBLIC (ID # 141131)

   Judy Bellard  #141131
   (stamped or printed)

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Chuck Carr Brown, Ph.D., Secretary

BY: ____________
   Lourdes Iturralde, Assistant Secretary
   Office of Environmental Compliance

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this 18th day of
OCTOBER, 2021, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

   AMBER G. LITCHFIELD
   Notary Public
   State of Louisiana
   Notary #: 92503
   Baton Rouge Parish

Approved: ____________
   Lourdes Iturralde, Assistant Secretary

SA-AE-20-0083
CERTIFIED MAIL (7004 2510 0006 3853 2554)
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

CITY OF BREAUX BRIDGE
C/o Honorable Ricky J. Calais, Mayor
101 Berard St.
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517

RE: CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER
& NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY
ENFORCEMENT TRACKING NO. AE-CN-15-01151
AGENCY INTEREST NOS. 30578, 75125

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act (La. R.S. 30:2001, et seq.), the attached CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY is hereby served on the CITY OF BREAUX BRIDGE (RESPONDENT) for the violations described therein.

Compliance is expected within the maximum time period established by each part of the COMPLIANCE ORDER. The violations cited in the CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY could result in the issuance of a civil penalty or other appropriate legal actions.

Any questions concerning this action should be directed to Richard LeBlanc at (225) 219-3165.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Celena J. Cage
Administrator
Enforcement Division

CJC/RDL/rdl
Alt ID Nos. N/A
Attachment
STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

IN THE MATTER OF

CITY OF BREAUX BRIDGE
ST. MARTIN PARISH
ALT ID NO. N/A

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT,

* ENFORCEMENT TRACKING NO. AE-CN-15-01151
* AGENCY INTEREST NOS. 30578, 75125

CONSOLIDATED

COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY

The following CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY is issued to the CITY OF BREAUX BRIDGE (RESPONDENT) by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (the Department), under the authority granted by the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act (the Act), La. R.S. 30:2001, et seq., and particularly by La. R.S. 30:2025(C), 30:2050.2 and 30:2050.3(B).

FINDINGS OF FACT

I.

The Respondent owns and/or operates the Breaux Bridge Wastewater Treatment Plant, a publicly owned treatment works that serves the City of Breaux Bridge and is located at 1100 Begnaud Street in Breaux Bridge, St. Martin Parish, Louisiana (Agency Interest No. (AI No.) 30578). The Respondent also owns and/or operates the Breaux Bridge Water Treatment Plant that serves the City of Breaux Bridge and is located at 251 Washington Street in Breaux Bridge, St. Martin Parish, Louisiana (AI No. 75125). The Department issued a Consolidated Compliance Order & Notice of Potential Penalty, Enforcement Tracking No. AE-CN-11-00247, to the Respondent on January 11, 2012, for violations discovered during a Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions inspection conducted on or about October 26, 2010, through October 28, 2010.
II.

On or about June 23, 2015, the Department conducted a full compliance audit for the Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions set forth in LAC 33:III.5901 at the facilities. Additionally, the Department conducted file reviews for the facilities on or about December 7, 2016.

While the Department's investigation is not yet complete, the following violations were noted during the inspections and file reviews:

A. For AI No. 30578 and AI No. 75125, the Respondent failed to compile and maintain up-to-date safe upper and lower temperatures, pressures and flows related to the regulated substances, processes and equipment. Each failure to compile and maintain such safety information is a violation of LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.48(a)(3), and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(2).

B. For AI No. 30578 and AI No. 75125, the Respondent failed to compile and maintain up-to-date equipment specifications. Each failure to compile and maintain such safety information is a violation of LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.48(a)(4), and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(2).

C. For AI No. 30578, the Respondent failed to update the review of hazards associated with the regulated substances, processes and procedures at least once every five (5) years. Specifically, the last hazards review update was conducted in 2009. Each failure to update the hazards review is a violation of LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.50(d), and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(2).

