



State of Vermont  
Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

Wastewater Management Division  
103 South Main Street - Sewing Bldg.  
Waterbury, Vermont 05671-0405

Telephone: (802) 241-3822  
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September 24, 2007

Nancy Robinson  
Otter Valley Union High School  
2997 Franklin Street  
Brandon, VT 05733

**Re: Final Discharge Permit and 1272 Order #3-0293**

Dear Ms Robinson:

Enclosed is your copy of the above referenced permit, which has been signed by the Director of the Wastewater Management Division for the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation. Also enclosed is the final 1272 Order. Please read the permit and Order carefully and familiarize yourself with all the terms and conditions. Your attention is particularly directed to those conditions which may require written responses by certain dates. Please note that the date in the permit for submission of the Operation, Management and Emergency Response Plan has been changed.

If you have any questions concerning your permit and/or Order, please contact Carol Carpenter at 241-3828.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Brian D. Kooiker".

Brian D. Kooiker, Chief  
Discharge Permits Section

Enclosure



AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
103 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
WATERBURY, VERMONT 05671-0405

Permit No. 3-0293  
File No. 11-20  
Project ID No. RU96-0469  
NPDES No. VT0020842

Name of Applicant: Otter Valley Union High School  
2997 Franklin Street  
Brandon, VT 05733

Expiration Date: June 30, 2012

DISCHARGE PERMIT

In compliance with the provisions of the Vermont Water Pollution Control Act as amended (hereinafter referred to as the "Act") and the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq), the Otter Valley Union High School, Brandon, Vermont (hereinafter referred to as the "permittee") is authorized by the Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources, Waterbury, Vermont, to discharge from the Otter Valley Union High School Wastewater Treatment Facility to an unnamed tributary of Otter Creek in accordance with the following general and special conditions.

**This permit shall become effective on the date of signing.**

Justin G Johnson, Acting Commissioner  
Department of Environmental Conservation

By: Christine Thompson  
Christine Thompson, Director  
Wastewater Management Division

Date: 9/21/07

**I. SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

**A. EFFLUENT LIMITS**

1. Until June 30, 2012, the permittee is authorized to discharge from S/N 001 - outfall, the Otter Valley Union High School Wastewater Treatment Facility, to an unnamed tributary of Otter Creek, an effluent whose characteristics shall not exceed the values listed below:

DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS								
Effluent Characteristic	Annual Limit	Monthly Average	Weekly Average	Maximum Day	Monthly Average	Weekly Average	Maximum Day	Instantaneous Maximum
		(lbs / day)			(Concentration)			
Flow		25,000 gpd						
Biochemical Oxygen Demand, 5-day, 20° C					10 mg/l			
Total Suspended Solids					10 mg/l			
Total Phosphorus (Total Annual Pounds) (a)	381 lbs				Monitor only			
Settleable Solids								1.0 ml/l
Total Residual Chlorine(b)								0.05 mg/l
<i>Escherichia coli</i> Bacteria								77/100 ml
pH					Between 6.5 and 8.5 Standard Units			

(a) **Total Annual Pounds of Phosphorus** discharged shall be defined as the sum of all the **Total Monthly Pounds of Phosphorus** discharged for the calendar year. **Total Monthly Pounds of Phosphorus** discharged shall be calculated as follows:  
(Monthly Average Phosphorus Concentration) x (Total Monthly Flow) x 8.34 (See Total Phosphorus monitoring report form WR43-PO4).

(b) See 1272 Order 3-0293.

Samples shall be collected just prior to discharge to the unnamed tributary of Otter Creek.

2. The effluent shall not have concentrations or combinations of contaminants including oil, grease, scum, foam, or floating solids which would cause a violation of the water quality standards of the receiving waters.
3. The discharge shall not cause visible discoloration of the receiving waters.
4. When the effluent discharged for a period of 90 consecutive days exceeds 80 percent of the permitted flow limitation, the permittee shall submit to the permitting authority projected loadings and a program for maintaining satisfactory treatment levels consistent with approved water quality management plans.
5. Any action on the part of the Agency of Natural Resources in reviewing, commenting upon or approving plans and specifications for the construction of wastewater treatment facilities shall not relieve the permittee from the responsibility to achieve effluent limitations set forth in this permit and shall not constitute a waiver of, or act of estoppel against any remedy available to the Agency, the State of Vermont or the federal government for failure to meet any requirement set forth in this permit or imposed by state or federal law.

#### **B. WASTE MANAGEMENT ZONE**

In accordance with 10 V.S.A. Section 1252, this permit hereby establishes a waste management zone that extends from the outfall of the Otter Valley Union High School Wastewater Treatment Facility in an unnamed tributary of Otter Creek downstream approximately one mile to Otter Creek.

#### **C. REAPPLICATION**

If the permittee desires to continue to discharge after the expiration of this permit, the permittee shall reapply on the application forms then in use at least 180 days before this permit expires.

Reapply for a Discharge Permit by: June 30, 2012.

#### **D. OPERATING FEES** *Exempt - Not applicable to public schools*

This discharge is subject to operating fees. The permittee shall submit the operating fees in accordance with the procedures provided by the Secretary.

