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Water Enforcement: U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and Crystal City, Missouri Enter Into Consent Agreement Addressing Alleged Violations

Arkansas Environmental, Energy, and Water Law Blog

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The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and Crystal city, Missouri ("City") entered into a Complaint and Consent Agreement/Final Order ("CA") addressing alleged Clean Water Act violations.

The City is stated to jointly own and operate a wastewater treatment facility ("WWTF") and associated sewer collection and transmission systems ("POTW").

The City's WWTF is operated pursuant to City ordinance by the Festus-Crystal City Sewage Treatment Commission.

The WWTF discharges wastewater pursuant to a Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. EPA performed a compliance evaluation inspection of the POTW and the collection and transmission system in 2014. The agency obtained information:

- From a review of City wastewater collection and transmission systems
- A visual inspection of City lift stations
- The City's response to an EPA Request for Information
- Review of City sewer overflow reports

The CA alleges unpermitted discharge of untreated wastewater from list stations and/or other locations within the City's collection and transmission systems (outside of the permitted outfall). The unpermitted discharges are stated to have been attributed to:

... flooding of Plattin Creek with resulting infiltration into sewer manholes and/or rages or other debris introduced into the sewer by users of the 8 inch sewer line...

The City neither admits nor denies the CA factual allegations and legal conclusions.

The CA assesses City a civil penalty of \$6,500.00.

[Click here to download a copy of the CA.](#)