D. For AI No. 30578 and AI No. 75125, the Respondent failed to prepare written operating procedures that provide clear instructions or steps for safely conducting activities associated with each covered process. Specifically, the facilities contained no written operating procedures or certifications of operating procedures. Each failure to prepare written operating procedures is a violation of AE-CN-11-00247; LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.52(a); and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(2).

E. For AI No. 30578 and AI No. 75125, the Respondent failed to ensure that each employee presently operating a process and each employee newly assigned to a covered process has been trained or tested competent in the operating procedures. Specifically, the facilities had no written procedures on training and had no training records. Each training failure is a violation of LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.54(a), and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(2).

F. For AI No. 30578 and AI No. 75125, the Respondent failed to prepare and implement procedures to maintain the on-going mechanical integrity of the
process equipment. Specifically, the facilities did not contain any maintenance plans or procedures. Each failure to prepare and implement mechanical integrity procedures is a violation of AE-CN-11-00247; LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.56(a); and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(2).

G. For AI No. 30578 and AI No. 75125, the Respondent failed to train each employee involved in maintaining the on-going mechanical integrity of the process. Specifically, the facilities had no written procedures on training and had no training records. Each failure to train maintenance personnel is a violation of LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.56(b), and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(2).

H. For AI No. 30578 and AI No. 75125, the Respondent failed to perform inspections and tests on process equipment. Each failure to perform inspections and tests on process equipment is a violation of AE-CN-11-00247; LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.56(d), and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(2).

I. For AI No. 30578 and AI No. 75125, the Respondent failed to certify that they have evaluated compliance with the Chemical Accident Prevention and Minimization of Consequences Provisions at least every three (3) years. Specifically, the last compliance audits were conducted in January 2012 for both facilities. Each failure to conduct timely compliance audits is a violation of LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.58(a), and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(2).

J. For AI No. 75125, the Respondent failed to conduct a review of the hazards associated with the regulated substances, process and procedures. Specifically, the facility has never conducted a hazard review. Each failure to conduct a hazards review is a violation of LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.50(a), and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(2).

**COMPLIANCE ORDER**

Based on the foregoing, the Respondent is hereby ordered:

I.

To take, immediately upon receipt of this **COMPLIANCE ORDER**, any and all steps necessary to meet and maintain compliance with the Air Quality Regulations, including, but not limited to, LAC 33:III.5901.A.

II.

To schedule, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this **COMPLIANCE ORDER**, a meeting with the Department to discuss this **COMPLIANCE ORDER** and AE-CN-11-00247.
III.

To compile, within sixty (60) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, up-to-date safe upper and lower temperatures, pressures and flows related to the regulated substances, processes and equipment, and up-to-date equipment specifications for both facilities in accordance with LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.48(a)(3) and 68.48(a)(4). To submit to the Enforcement Division, within ninety (90) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, evidence of such compilation and inclusion in facility records.

IV.

To update, within sixty (60) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, the hazards review for AI No. 30578 in accordance with LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.50(d). To submit to the Enforcement Division, within ninety (90) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, evidence of such update.

V.

To conduct, within sixty (60) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, a review of the hazards associated with the regulated substances, process and procedures for AI No. 75125 in accordance with LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.50(a). To submit to the Enforcement Division, within ninety (90) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, evidence of such hazards review.

VI.

To prepare, within sixty (60) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, operating procedures for both facilities in accordance with LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.52. To submit to the Enforcement Division, within ninety (90) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, evidence of such preparations.

VII.

To conduct, within sixty (60) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, all appropriate trainings for each employee operating a process for both facilities in accordance with LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.54. To submit to the Enforcement Division, within ninety (90) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, evidence of such trainings.
VIII.

To execute, within sixty (60) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, all appropriate maintenance activities, including, but not limited to, preparing and implementing maintenance procedures, training maintenance personnel and performing inspections and tests on process equipment, in accordance with LAC 33:III.5901.A, which incorporates by reference 40 CFR 68.56. To submit to the Enforcement Division, within ninety (90) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, evidence of such execution.

IX.