#### **E. MONITORING AND REPORTING**

##### **1. Sampling and Analysis**

The sampling, preservation, handling, and analytical methods used shall conform to regulations published pursuant to Section 304(g) of the Clean Water Act, under which such procedures may be required. Guidelines establishing these test procedures have been published in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 136 (Federal Register, Vol. 56, No. 195, July 1, 1999 or as amended).

If applicable, *Escherichia coli* shall be tested using one of the following methods:

- a. "Most Probable Number" (MPN) method 9223B found in Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, 18th or subsequent approved edition(s). Premade formulations are available as Colilert and Colilert 18 from IDEXX Labs Inc., Westbrook, ME;
- b. EPA "membrane filtration" (MF) method 1603 using modified mTEC; or
- c. A single step membrane filtration (MF) method using mColiBlue 24 available from Hach Company, Loveland, CO.

Samples shall be representative of the volume and quality of effluent discharged over the sampling and reporting period. All samples are to be taken during normal operating hours. The permittee shall identify the effluent sampling location used for each discharge.

**2. Effluent Monitoring**

The permittee shall monitor and record the quality and quantity of discharge(s) S/N 001 - outfall, the Otter Valley Union High School Wastewater Treatment Facility, according to the following schedule and other provisions until June 30, 2012.

PARAMETER	MINIMUM FREQUENCY OF ANALYSIS <sup>(1)</sup>	SAMPLE TYPE
Flow	Continuous	Daily Total, Max., Min.
BOD <sub>5</sub>	1 x monthly	4-hour composite
TSS	1 x monthly	4-hour composite
Total Phosphorus	1 x monthly	4-hour composite
Settleable Solids	1 x daily	grab <sup>(2)</sup>
<i>Escherichia coli</i> Bacteria	1 x monthly	grab <sup>(3)</sup>
Total Residual Chlorine	1 x daily	grab <sup>(3)</sup>
pH	1 x daily	grab

- (1) Monitoring is not required in those months in which there is no discharge from the wastewater treatment facility.
- (2) Settleable Solids samples shall be collected between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM or during the period of peak flow.
- (3) On the day that the *Escherichia coli* grab sample is collected, the daily total residual chlorine grab sample for that day shall be collected at the same time and location as the *E. coli* sample and reported on the WR-43 form.

*Following the installation of the dechlorination unit, monitoring for total residual chlorine shall be performed both prior to and following dechlorination.*

### 3. Reporting

The permittee is required to submit monthly reports of monitoring results on forms WR-43 and WR-43-PO4. Reports are due on the 15th day of each month, beginning with the month following the effective date of this permit.

If, in any reporting period, there has been no discharge, the permittee must submit that information by the report due date.

Signed copies of these, and all other reports required herein, shall be submitted to the Secretary at the following address:

Agency of Natural Resources  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Wastewater Management Division  
103 South Main Street  
Waterbury, Vermont 05671-0405

All reports shall be signed:

- a. In the case of corporations, by a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice president, or his/her duly authorized representative, if such representative is responsible for the overall operation of the facility from which the discharge described in the permit form originates;
- b. In the case of a partnership, by a general partner;
- c. In the case of a sole proprietorship, by the proprietor;
- d. In the case of a municipal, State, or other public facility, by either a principal executive officer, ranking elected official, or other duly authorized employee.

In addition to the monitoring and reporting requirements given above, daily monitoring of certain parameters for operational control are required by the Agency. Operations reports (reporting form WR-43) shall be submitted monthly.

### 4. Recording of Results

The permittee shall maintain records of all information resulting from any monitoring activities required, including:

- a. The exact place, date, and time of sampling;
- b. The dates and times the analyses were performed;
- c. The person(s) who performed the analyses;
- d. The analytical techniques and methods used including sample collection handling and preservation techniques;
- e. The results of all required analyses;
- f. The records of monitoring activities and results, including all instrumentation and calibration and maintenance records;

- g. The original calculation and data bench sheets of the operator who performed analysis of the influent or effluent pursuant to requirements of Section I.(A) of this permit.

The results of monitoring requirements shall be reported (in the units specified) on the Vermont reporting form WR-43 or other forms approved by the Secretary.

## 5. Additional Monitoring

If the permittee monitors any pollutant at the location(s) designated herein more frequently than required by this permit, using approved analytical methods as specified above, the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the values required in the Discharge Monitoring Report Form WR-43. Such increased frequency shall also be indicated.

## G. OPERATION, MANAGEMENT, AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

1. By **April 1, 2008**, the permittee shall prepare and submit to the Agency for review and approval an Operation, Management and Emergency Response Plan for the components of the wastewater treatment facility and the sewage pump/ejector stations. The Plan shall include the following:
  - a. the identification of the components at the wastewater treatment facility and the sewage pump/ejector stations that are determined to be prone to failure based on installation, age, design or other relevant factors.
  - b. the identification of the components at the wastewater treatment facility and the sewage pump/ejector stations which, if one or more failed, would result in a significant release of untreated or partially treated sewage to waters of the State.
  - c. an inspection schedule for the components identified in subsection G.1.b. above.
  - d. an emergency contingency plan to reduce the volume of a detected sewage release and to mitigate the effect of such a release on public health and the environment.

Upon the Secretary's approval of the inspection schedule as specified in G.1.c. above, the permittee shall implement the Operation, Management, and Emergency Response Plan for the wastewater treatment facility and the sewage pump/ejector stations.

