Bly, Sheila <sheila.bly@dnr.iowa.gov>

Re: Algona WWTF - Compliance Schedule Update

1 message

Hucka, Ben <ben.hucka@dnr.iowa.gov> Thu, Oct 16, 2025 at 7:08 AM
To: Emma Nollenberger <enollenberger@whks.com>
Cc: "Olive, Ryan" <ryan.olive@dnr.iowa.gov>, Kevin Graves <KGraves@whks.com>, Sheila Bly <sheila.bly@dnr.iowa.gov>

Emma,

Thank you for the update. Send me another note when the facility completes the wet startup. Have a good day.

Ben Hucka
Municipal/Pretreatment Coordinator
NPDES Section
Department of Natural Resources
6200 Park Avenue Ste 200, Des Moines, IA 50312
515-537-3015
ben.hucka@dnr.iowa.gov
www.iowadnr.gov

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

On Wed, Oct 15, 2025 at 3:53 PM Emma Nollenberger <enollenberger@whks.com> wrote:

> Ben,
>
> I spoke with Ryan this morning about the status of the Algona WWTF construction project schedule. He directed me to contact you regarding the compliance schedule in their NPDES permit.
>
> The existing NPDES permit contains the following compliance schedule:
>
> - Complete construction of improvements by **October 1, 2025**.
> - Complete 1 year of treatment plant optimization for nutrient reduction by **October 1, 2026**.
> - Submit one year of at least weekly total nitrogen and total phosphorus sampling data from the raw waste and final effluent by **November 1, 2027**. The report must include the results of all monitoring for total nitrogen and total phosphorous in the raw waste and final effluent between October 1, 2026 and September 30, 2027.
>
> Due to flooding delays at the beginning of the project, the completion of the oxidation ditch was delayed 8 weeks. This was documented in Change Order No. 3 (attached) which was reviewed by our IDNR wastewater engineer, James Oppelt. At the time that we sent this year's annual progress report (attached) to Ryan, we had expected the completion of nutrient removal related construction to be operational by **December 1, 2025**.

We recently received news from the contractor that the dry run startup of the oxidation ditch equipment by the equipment manufacturer is scheduled for November 20, 2025. This was the earliest startup date available from the manufacturer. The subsequent wet run startup is planned to be completed at some point during the first or second week of December. We asked if the manufacturer could move up these dates and they indicated that they are fully booked but will put us on a waitlist in case any other sites cancel. Based on this news, the following is how the compliance schedule is impacted:

- Complete construction of improvements by **October 1, 2025 (Revised date now is expected to be December 12, 2025)**

Please let us know if this status update is sufficient for documentation. Feel free to email or call with any questions/comments.

Thank you,

Emma Nollenberger, P.E.

Voice: 507.722.7189 I www.whks.com

Click here to subscribe to our newsletter.