To submit to the Enforcement Division, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, a written report that includes a detailed description of the circumstances surrounding the cited violations and actions taken or to be taken to achieve compliance with the Order Portion of this COMPLIANCE ORDER. This report and all other reports or information required to be submitted to the Enforcement Division by this COMPLIANCE ORDER shall be submitted to:

Office of Environmental Compliance  
Post Office Box 4312  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4312  
Attn: Richard LeBlanc  
Re: Enforcement Tracking No. AE-CN-15-01151  
Agency Interest Nos. 30578, 75125

THE RESPONDENT SHALL FURTHER BE ON NOTICE THAT:

I.

The Respondent has a right to an adjudicatory hearing on a disputed issue of material fact or of law arising from this COMPLIANCE ORDER. This right may be exercised by filing a written request with the Secretary no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER.

II.

The request for an adjudicatory hearing shall specify the provisions of the COMPLIANCE ORDER on which the hearing is requested and shall briefly describe the basis for the request. This request should reference the Enforcement Tracking Number and Agency Interest Number, which are located in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of this document and should be directed to the following:
Upon the Respondent's timely filing a request for a hearing, a hearing on the disputed issue of material fact or of law regarding this COMPLIANCE ORDER may be scheduled by the Secretary of the Department. The hearing shall be governed by the Act, the Administrative Procedure Act (La. R.S. 49:950, et seq.), and the Department's Rules of Procedure. The Department may amend or supplement this COMPLIANCE ORDER prior to the hearing, after providing sufficient notice and an opportunity for the preparation of a defense for the hearing.

This COMPLIANCE ORDER shall become a final enforcement action unless the request for hearing is timely filed. Failure to timely request a hearing constitutes a waiver of the Respondent's right to a hearing on a disputed issue of material fact or of law under Section 2050.4 of the Act for the violation(s) described herein.

The Respondent's failure to request a hearing or to file an appeal or the Respondent's withdrawal of a request for hearing on this COMPLIANCE ORDER shall not preclude the Respondent from contesting the findings of facts in any subsequent penalty action addressing the same violation(s), although the Respondent is estopped from objecting to this COMPLIANCE ORDER becoming a permanent part of its compliance history.

Civil penalties of not more than twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars ($27,500) for each day of violation for the violation(s) described herein may be assessed. For violations which occurred on August 15, 2004, or after, civil penalties of not more than thirty-two thousand five hundred dollars ($32,500) may be assessed for each day of violation. The Respondent's failure or refusal to comply with this COMPLIANCE ORDER and the provisions herein will subject the Respondent to possible enforcement procedures under La. R.S. 30:2025, which could result in the assessment of a civil penalty.
in an amount of not more than fifty thousand dollars ($50,000) for each day of continued violation or noncompliance.

VII.

For each violation described herein, the Department reserves the right to seek civil penalties in any manner allowed by law, and nothing herein shall be construed to preclude the right to seek such penalties.

NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY

I.

Pursuant to La. R.S. 30:2050.3(B), you are hereby notified that the issuance of a penalty assessment is being considered for the violation(s) described herein. Written comments may be filed regarding the violation(s) and the contemplated penalty. If you elect to submit comments, it is requested that they be submitted within ten (10) days of receipt of this notice.

II.

Prior to the issuance of additional appropriate enforcement action(s), you may request a meeting with the Department to present any mitigating circumstances concerning the violation(s). If you would like to have such a meeting, please contact Richard LeBlanc at (225) 219-3165 within ten (10) days of receipt of this NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY.

III.

The Department is required by La. R.S. 30:2025(E)(3)(a) to consider the gross revenues of the Respondent and the monetary benefits of noncompliance to determine whether a penalty will be assessed and the amount of such penalty. Please forward the Respondent’s most current annual gross revenue statement along with a statement of the monetary benefits of noncompliance for the cited violation(s) to the above named contact person within ten (10) days of receipt of this NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY. Include with your statement of monetary benefits the method(s) you utilized to arrive at the sum. If you assert that no monetary benefits have been gained, you are to fully justify that statement. If the Respondent chooses not to submit the requested most current annual gross revenues statement within ten (10) days, it will be viewed by the Department as an admission that the Respondent has the ability to pay the statutory maximum penalty as outlined in La. R.S. 30:2025.

