PART I

In compliance with the Oklahoma Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Act (OPDES Act), Title 27A O.S. § 2-6-201 et seq. as amended, and the rules of the State of Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) adopted thereunder {See OAC 252:606}; the Federal Clean Water Act, Public Law 95-217 (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), Section 402; and NPDES Regulations (40 CFR Parts 122, 124, and 403),

City of Cherokee
(Facility ID No.: S-21003)
121 North Grand
Cherokee, Oklahoma 73728

is hereby authorized to discharge treated wastewater from a facility located at approximately

SW¼, SE¼, NE¼ Section 17, Township 26 North, Range 10 West, Indian Meridian, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma

to receiving waters: Clay Creek, a tributary to Great Salts Plains Reservoir, at the point located at approximately

Latitude: 36° 43' 54.453" N [GPS: NAD 1983 CONUS]  
Longitude: 98° 17' 31.626" W [GPS: NAD 1983 CONUS]

Waterbody ID No. 621010010090_00

in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in Parts I, II, III, and IV hereof.

The Oklahoma State Legislature has voted to move Water Quality Standards (WQS) from the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). OAC 785:45 will be re-written as OAC 252:730 and OAC 785:46 will be re-written as OAC 252:740. OAC 252:690 will be incorporated into OAC 252:740 upon completion of permanent rulemaking by DEQ for WQS.

This permit replaces and supersedes Authorization OKG580043 issued on August 14, 2006.
The issuance date of this permit is ______________.

This permit shall become effective ______________.

This permit and authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight ______________.

For the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality:

__________________________________________  ______________________________________
Michael B. Moe, P.E., Manager  Shellie R. Chard, Director
Municipal Discharge and Stormwater Permit Section  Water Quality Division
Water Quality Division
### A. Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements (Outfall 001)

1. Interim Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements

Interim effluent limits and reporting requirements begin on the effective date of the permit and last through the first three (3) years of the permit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effluent Characteristic</th>
<th>Discharge Limitations</th>
<th>Monitoring Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mass Loading (lb/day)</td>
<td>Concentrations (mg/l unless otherwise specified)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flow (mgd) [50050]</td>
<td>Year round</td>
<td>Report Monthly Average and Daily Maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemical Oxygen Demand-5 Days (BOD₅) [00310]</td>
<td>Year round</td>
<td>100.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Suspended Solids [00530]</td>
<td>Year round</td>
<td>300.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pH (standard unit) [00400]</td>
<td>Year round</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Year-round Requirements**

- There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.
- There shall be no discharge of any visible sheen of oil or globules of oil or grease. Oil and grease shall not be present in quantities that adhere to stream banks and coat bottoms of water courses or which cause deleterious effects to the biota.
- All monitoring and reporting requirements shall also be in compliance with Part III of this permit.

**Sampling Point:** Samples taken for compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the discharge from the final treatment unit.
2. **Final Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements**

Final effluent limits and reporting requirements are effective beginning the fourth year of the permit and lasting through the expiration date of the permit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effluent Characteristic</th>
<th>Discharge Limitations</th>
<th>Monitoring Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mass Loading (lb/day)</td>
<td>Concentrations (mg/l unless otherwise specified)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flow (mgd)</strong> [50050]</td>
<td>Year round</td>
<td>Report Monthly Average and Daily Maximum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Biochemical Oxygen Demand-5 Day (BOD₅)** [00310] | Year round | 66.7 | 20 | 30 | 2/Month | Grab 
| **Total Suspended Solids** [00530] | Year round | 100.1 | 30 | 45 | 2/Month | Grab |
| **Total Phosphorus** [00665] | Year round | --- | Report | --- | 1/Month | Grab |
| **E. coli** (MPN/100 ml) [51041] | May – Sep | --- | 126 Geo. Mean | 406 Daily Max. | 2/Week | Grab |
|                          | Oct – Apr             | --- | 630 Geo. Mean | 2030 Daily Max. | 1/Week |
| **Total Residual Chlorine (TRC)** a, b [50060] | Year round | --- | Instantaneous Max.: No measurable c | Daily | Grab |
| **pH (standard unit)** [00400] | Year round | --- | 6.5 – 9.0 | Daily | Grab |

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a If chlorine is used for disinfection.

b If UV is utilized for disinfection, the City of Cherokee may request the DEQ to delete TRC limit from the permit.

c No measurable is defined as less than 0.1 mg/l.

d If a Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) system is constructed, sample type will be SBR single composite.

