

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

IN THE MATTER OF:

Al's Truck Stop of Malvern, Inc.
d/b/a JJ's Truck Stop, Inc.
P.O. Box 309
Malvern, AR 72104

LIS No. 24- 080
Permit Number: AR0042889
AFIN 63-00080

CONSENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

This Consent Administrative Order ("Order") is issued pursuant to the authority of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-101 *et seq.*, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311 *et seq.*, and the rules issued thereunder by Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APC&EC).

The issues herein having been settled by the agreement of Al's Truck Stop of Malvern, Inc. d/b/a JJ's Truck Stop, Inc. (Respondent) and the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ), it is hereby agreed and stipulated that the following FINDINGS OF FACT and ORDER AND AGREEMENT be entered.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent operates a domestic wastewater and restaurant wastewater treatment facility ("Facility") located at, 6106 I-30, Benton, Saline County, Arkansas.
2. Respondent discharges treated wastewater to an unnamed ditch, thence to unnamed tributary of Brushy Creek, thence to Brushy Creek, thence to Francois Creek, thence to the Saline River in Segment 2C of the Ouachita River Basin.
3. Respondent is regulated pursuant to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).

4. Pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a) *et seq.*, the NPDES program prohibits the discharge of pollutants except as in compliance with a permit issued under the NPDES program in accordance with 33 U.S.C. § 1342(a).

5. DEQ is authorized under the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (“Act”) to issue NPDES permits in the state of Arkansas and to initiate an enforcement action for any violation of a NPDES permit.

6. Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-217(a)(3) provides:

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to:

...

(3) Violate any provisions of this chapter or of any rule or order adopted by the [APC&EC] under this chapter or of a permit issued under this chapter by the [DEQ].

7. Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-103(c)(1)(A) authorizes DEQ to assess an administrative civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per violation for any violation of any provision of the Act and any rule or permit issued pursuant to the Act.

8. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-103(c)(1)(B), “[e]ach day of a continuing violation may be deemed a separate violation for purposes of penalty assessment.”

9. DEQ issued NPDES Permit Number AR0042889 (“Permit”) to Respondent on December 17, 2018. The Permit became effective on January 1, 2019, and expired on December 31, 2023.

10. Part III, Section D, Condition 10 of the Permit requires Respondent to submit a complete permit renewal application at least 180 days prior to the expiration date of the Permit if the activity regulated by the Permit is to continue after the expiration date.

11. Respondent intends to operate this facility beyond the expiration date of the current permit, December 31, 2023.

12. On January 5, 2023, and March 31, 2023, Respondent was notified that the Permit would expire on December 31, 2023, and that in order to continue the regulated activity, a complete renewal application must be submitted no later than July 4, 2023.

13. DEQ received a Permit renewal application from Respondent on June 30, 2023, and on July 10, 2023, DEQ notified Respondent that its application was incomplete.

14. Respondent submitted a complete Permit renewal application to DEQ on July 18, 2023.

15. The complete Permit renewal application was not received by July 4, 2023. Failure to submit the complete Permit renewal application by July 4, 2023, is a violation of Part III, Section D, Condition 10 of the Permit and therefore is a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-217(a)(3).

DMR Review

16. On October 25, 2023, DEQ conducted a review of certified Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) submitted by Respondent in accordance with the Permit.

17. The review revealed that Respondent reported the following violations of the permitted effluent discharge limits detailed in Part I, Section A of the Permit from September 30, 2020 through January 31, 2024:

- a. Seventeen (17) violations of Ammonia Nitrogen;
- b. Six (6) violations of Dissolved Oxygen;
- c. Four (4) violations of Fecal Coliform Bacteria;
- d. Two (2) violations of Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand; and
- e. Two (2) violation of pH.

18. Each of the thirty-one (31) discharge limitation violations listed in Paragraph 17 above

constitutes a separate permit violation for a total of thirty-one (31) separate violations of Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-217(a)(3).

19. The review of the DMRs further revealed that Respondent failed to submit DMRs by the due date for the following twenty-seven (27) monitoring periods:

- a. 2020: September, October, November;
- b. 2021: February, March, June, July, August, September, October, November, December;
- c. 2022: February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, December; and
- d. 2023: January, March, June, July, and December.

Failure to submit DMRs with the monitoring results obtained during the monitoring period no later than the 25th of the month following the completed monitoring period is a violation of Part III, Section C, Condition 5 of the Permit and therefore is a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-217(a)(3).

20. The review of the DMRs also revealed that Respondent failed to conduct analysis for Nitrogen Ammonia for the monitoring period ending October 31, 2022. Failure to monitor the effluent in accordance with the requirements set forth in Part I, Section A of the Permit is a violation of Part I, Section A of the Permit and therefore is a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-217(a)(3).

Wastewater Operator

21. During the review of the permit renewal application, DEQ discovered the licensed wastewater operator listed on the permit renewal application did not have the wastewater license level required by the Permit. According to Part II, Condition I of the Permit, Respondent is to have a Class III municipal wastewater operator licensed in the state of Arkansas. The individual listed

on the permit renewal application holds a Class I wastewater license. This failure is a violation of Part II, Condition 1 of the Permit and Ark. Code Ann. § 8-5-203 and therefore is a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-217(a)(3).