2. By **June 30, 2010**, the permittee shall prepare and submit to the Agency for review and approval an Operation, Management and Emergency Response Plan for the stream crossings and the sewage collection system. The Plan shall include the following:
  - a. the identification of the components of the stream crossings and the sewage collection system that are determined to be prone to failure based on installation, age, design or other relevant factors.
  - b. the identification of the components which, if one or more failed, would result in a significant release of untreated or partially treated sewage to waters of the State.
  - c. an inspection schedule for the components identified in subsection G.2.b. above.

- d. an emergency contingency plan to reduce the volume of a detected sewage release and to mitigate the effect of such a release on public health and the environment.

Upon the Secretary's approval of the inspection schedule as specified in G.2.c. above, the permittee shall implement the Operation, Management, and Emergency Response Plan for the stream crossings and the sewage collection system.

#### **H. DRY WEATHER FLOWS**

Dry weather flows of untreated municipal wastewater from any sanitary or combined sewers are not authorized by this permit and are specifically prohibited by State and Federal laws and regulations.

#### **I. EMERGENCY ACTION - ELECTRIC POWER FAILURE**

The permittee shall indicate in writing to the Secretary **within 30 days after the effective date of this permit** that the discharge shall be handled in such a manner that, in the event the primary source of electric power to the waste treatment facilities (including pump stations) fails, any discharge into the receiving waters will attempt to comply with the conditions of this permit, but in no case shall the wastes receive less than primary treatment (or in the case of ultraviolet light disinfection systems, not less than secondary treatment) plus disinfection.

The permittee shall either provide an alternative source of power for the operation of its treatment facilities, or demonstrate that the treatment facility has the capacity to store the wastewater volume that would be generated over the duration of the longest power failure that would have affected the facility in the last five years, excluding catastrophic events.

The alternative power supply, whether from a generating unit located at the plant site or purchased from an independent source of electricity, must be separate from the existing power source used to operate the waste treatment facilities. If a separate unit located at the plant site is to be used, the permittee shall certify in writing to the Secretary when the unit is completed and prepared to generate power.

The determination of treatment system storage capacity shall be submitted to the Wastewater Management Division upon completion.

#### **J. SEWER ORDINANCE** *(if applicable)*

The permittee shall have in effect a sewer use ordinance acceptable to the Secretary which, at a minimum, shall

1. Prohibit the introduction by any discharger into the permittee's sewerage system or treatment facilities of any pollutant which:
  - a. is a toxic pollutant in toxic amounts as defined in standards issued from time to time under Section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act;
  - b. creates a fire or explosion hazard in the permittee's treatment works;



- c. causes corrosive structural damage to the permittee's treatment works, including all wastes with a pH lower than 5.0;
  - d. contains solid or viscous substances in amounts which would cause obstruction to the flow in sewers or other interference with proper operation of the permittee's treatment works; or
  - e. in the case of a major contributing industry, as defined herein, contains an incompatible pollutant, as further defined herein, in an amount or concentration in excess of that allowed under standards or guidelines issued from time to time pursuant to Sections 304, 306, and/or 307 of the Clean Water Act.
2. Require 45 days prior notification to the permittee by any person or persons of a:
- a. proposed substantial change in volume or character of pollutants over that being discharged into the permittee's treatment works at the time of issuance of this permit;
  - b. proposed new discharge into the permittee's treatment works of pollutants from any source which would be a new source as defined in Section 306 of the Clean Water Act if such source were discharging pollutants; or
  - c. proposed new discharge into the permittee's treatment works of pollutants from any source which would be subject to Section 301 of the Clean Water Act if it were discharging such pollutants.
3. Require any industry discharging into the permittee's treatment works to perform such monitoring of its discharge as the permittee may reasonably require, including the installation, use, and maintenance of monitoring equipment methods, to keep records of the results of such monitoring, and to report the results of such monitoring to the permittee. Such records shall be made available by the permittee to the Secretary upon request.
4. Authorize the permittee's authorized representatives to enter into, upon, or through the premises of any industry discharging into the permittee's treatment works to have access to and copy any records, to inspect any monitoring equipment or method required under subsection 3 above, and to sample any discharge into the permittee's treatment works.

The permittee shall notify the Secretary of any discharge specified in subsection 2 above within 30 days of the date on which the permittee is notified of such discharge. This permit may be modified accordingly.

## II. GENERAL CONDITIONS

### A. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

#### 1. Facility Modification / Change in Discharge

All discharges authorized herein shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit. The discharge of any pollutant more frequently than, or at a level in excess of, that identified and authorized by this permit shall constitute a violation of the terms and conditions of this permit. Such a violation may result in the imposition of civil and/or criminal penalties as provided for in Section 1274 and 1275 of the Vermont Water Pollution Control Act. Any anticipated facility expansions or process modifications which will result in new, different, or increased discharges of pollutants must be reported by submission of a new permit application or, if such changes will not violate the effluent limitations specified in this permit, by notice to the permit issuing authority of such changes. Following such notice, the permit may be modified to specify and limit any pollutants not previously limited.