**Year-round Requirements**

- There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.
- There shall be no discharge of any visible sheen of oil or globules of oil or grease. Oil and grease shall not be present in quantities that adhere to stream banks and coat bottoms of water courses or which cause deleterious effects to the biota.
- All monitoring and reporting requirements shall also be in compliance with Part III of this permit.

**Sampling Point:** Samples taken for compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the discharge from the final treatment unit.
3. Schedule of Compliance

The City of Cherokee shall achieve compliance of new limits for BOD₅, TSS, and *E. coli* with the modification of the existing facility or construction of a new mechanical plant with a disinfection system. All construction will be in accordance with OAC 252:656. The City of Cherokee shall achieve this compliance in accordance with the following schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Submit an approvable engineering report (ER), prepared by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the State of Oklahoma, for a discharging facility capable of meeting limits in the permit or a total retention facility (with or without land application).</td>
<td>6 months from the effective date of the permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Submit approvable plans and specifications (“P&amp;S”) prepared by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the State of Oklahoma, and an application for a construction permit for a discharging treatment facility capable of meeting limits in the permit or a total retention facility (with or without land application) if the City of Cherokee chooses a no discharge option.</td>
<td>9 months from the effective date of the permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Begin construction in accordance with approved P&amp;S for a discharging treatment facility capable of meeting limits in the permit or a total retention facility if the City of Cherokee chooses a no discharge option.</td>
<td>18 months after the effective date of the permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Complete construction in accordance with approved P&amp;S from Task C for a discharging treatment facility capable of meeting limits in the draft permit or a total retention facility if the City of Cherokee chooses a no discharge option.</td>
<td>30 months after the effective date of the permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Attain three (3) consecutive months of compliance with limits in the permit, or submit an affidavit of no discharge if the City of Cherokee chooses a no discharge option.</td>
<td>36 months after the effective date of the permit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. The permittee shall submit a progress report to the DEQ outlining the status of all facility improvements during the months of January and July of each year until the construction is complete. The first report shall be due during the first designated month after the permit becomes effective.

b. Where percent project completion reported is less than would be required to assure completion of construction by the required date, the progress report shall also include an explanation for this delay and proposed remedial actions.

B. Reporting of Monitoring Results

Monitoring results shall be reported in accordance with the provisions of Part III.B.5 of the permit. Monitoring results obtained during the previous month shall be summarized and electronically reported on an electronic Discharge Monitoring Report (eDMR) form due to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division, Wastewater Compliance Tracking Section no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed monthly test. If no discharge occurs during the reporting period, an eDMR form stating "No Discharge" shall be electronically submitted according to the above schedule. Instructions on how to register as a Preparer or Signatory for eDMRs, as well as how to prepare and submit eDMRs, can be found on DEQ’s website at [https://www.deq.ok.gov/water-quality-division/electronic-reporting/](https://www.deq.ok.gov/water-quality-division/electronic-reporting/). Assistance is also available by
contacting DEQ at (405) 702-8100 or email deqreporting@deq.ok.gov.

The first report is due on the 15th of MONTH, 2022.

C. Sanitary Sewer Overflows

Any bypass in the collection system [sanitary sewer overflow (SSO)] shall be reported in accordance with Part III.B.6 of this permit.
PART II. OTHER PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

A. CONTRIBUTING INDUSTRIES AND PRETREATMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. The following pollutants shall not be introduced into a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) facility, defined in 40 CFR 403.3(q) “as any devices and systems used in storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of municipal sewage and industrial wastes of a liquid nature. It also includes sewers, pipes, and other conveyances only if they convey wastewater to a POTW Treatment Plant. The term also means the municipality as defined in Section 502(4) of the Act, which has jurisdiction over the Indirect Discharges to and from such treatment works.”

a. Pollutants which create a fire or explosion hazard in the POTW facility, including, but not limited to, wastestreams with a closed cup flashpoint of less than 60°C (140°F) using the test methods specified in 40 CFR 261.21;

b. Pollutants which will cause corrosive structural damage to the POTW, but in no case discharges with pH lower than 5.0, unless the works are specifically designed to accommodate such discharges;

c. Solid or viscous pollutants in amounts which will cause obstruction to the flow in the POTW, resulting in interference;

d. Any pollutant, including oxygen demanding pollutants (e.g., BOD), released in a discharge at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which will cause interference with the POTW;

e. Heat in amounts which will inhibit biological activity in the POTW resulting in interference but in no case heat in such quantities that the temperature at the POTW treatment plant exceeds 40°C (104°F) unless the Approval Authority, upon request of the POTW, approves alternate temperature limits;

f. Petroleum oil, non-biodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral oil origin in amounts that will cause interference or pass through;

g. Pollutants which result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors, or fumes within the POTW in a quantity that may cause acute worker health and safety problems; and

h. Any trucked or hauled pollutants, except at discharge points designated by the POTW.

