

Memo

To: Honorable Mayor & City Council,

From: Utility Superintendent Victor Kane

CC: City Administrator Dylan Mulfinger

Reference: DCW Casing LLC Update

Date: 12/06/19

I want to provide you with an update on DCW for the upcoming work session. The last time we meet in October they had successfully discharged to the sewer 28 times without incident. It was decided at that time we would require the following from DCW.

"The city is moving into the final phase of the project based on the success, commitment and concern over the situation from DCW. The City is requiring DCW to meet the following stipulations:

1) DCW shall submit a plan showing how the issue is being addressed and will continue to be adhered to

2) DCW shall submit a plan explaining safety checks to be conducted and documentation of those checks.

3) DCW shall provide a procedure to be followed if there were to be an issue with a discharge.

4) DCW must continue to notify the City of all discharges and times to allow spot observations when desired.

Once the city receives this information, our engineering firm and the IDNR will review the proposed plan. Upon acceptance of the proposals the City has agreed to start stepping down the monitoring. Upon installation of the new chemical feed system the city will verify its performance to effectively meet criteria. Upon meeting this requirement, the city will no longer require a presence during discharges."

Since that time, we have not stepped back and are following the plan we put in place. They have now completed 37 discharges without incident. We have received paperwork and a plan as requested that is under review. The production Supervisor has remained the same throughout this process. However, about a month ago a new manager Tim Hadden took over the helm of this facility. He is planning to attend this work session. Tim has been keeping us informed of what is being done and the process they are installing. He has discussed various testing done on the product. He has redirected the chemical addition in hopes to address not only the H2s conversion but the occasional smell issue.

Since his arrival they did discover and address an incident that occurred within the facility. What off gassed inside the facility was vented off into the atmosphere causing the odor. It did not get into the City sewer system. He recently contacted us when testing showed a high BOD load within a batch and told us they were handling the disposal offsite.

From the Desk of
Oelwein Utility Superintendent Victor Kane

We have had 3 recent calls of odor in the air. One was on the evening of the inhouse issue on 11/17/19. One was on 11/18/19 at 7:00 pm however the discharge that day occurred at 9:30 am. So, we are not sure what the odor that late was about. The latest call was about two hours after they had completed a discharge, that we monitored. There have been 5 more recent dumps since these calls occurred all without incidence. The issue of smell in the air is a different issue than that of a hazardous situation within the City sewer system. Finding no safety issue with the last 37 discharges, unless directed otherwise, we are proceeding per prior instructions.

Thank you for your time.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Victor Kane", followed by a horizontal line.

Victor Kane