In addition, the permittee shall provide notice to the Secretary of the following:

- a. any new introduction of pollutants into the treatment works from a source which would be a new source as defined in Section 306 of the Clean Water Act if such source were discharging pollutants;
- b. except for such categories and classes of point sources or discharges specified by the Secretary, any new introduction of pollutants into the treatment works from a source which would be subject to Section 301 of the Clean Water Act if such source were discharging pollutants; and
- c. any substantial change in volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the treatment works by a source introducing pollutants into such works at the time of issuance of the permit.

The notice shall include:

- i. the quality and quantity of the discharge to be introduced into the system, and
- ii. the anticipated impact of such change in the quality or quantity of the effluent to be discharged from the permitted facility.

#### 2. Noncompliance Notification

In the event the permittee is unable to comply with any of the conditions of this permit due, among other reasons, to:

- a. breakdown or maintenance of waste treatment equipment (biological and physical-chemical systems including, but not limited to, all pipes, transfer pumps,

compressors, collection ponds or tanks for the segregation of treated or untreated wastes, ion exchange columns, or carbon absorption units),

b. accidents caused by human error or negligence, or

c. other causes such as acts of nature,

the permittee shall notify the Secretary within 24 hours of becoming aware of such condition or by the next business day and shall provide the Secretary with the following information, in writing, within five (5) days:

- i. cause of non-compliance
- ii. a description of the non-complying discharge including its impact upon the receiving water;
- iii. anticipated time the condition of non-compliance is expected to continue or, if such condition has been corrected, the duration of the period of non-compliance;
- iv. steps taken by the permittee to reduce and eliminate the non-complying discharge; and
- v. steps to be taken by the permittee to prevent recurrence of the condition of non-compliance.

### **3. Operation and Maintenance**

All waste collection, control, treatment, and disposal facilities shall be operated in a manner consistent with the following:

- a. The permittee shall, at all times, maintain in good working order and operate as efficiently as possible all treatment or control facilities or systems installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit.
- b. The permittee shall provide an adequate operating staff which is duly qualified to carry out the operation, maintenance, and testing functions required to insure compliance with the conditions of this permit; and
- c. The operation and maintenance of this facility shall be performed only by qualified personnel. The personnel shall be certified as required under the Vermont Water Pollution Abatement Facility Operator Certification Regulations.

### **4. Quality Control**

The permittee shall calibrate and perform maintenance procedures on all monitoring and analytical instrumentation at regular intervals to ensure accuracy of measurements, or shall ensure that both activities will be conducted.

The permittee shall keep records of these activities and shall provide such records upon request of the Secretary.

The permittee shall demonstrate the accuracy of the flow measurement device weekly and report the results on the monthly report forms. The acceptable limit of error is  $\pm 10\%$ .

The permittee shall analyze any additional samples as may be required by the Agency of Natural Resources to ensure analytical quality control.

**5. Bypass**

The diversion or bypass of facilities (including pump stations) necessary to maintain compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit is prohibited, except where authorized under the terms and conditions of an Emergency Pollution Permit issued pursuant to 10 V.S.A. Section 1268.

**6. Duty to Mitigate**

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any adverse impact to waters of the State resulting from non-compliance with any condition specified in this permit, including accelerated or additional monitoring as necessary to determine the nature and impact of the non-complying discharge.

**7. Records Retention**

All records and information resulting from the monitoring activities required by this permit including all records of analyses performed, calibration and maintenance of instrumentation, and recordings from continuous monitoring instrumentation shall be retained for a minimum of three (3) years, and shall be submitted to Department representatives upon request. This period shall be extended during the course of unresolved litigation regarding the discharge of pollutants or when requested by the Secretary.

**8. Solids Management**

Collected screenings, sludges, and other solids removed in the course of treatment and control of wastewaters shall be stored, treated and disposed of in accord with 10 V.S.A., Chapter 159 and with the terms and conditions of any certification, interim or final, transitional operation authorization or order issued pursuant to 10 V.S.A., Chapter 159 that is in effect on the effective date of this permit or is issued during the term of this permit.

**9. Emergency Pollution Permits**

Maintenance activities, or emergencies resulting from equipment failure or malfunction, including power outages, which result in an effluent which exceeds the effluent limitations specified herein, shall be considered a violation of the conditions of this permit, unless the permittee immediately applies for, and obtains, an emergency pollution

permit under the provisions of 10 V.S.A., Chapter 47, Section 1268. The permittee shall notify the Department of the emergency situation by the next working day.

10 V.S.A., Chapter 47, Section 1268 reads as follows:

"When a discharge permit holder finds that pollution abatement facilities require repairs, replacement or other corrective action in order for them to continue to meet standards specified in the permit, he may apply in the manner specified by the secretary for an emergency pollution permit for a term sufficient to effect repairs, replacements or other corrective action. The permit may be issued without prior public notice if the nature of the emergency will not provide sufficient time to give notice; provided that the secretary shall give public notice as soon as possible but in any event no later than five days after the effective date of the emergency pollution permit. No emergency pollution permit shall be issued unless the applicant certifies and the secretary finds that:

- (1) there is no present, reasonable alternative means of disposing of the waste other than by discharging it into the waters of the state during the limited period of time of the emergency;
- (2) the denial of an emergency pollution permit would work an extreme hardship upon the applicant;
- (3) the granting of an emergency pollution permit will result in some public benefit;
- (4) the discharge will not be unreasonably harmful to the quality of the receiving waters;
- (5) the cause or reason for the emergency is not due to wilful or intended acts or omissions of the applicant."