2. The permittee shall require any indirect discharger to the treatment works to comply with the reporting requirements of Sections 204(b), 307, and 308 of the Act, including any requirements established under 40 CFR Part 403.

3. The permittee shall provide adequate notice of the following:

a. Any new introduction of pollutants into the treatment works from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Sections 301 and 306 of the Act and/or Sections 40 CFR 405-499 if it were directly discharging those pollutants;

b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the treatment works by a source introducing pollutants into the treatment works at the time of issuance of the permit; and

The City of Cherokee Wastewater Treatment Facility
c. Any notice shall include information on (i) the quality and quantity of effluent to be introduced into the treatment works and (ii) any anticipated impact of the change on the quality or quantity of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.

B. RE-OPENER CLAUSE

This permit may be re-opened for modification or revocation and reissuance to require additional monitoring and/or effluent limitations where actual or potential exceedances of State water quality criteria are determined to be the result of the permittee’s discharge to the receiving water(s), or a revised Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is established for the receiving water(s), or when required as technology advances. Modification or revocation and reissuance of the permit shall follow regulations listed at 40 CFR 124.5.

C. BIOSOLIDS/SEWAGE SLUDGE REQUIREMENTS

The biosolids/sewage sludge from this facility is stored within the lagoon system.

The permittee will be required to prepare and obtain approval of a biosolids/sewage sludge management plan or a sludge disposition plan prior to removing biosolids/sewage sludge from the facility. The plan shall comply with the Federal regulations for landfills, biosolids/sewage sludge, and solid waste disposal established at 40 CFR Part 257, 503, and the DEQ rules governing Sludge Management (OAC 252:515 and OAC 252:606) as applicable.

The permittee is required to maintain all records relevant to sewage biosolids/sewage sludge disposal for the life of the permit. These records shall be made available to ODEQ upon request.

The permittee shall give 120 days prior notice to DEQ of any change planned in the biosolids/sewage sludge disposal practice.

The permittee shall also comply with all applicable biosolids/sewage sludge requirements in Part IV of this permit.

D. POLLUTION PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS

1. The permittee shall institute a program within 12 months of the effective date of the permit (or continue an existing program) directed towards optimizing the efficiency and extending the useful life of the facility. The permittee shall consider the following items in the program:

   a. The influent loadings, flow and design capacity;
   b. The effluent quality and plant performance;
   c. The age and expected life of the wastewater treatment facility's equipment;
   d. Bypasses and overflows of the tributary sewerage system and treatment works;
   e. New developments at the facility;
   f. Operator certification and training plans and status;
   g. The financial status of the facility;
   h. Preventative maintenance programs and equipment conditions; and
   i. An overall evaluation of conditions at the facility.

2. The permittee shall prepare the following information on the biosolids/sewage sludge generated by the facility:

   The City of Cherokee Wastewater Treatment Facility
a. An annual quantitative tabulation of the ultimate disposition of all biosolids/sewage sludge (including, but not limited to, the amount beneficially reused, landfilled, and incinerated).

b. An assessment of technological processes and an economic analysis evaluating the potential for beneficial reuse of all biosolids/sewage sludge not currently beneficially reused including a listing of any steps which would be required to achieve the biosolids/sewage sludge quality necessary to beneficially reuse the biosolids/sewage sludge.

c. A description of, including the expected results and the anticipated timing for, all projects in process, in planning and/or being considered which are directed towards additional beneficial reuse of biosolids/sewage sludge.

d. An analysis of one composite sample of the biosolids/sewage sludge collected prior to ultimate re-use or disposal shall be performed for the pollutants listed in Part IV, Element 1, Section III, Table 3 of the permit.

e. A listing of the specific steps (controls/changes) which would be necessary to achieve and sustain the quality of the biosolids/sewage sludge so that the pollutant concentrations in the biosolids/sewage sludge fall below the pollutant concentration criteria listed in Part IV, Element 1, Section III, Table 3 of the permit.

f. A listing of, and the anticipated timing for, all projects in process, in planning, and/or being considered which are directed towards meeting the biosolids/sewage sludge quality referenced in (e) above.

The permittee shall certify in writing, within three years of the effective date of the permit, that all pertinent information is available. This certification shall be submitted to:

Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division
Municipal Permits Section
P. O. Box 1677
707 North Robinson Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101-1677