ORDER AND AGREEMENT

WHEREFORE, the parties stipulate and agree as follows:

1. Respondent shall comply with the existing Permit until either the effective date of the permit renewal or the effective date of the permit termination.
2. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall submit to DEQ, for review and approval, a comprehensive Corrective Action Plan (CAP) developed by a Professional Engineer licensed in the state of Arkansas. The CAP shall include, at minimum, the methods and best available technologies that will be used to correct the violations listed in Findings of Fact Paragraph 17 and prevent future violations and include a reasonable milestone schedule with a date of final compliance no later than March 31, 2026. Upon review and approval by DEQ, Respondent shall comply with the terms, milestone schedule, and final compliance date contained in the approved CAP. The milestone schedule and final compliance date shall be fully enforceable as terms of this Order.
3. Respondent shall submit all DMRs in accordance with Part III, Section C, Condition 5 of the Permit.
4. Respondent shall sample and report the effluent in accordance with Part I, Section A of the Permit.
5. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall provide documentation that the Facility has a wastewater operator who holds a minimum of a Class III municipal wastewater license in the state of Arkansas.

6. In compromise and full settlement of the violations specified in the Findings of Fact, Respondent agrees to pay a civil penalty of Eight Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$8350.00), of which one-half of the full civil penalty of Four Thousand One Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$4175.00) shall be SUSPENDED by DEQ if this Order is signed and returned to the Office of Water Quality Enforcement Branch, DEQ, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas, 72118-5317, within twenty (20) calendar days of receipt of this Order. If Respondent fully complies with the terms of this Order, the SUSPENDED civil penalty of Four Thousand One Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$4175.00) shall be DISMISSED by DEQ. Payment of Four Thousand One Hundred Seventy-five Dollars (\$4175.00) is due within thirty (30) calendar days of the effective date of this Order. Payment of the penalty shall be made payable to the Division of Environmental Quality, and mailed to the attention of:

Division of Environmental Quality
Fiscal Division
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118

In the event that Respondent fails to pay the civil penalty within the prescribed time, DEQ shall be entitled to attorneys' fees and costs of collection.

7. Failure to meet any requirement or deadline of this Order constitutes a violation of this Order. If Respondent should fail to meet any such requirements or deadlines, Respondent consents and agrees to pay on demand to DEQ stipulated penalties according to the following schedule:

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| a. First day through fourteenth day: | \$100.00 per day |
| b. Fifteenth day through the thirtieth day: | \$500.00 per day |
| c. Each day beyond the thirtieth day: | \$1000.00 per day |

These stipulated penalties for delay in performance shall be in addition to any other remedies or sanctions that may be available to DEQ by reason of failure by Respondent to comply with the

requirements of this Order.

8. If any event, including but not limited to an act of nature, occurs that causes or may cause a delay in the achievement of compliance by Respondent with the requirements or deadlines of this Order, Respondent shall so notify DEQ, in writing, as soon as reasonably possible after it is apparent that a delay will result, but in no case after the due dates specified in this Order. The notification shall describe in detail the anticipated length of the delay, the precise cause of the delay, the measures being taken and to be taken to minimize the delay, and the timetable by which those measures will be implemented.

9. DEQ may grant an extension of any provision of this Order, provided that Respondent requests such an extension in writing and provided that the delay or anticipated delay has or will be caused by circumstances beyond the control of and without the fault of Respondent. The time for performance may be extended for a reasonable period but in no event longer than the period of delay resulting from such circumstances. The burden of proving that any delay is caused by circumstances beyond the control of and without the fault of Respondent and the length of the delay attributable to such circumstances shall rest with Respondent. Failure to notify the DEQ promptly, as provided in the preceding paragraph of this Section, shall be grounds for a denial of an extension.

10. All requirements by the Order and Agreement are subject to approval by DEQ. Unless otherwise specified herein, in the event of any deficiencies, Respondent shall, within the timeframe specified by DEQ, submit any additional information or changes requested, or take additional actions specified by DEQ to correct any such deficiencies. Failure to respond adequately to such Notice of Deficiency within the timeframe specified in writing by DEQ constitutes a failure to meet the requirements established by this Order.

11. This Order is subject to public review and comment in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-103(d) and APC&EC Rule 8 and shall not be effective until thirty (30) calendar days after public notice is given. DEQ retains the right to rescind this Order based upon the comments received within the thirty (30) day public comment period. Notwithstanding the public notice requirements, the corrective actions necessary to achieve compliance shall be taken immediately. The publication of this Order shall occur on or about the 10th or 25th day of the month following the date this Order is executed. As provided by APC&EC Rule 8, this matter is subject to being reopened upon Commission initiative or in the event a petition to set aside this Order is granted by the Commission.

12. By virtue of the signature appearing below, the individual represents that he or she is an Officer of Respondent, being duly authorized to execute and bind Respondent to the terms contained herein. Execution of this Order by an individual other than an Officer of Respondent shall be accompanied by a resolution granting signature authority to said individual as duly ratified by the governing body of the entity.

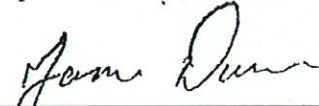
SO ORDERED THIS 30th DAY OF April, 2024.



CALEB J. OSBORNE, DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, DIRECTOR
CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR, ENVIRONMENT

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

Al's Truck Stop of Malvern, Inc. d/b/a JJ's Truck Stop

BY: 

(Signature)

James Duren

(Typed or printed name)

TITLE: Owner / President

DATE: 4-25-24