Application shall be made to the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury, Vermont 05671-0405.

## **B. RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **1. Right of Entry**

The permittee shall allow the Secretary or authorized representative, upon the presentation of proper credentials:

- a. to enter upon the permittee's premises in which an effluent source or any records required to be kept under terms and conditions of the permit are located;
- b. to have access to and copy any records required to be kept under the terms and conditions of the permit;
- c. to inspect any monitoring equipment or method required in the permit; or

- d. to sample any discharge of pollutants.

## 2. **Transfer of Ownership or Control**

This permit is not transferable without prior written approval of the Secretary. All application and operating fees must be paid in full prior to transfer of this permit. In the event of any change in control or ownership of facilities from which the authorized discharges emanate, the permittee shall provide a copy of this permit to the succeeding owner or controller and shall send written notification of the change in ownership or control to the Secretary. The permittee shall also inform the prospective owner or operator of their responsibility to make an application for transfer of this permit.

This request for transfer application must include at a minimum:

- a. a properly completed application form as provided by the Secretary and the applicable processing fee.
- b. A written statement from the prospective owner or operator certifying:
  - i. The conditions of the operation that contribute to, or affect, the discharge will not be materially different under the new ownership.
  - ii. The prospective owner or operator has read and is familiar with the terms of the permit and agrees to comply with all terms and conditions of the permit.
  - iii. The prospective owner or operator has adequate funding to operate and maintain the treatment system and remain in compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit.
- c. The date of the sale or transfer.

The Secretary may require additional information dependent upon the current status of the facility operation, maintenance, and permit compliance.

## 3. **Confidentiality**

Pursuant to 10 V.S.A. 1259(b):

“Any records, reports or information obtained under this permit program shall be available to the public for inspection and copying. However, upon a showing satisfactory to the secretary that any records, reports or information or part thereof, other than effluent data, would, if made public, divulge methods or processes entitled to protection as trade secrets, the secretary shall treat and protect those records, reports or information as confidential. Any records, reports or information accorded confidential treatment will be disclosed to authorized representatives of the state and the United States when relevant to any proceedings under this chapter.”

#### **4. Permit Modification**

After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this permit may be modified, suspended, or revoked in whole or in part during its term for cause including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. violation of any terms or conditions of this permit;
- b. obtaining this permit by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts; or
- c. a change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the permitted discharge.

#### **5. Toxic Effluent Standards**

If a toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is established under section 307(a) of the Federal Act for a toxic pollutant which is present in the permittee's discharge and such standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation upon such pollutant in this permit, then this permit shall be revised or modified in accordance with the toxic effluent standard or prohibition and the permittee so notified.

#### **6. Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability**

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under 10 V.S.A. §1281.

#### **7. Other Materials**

Other materials ordinarily produced or used in the operation of this facility, which have been specifically identified in the application, may be discharged at the maximum frequency and maximum level identified in the application, provided:

- a. They are not:
  - i. designated as toxic or hazardous under provisions of Sections 307 and 311, respectively, of the Clean Water Act, or
  - ii. known to be hazardous or toxic by the permittee, except that such materials indicated in (a) and (b) above may be discharged in certain limited amounts with the written approval of, and under special conditions established by, the Secretary or his designated representative, if the substances will not pose any imminent hazard to the public health or safety;
- b. The discharge of such materials will not violate applicable water quality standards; and

- c. The permittee is not notified by the Secretary to eliminate or reduce the quantity of such materials entering the watercourse.

## **8. Navigable Waters**

This permit does not authorize or approve the construction of any onshore or offshore physical structures or facilities or the undertaking of any work in any navigable waters.

## **9. Civil and Criminal Liability**

Except as provided in, "Bypass" (Part II.A., paragraph 5.), "Emergency Action - Electric Power Failures" (Part I, paragraph I.), and "Emergency Pollution Permits" (Part II.A., paragraph 9.), nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance. Civil penalties, as authorized under 10 V.S.A. §1274 and 10 V.S.A. §8010, shall not exceed \$10,000 a day for each day of violation. Criminal penalties, as authorized under 10 V.S.A. §1275, shall not exceed \$25,000 for each day of violation, imprisonment for up to six months, or both.

## **10. State Laws**

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable State law or regulation under authority preserved by Section 510 of the Clean Water Act.

## **11. Property Rights**

Issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights in either real or personal property, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of Federal, State, or local laws or regulations.

## **12. Severability**

The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit, or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit, shall not be affected thereby.

## **13. Authority**

This permit is issued under authority of 10 V.S.A. §1259 which states that: "No person shall discharge any waste, substance, or material into waters of the State, nor shall any person discharge any waste, substance, or material into an injection well or discharge into a publicly owned treatment works any waste which interferes with, passes through without treatment, or is otherwise incompatible with those works or would have a substantial adverse effect on those works or on water quality, without first obtaining a



permit for that discharge from the Secretary", and under the authority of Section 402 of the Clean Water Act, as amended.

#### 14. Definitions

For purposes of this permit, the following definitions shall apply.