IV.

The Department assesses civil penalties based on LAC 33:1.Subpart1.Chapter7. To expedite closure of this NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY portion, the Respondent may offer a settlement
amount to resolve any claim for civil penalties for the violation(s) described herein. The Respondent may offer a settlement amount, but the Department is under no obligation to enter into settlement negotiations. The decision to proceed with a settlement is at the discretion of the Department. The settlement offer amount may be entered on the attached “CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER AND NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY REQUEST TO CLOSE” form. The Respondent must include a justification of the offer. **DO NOT** submit payment of the offer amount with the form. The Department will review the settlement offer and notify the Respondent as to whether the offer is or is not accepted.

V.

The **NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY** will not be closed if the Respondent owes outstanding fees to the Department. Please contact the Financial Services Division at 225-219-3865 or via email at _DEQ-WWWFinancialServices@la.gov to determine if you owe outstanding fees.

VI.

This **CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY** is effective upon receipt.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this 11th day of January, 2017.

[Lourdes Ituralde]
Assistant Secretary
Office of Environmental Compliance

Copies of a request for a hearing and/or related correspondence should be sent to:

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Compliance
Enforcement Division
P.O. Box 4312
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4312
Attention: Richard LeBlanc
**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

A written report was submitted in accordance with Paragraph VIII of the “Order” portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER.

All necessary documents were submitted to the Department within 30 days of receipt of the COMPLIANCE ORDER in accordance with Paragraph(s) of the “Order” portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER.

All necessary documents were submitted to the Department within 45 days of receipt of the COMPLIANCE ORDER in accordance with Paragraph(s) of the “Order” portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER.

All necessary documents were submitted to the Department within 90 days of receipt of the COMPLIANCE ORDER in accordance with Paragraph(s) II, III, IV, V, VI and VII of the “Order” portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER.

All items in the “Findings of Fact” portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER were addressed and the facility is being operated to meet and maintain the requirements of the “Order” portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER. Final compliance was achieved as of:

**SETTLEMENT OFFER (OPTIONAL)**

(check the applicable option)

- The Respondent is not interested in entering into settlement negotiations with the Department with the understanding that the Department has the right to assess civil penalties based on LAC 33:1. Subpart1. Chapter7.

- In order to resolve any claim for civil penalties for the violations in NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY («Tracking_a»), the Respondent is interested in entering into settlement negotiations with the Department and would like to set up a meeting to discuss settlement procedures.

- In order to resolve any claim for civil penalties for the violations in NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY («Tracking_a»), the Respondent is interested in entering into settlement negotiations with the Department and offers to pay $_________ which shall include LDEQ enforcement costs and any monetary benefit of non-compliance.
  - Monetary component = $_________
  - Beneficial Environmental Project (BEP) component (optional) = $_________

*DO NOT SUBMIT PAYMENT OF THE OFFER WITH THIS FORM* the Department will review the settlement offer and notify the Respondent as to whether the offer is or is not accepted.

The Respondent has reviewed the violations noted in NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY («Tracking_a») and has attached a justification of its offer and a description of any BEPs if included in settlement offer.
## CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

I certify, under provisions in Louisiana and United States law that provide criminal penalties for false statements, that based on information and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the statements and information attached and the compliance statement above, are true, accurate, and complete. I also certify that I do not owe outstanding fees or penalties to the Department for this facility or any other facility I own or operate. I further certify that I am either the Respondent or an authorized representative of the Respondent.

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<th>Respondent's Signature</th>
<th>Respondent's Printed Name</th>
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MAIL COMPLETED DOCUMENT TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality  
Office of Environmental Compliance  
Enforcement Division  
P.O. Box 4312  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821  
Attn: Richard LeBlanc