**The Act** - The Vermont Water Pollution Control Act, 10 V.S.A. Chapter 47

**Annual Average** - The highest allowable average of daily discharges calculated as the sum of all daily discharges (mg/l, lbs or gallons) measured during a calendar year divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that year.

**Average** - The arithmetic means of values taken at the frequency required for each parameter over the specified period.

**The Clean Water Act** - The federal Clean Water Act, as amended.

**Composite Sample** - A sample consisting of a minimum of one grab sample per hour collected during a 24-hour period (or lesser period as specified in the section on Monitoring and Reporting) and combined proportionally to flow over that same time period.

**Daily Discharge** - The discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling.

For pollutants with limitations expressed in pounds the daily discharge is calculated as the total pounds of pollutants discharged over the day.

For pollutants with limitations expressed in mg/l the daily discharge is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the day.

**Grab Sample** - An individual sample collected in a period of less than 15 minutes.

**Incompatible Substance (Pollutant)** - Any waste being discharged into the treatment works which interferes with, passes through without treatment, or is otherwise incompatible with said works or would have a substantial adverse effect on these works or on water quality. This includes all pollutants required to be regulated under the Federal Clean Water Act.

**Instantaneous Maximum** - A value not to be exceeded in any grab sample.

**Major Contributing Industry** - One that: (1) has a flow of 50,000 gallons or more per average work day; (2) has a flow greater than five percent of the flow carried by the municipal system receiving the waste; (3) has in its wastes a toxic pollutant in toxic amounts as defined in standards issued under Section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act; or (4) has a significant impact, either singly or in combination with other contributing industries, on a publicly owned treatment works or on the quality of effluent from that treatment works.

**Maximum Day** (maximum daily discharge limitation) - The highest allowable "daily discharge" (mg/l, lbs or gallons).

**Mean** - The mean value is the arithmetic mean.

**Monthly Average** - (Average monthly discharge limitation) - The highest allowable average of daily discharges (mg/l, lbs or gallons) over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges (mg/l, lbs or gallons) measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month.

**NPDES** - The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

**Secretary** - The Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources

**State Certifying Agency**      Agency of Natural Resources  
   Department of Environmental Conservation  
   Wastewater Management Division  
   103 South Main Street  
   Waterbury, Vermont 05671-0405

**Weekly Average** - (Average weekly discharge limitation) - The highest allowable average of daily discharges (mg/l, lbs or gallons) over a calendar week, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges (mg/l, lbs or gallons) measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week.

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
103 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
WATERBURY, VERMONT 05671-0405

FACT SHEET  
(August 2007)

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT TO  
DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

NPDES NO: VT0020842  
FILE NO: 11-20  
PERMIT NO: 3-0293  
PROJECT ID NO: RU96-0469

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Otter Valley Union High School  
2997 Franklin Street  
Brandon, VT 05733

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

Otter Valley Union High School  
Route 7 South  
Brandon, Vermont

RECEIVING WATER: Unnamed tributary of Otter Creek

CLASSIFICATION: Class B with a waste management zone. Class B waters are suitable for bathing and recreation, irrigation and agricultural uses; good fish habitat; good aesthetic value; acceptable for public water supply with filtration and disinfection. A waste management zone is a specific reach of Class B waters designated by a permit to accept the discharge of properly treated wastes that prior to treatment contained organisms pathogenic to human beings.

I. Proposed Action, Type of Facility, and Discharge Location

The above named applicant applied on January 30, 2007 to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation for renewal of the permit to discharge into the designated receiving water. At this time the Department has made a tentative decision to reissue the discharge permit. The facility is engaged in the treatment of sanitary wastewater. The discharge is from the outfall of the Otter Valley Union High School Wastewater Treatment Facility to an unnamed tributary of Otter Creek.

## II. Description of Discharge

A quantitative description of the discharge in terms of significant effluent parameters is based on state and federal laws and regulations, the discharge permit application, and the recent self-monitoring data.

## III. Limitations and Conditions

The effluent limitations of the permit, the monitoring requirements, and any implementation schedule (if required), may be found on the following pages of the permit:

Effluent Limitations:	Page 2 of 17
Monitoring Requirements:	Page 4 of 17
Implementation Schedule:	1272 Order

## IV. Permit Basis and Explanation of Effluent Limitation Derivation

Otter Valley Union High School owns and operates a wastewater treatment facility consisting of two in series concrete aeration lagoons, a clarifier, and sandfilter, followed by chlorine disinfection. A 20-year engineering evaluation was completed in 1997 by Green Mountain Engineering, Inc. The report indicated that the facility was in good condition and several of the suggestions in that report were completed as of 2002.

**Flow** - The effluent flow limitation remains at 25,000 gallons per day, monthly average, representing the facility's design flow. The facility maintains a continuous discharge on weekdays throughout the school year.

**Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>)** - The 10 mg/l, monthly average, effluent limitation and monthly monitoring requirement for biochemical oxygen demand remain unchanged from the previous permit.

**Total Suspended Solids (TSS)** - The 10 mg/l, monthly average, effluent limitation and monthly monitoring requirement for total suspended solids remain unchanged from the previous permit.

**pH** - The pH limitation remains at 6.5 - 8.5 Standard Units as specified in Section 3-01 B.9. in the Vermont Water Quality Standards, effective February 9, 2006. Monitoring remains at daily.

**Settleable Solids** - The limitation of 1.0 ml/l instantaneous maximum and daily monitoring remain unchanged from the previous permit. This numeric limit was established in support of the narrative standard in Section 3-01 B.5. of the Vermont Water Quality Standards, effective February 9, 2006.

**Total Phosphorus** - The 'monitor only' requirement has been changed from the previous permit. The 2002 "Lake Champlain Phosphorus Total Maximum Daily Load"

established a phosphorus mass loading allocation for the Otter Valley Union High School WWTF utilizing an effluent concentration of 5 mg/l at the design flow of the facility (25,000 gpd). That allocation (0.173 metric tons per year or 381 pounds per year) is being incorporated into this permit. Monitoring remains at monthly.

The annual total pounds is the sum of the twelve monthly totals, which are calculated by multiplying the total monthly flow x the monthly average phosphorus concentration x 8.34.

***E. coli* Bacteria** - The *E. coli* limitation is 77/100 ml as specified in Section 3-04 B.3., Vermont Water Quality Standards, effective February 9, 2006. Monthly monitoring remains the same as in the previous permit.

On March 26, 2007 EPA published new guidelines establishing new bacterial testing procedures for wastewater and sewage sludge as part of 40 CFR Part 136 (see Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 57, Monday, March 26, 2007, p.14220). The new guidelines establish the *E. coli* analytical methods cited in Part I.E. of the permit as the only approved methods for enumerating *E. coli* in wastewater and sewage sludge. The guidelines are effective April 25, 2007.

Notably the membrane filter method using the two step incubation technique (i.e. Method 9213D, Standard Methods) which was previously approved by prior NPDES discharge permits is no longer cited by EPA as an approved method. Therefore permittees who are currently using Method 9213D for *E. coli* analysis must switch over to one of the three approved methods listed in Part I.E. of the permit.

**Total Residual Chlorine (TRC)** – The previous TRC limit has been changed to 0.05 mg/l and is based on meeting the instream water quality acute and chronic chlorine criteria (0.019 mg/l and 0.011 mg/l respectively) in the Vermont Water Quality Standards, effective February 9, 2006 for the protection of aquatic biota. Daily monitoring is required.

In order to provide sufficient time for the permittee to come into compliance with the new limit which means the installation of dechlorination (or changing the disinfection technology to UV light disinfection) a 1272 Order is being issued concurrently with this permit. That Order includes a proposed compliance date of August 31, 2008.

The Order also stipulates that the permittee complete improvements necessary to accurately measure total daily effluent flow. (The effluent weir box has corroded and, at present, effluent is bypassing the effluent weir resulting in inaccurate flow meter readings. The weir box therefore must be repaired/replaced.)

**Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing** - 40 CFR Part 122.44(d)(1) requires the Department to assess whether the discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any narrative or numeric water quality criteria. Due to the size and type of the discharge the Department believes that this discharge does not have the potential to cause an instream toxic impact. As a result, testing is not being required at this time.

**Waste Management Zone** - As defined under 10 V.S.A. §1251(16), a waste management zone is “a specific reach of Class B waters designated by a permit to accept the discharge of properly treated wastes that prior to treatment contained organisms pathogenic to human beings. Throughout the receiving waters, water quality criteria must be achieved but increased health risks exist due to the authorized discharge”.

The proposed permit retains the existing waste management zone (WMZ) that extends downstream from the outfall for approximately one mile in the unnamed tributary to Otter Creek.

**Operation, Management, and Emergency Response Plan** – As required by the revisions to 10 V.S.A. Section 1278, promulgated in the 2006 legislative session, Condition I.G. has been included in the proposed permit. This condition requires that Operation, Management and Emergency Response Plans be developed, implemented, and submitted to the Agency for review and approval by *April 30, 2008* (WWTF and pump stations, if applicable) and by *June 30, 2010* (collection system).

**Electric Power Failure** - Within 30 days of the effective date of the permit, the permittee must submit to the Department, updated documentation addressing how the discharge will be handled in the event of an electric power outage. The effluent must receive a minimum of primary treatment (or in the case of ultraviolet light disinfection systems, not less than secondary treatment) plus disinfection.

V. Procedures for Formulation of Final Determinations

The public comment period for receiving comments on this draft permit is from August 21 through September 20, 2007 during which time interested persons may submit their written views on the draft permit. All written comments received by 4:30 PM on September 20, 2007 will be retained by the Department and considered in the formulation of the final determination to issue, deny or modify the draft permit. The period of comment may be extended at the discretion of the Department.

Written comments should be sent to:

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Wastewater Management Division - Sewing Building  
103 South Main Street  
Waterbury, VT 05671-0405

Comments may also be faxed to: 802-241-2596.

Any interested person or groups of persons may request or petition for a public hearing with respect to this draft permit. Any such request or petition for a public hearing shall be filed within the public comment period described above and shall indicate the interest of the party filing such request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

The Department will hold a hearing if there is significant public interest in holding such a hearing. Any public hearing brought in response to such a request or petition will be held in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or other appropriate area, at the discretion of the Department and may, as appropriate, consider related groups of draft permits. Any person may submit oral or written statements and data concerning the draft permit at the public hearing. The Department may establish reasonable limits on the time allowed for oral statements and may require the submission of statements in writing. All statements, comments, and data presented at the public hearing will be retained by the Department and considered in the formulation of the final determination to issue, deny, or modify the draft permit.

The complete application, draft permit, and other information are on file and may be inspected at the VTDEC, Wastewater Management Division, Waterbury Office. Copies will be made at a cost based on the current Secretary of State Official Fee Schedule for Copying Public Records from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The draft permit and fact sheet may also be viewed on the Division's website at [www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/ww/wwmd.cfm](http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/ww/wwmd.cfm) .

*No comments were received during the public notice period.*

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
103 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
WATERBURY, VT 05671-0405

**ORDER No. 3-0293**

**IN THE MATTER OF:     Otter Valley Union High School  
                                 2997 Franklin Street  
                                 Brandon, VT 05733**

*In accordance with the provisions of 10 V.S.A. Section 1272, the Secretary ("Secretary") of the Agency of Natural Resources ("Agency") makes the following:*

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

- A. Otter Valley Union High School ("OVUHS") located on Route 7 South, Brandon, Vermont, owns and operates the OVUHS Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- B. OVUHS is authorized to discharge treated sanitary wastewater to a tributary of Otter Creek under the terms and conditions of Discharge Permit #3-0293.
- C. OVUHS applied for renewal of their discharge permit on January 30, 2007. A review of the Vermont Water Quality Standards (VWQS), effective February 9, 2006, indicated that the previously permitted total residual chlorine (TRC) limit of 1.0 mg/l, instantaneous maximum, does not meet the chlorine criteria in the VWQS. As a result, the renewed permit includes a TRC limit of 0.05 mg/l, instantaneous maximum, and is based on meeting the instream water quality acute and chronic chlorine criteria (0.019 mg/l and 0.011 mg/l respectively) in the VWQS for the protection of aquatic biota.
- D. At present, OVUHS will not be able to meet the permitted 0.05 mg/l TRC limit without the installation of dechlorination or ultraviolet light disinfection.
- E. In addition, the effluent weir box has corroded and effluent is bypassing the weir resulting in inaccurate flow meter readings. As a result, the weekly effluent flow meter calibration checks required by Discharge Permit #3-0293 cannot be conducted. Currently, total daily effluent flow is estimated based on the number of pump cycles set per day for the lagoon pump. The effluent weir box must be repaired/replaced in order to demonstrate the accuracy of the flow meter.

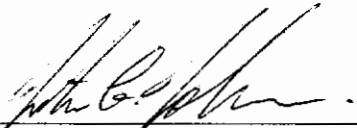


*In accordance with the provisions of 10 V.S.A. Section 1272, the Secretary, based on the findings of fact, hereby issues the following:*

### **ORDER**

1. By no later than **August 31, 2008**, OVUHS shall comply with the permitted TRC limit of 0.05 mg/l, instantaneous maximum, in Discharge Permit #3-0293 by installing dechlorination or ultraviolet light disinfection. Until the installation is complete, OVUHS shall comply with a TRC limit of 1.0 mg/l, instantaneous maximum.
2. By no later than **August 31, 2008**, OVUHS shall complete improvements necessary to accurately measure total daily effluent flow and conduct weekly effluent flow meter calibration checks.
3. By **March 31, 2008**, OVUHS shall submit plans and specifications to the Agency for review and approval of the proposed dechlorination/disinfection system.
4. By **June 30, 2008**, OVUHS shall submit a progress report to the Agency indicating the status of the dechlorination or ultraviolet light disinfection and effluent flow measurement projects. At a minimum the report shall contain the following:
  - a. An evaluation of whether OVUHS is on schedule in its efforts to comply with the August 31, 2008 date for completion of the projects; and
  - b. If OVUHS is not on schedule to comply with the August 31, 2008 compliance date, a detailed description of the steps OVUHS intends to take to meet this compliance date.
5. The State of Vermont and the Agency of Natural Resources reserve continuing jurisdiction to ensure future compliance with all statutes, rules, and regulations applicable to the facts set forth above.
6. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as having relieved, modified, or in any manner affected OVUHS's on-going obligation to comply with all other federal, state, or local statutes applicable to OVUHS nor does it relieve OVUHS of the obligation to obtain all necessary federal, state, and local permits.
7. This Order is not a resolution of any enforcement action that may be pending, contemplated, or initiated in these matters.

8. Pursuant to 10 V.S.A. Chapter 220, any appeal of this Order must be filed with the clerk of the Environmental Court with 30 days of the date of this Order. For further information, see the Vermont Rules for Environmental Court Proceedings, available on line at [www.vermontjudiciary.org](http://www.vermontjudiciary.org). The address of the Environmental Court is 225 North Main Street, Suite 1, Barre, VT 05641 (Tel # 802-479-4487).
9. The reports referenced in Conditions 3. and 4. above shall be submitted to:  
  
Agency of Natural Resources  
Wastewater Management Division  
Sewing Building, 103 South Main Street  
Waterbury, VT 05671-0405
10. This Order shall be effective upon the date of signing and shall remain in effect until such time the activities governed under this Order are completed or until such time the Agency rescinds this Order or issues a subsequent Order, which ever occurs first.

  
Justin G. Johnson, Acting Commissioner  
Department of Environmental Conservation

Date 9/21/2007