

April 19, 2001 (date corrected from original)

Status of Performance Evaluation – CSO Basins in Oakland County, Wayne County and the City of Detroit

I. Introduction

Good morning your Honor, Dr. Bulkley, and Mr. Moon. Today, Ed Kluitenberg of the RPO and I will discuss the status of the performance evaluation for the CSO Retention Treatment Basins (RTBs) in Oakland County, Wayne County and the City of Detroit. Significant progress has been made in the CSO RTB evaluation. The RTB communities and their consultants, RPO, the counties, and the MDEQ continue to cooperate effectively. I will begin the presentation with an overview of the current evaluation status. Ed Kluitenberg will then present a series of slides that convey some important technical details, and then I will conclude with a discussion of future important items of the evaluation.

As reported to you on September 12, 2000, the MDEQ agrees that the evaluation data demonstrate that the three Oakland County and three Wayne County CSO RTBs eliminate raw sewage and protect public health (phase II requirements), across the range of storms monitored, when operated correctly. Visual observations and a representative study using effluent nets have shown that these RTBs remove identifiable sanitary trash and solids (therefore eliminate raw sewage). The data also show that in order to effectively meet the fecal coliform requirement (public health protection), Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) needs to be above the 1 mg/l goal in the NPDES permits (in the range of 1 – 1.5 mg/l generally). Phase II requirements are contained in the *Criteria for Success in CSO Treatment* document, dated August 11, 1998. The Oakland County RTBs are Acacia Park, Birmingham, and Bloomfield Village. The Wayne County RTBs are Inkster, Redford Township, and Dearborn Heights. Routine meetings continue to be held with the DWSD to review on-going RTB evaluation data from the three Detroit CSO RTBs (Hubbell-Southfield, Puritan-Fenkell, and Seven Mile), as required by the Second Amended Consent Judgement. The DWSD RTB data reviewed to date appears to be similar to the data collected from the other six CSO RTBs, and indicate compliance with phase II requirements. The CSO Workgroup will shortly release a report on the ability of the six Oakland County and Wayne County RTBs to meet phase II requirements.

Phase III requirements are also specified in the *Criteria for Success* document, and call for RTB discharge to meet state water quality standards at the time of discharge. Phase III requirements call for RTB discharge to meet the dissolved oxygen standard (part 4 rule 64), the physical characteristics standard (part 4 rule 50), the TRC standard (part 4 rule 82), and uses the health of the biological community as a surrogate for compliance with toxic pollutant discharge (part 4 rule 57). For the three Oakland County basins, the Stream Data Committee believes that all but the TRC requirement has been satisfied for phase III. Please note that TRC levels will need to be evaluated to determine if they are acceptable, and then addressed as needed for all RTBs to ensure that state water quality standards will be met. The MDEQ has yet to formally notified Oakland County of this phase III determination in writing. We will do so shortly. Other RTB evaluations for compliance with all phase III requirements are on-going.

II. Technical Overview (Ed Kluitenberg, RPO)

Please see additional handouts

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III. Future Actions

During the spring and summer of 2001, the following actions are planned to be completed for the RTB evaluations and Rouge CSO program.

- The nine RTBs will be set to a common basis to verify the relative sizing of the facilities (CSO Workgroup).
- The phase II summary report will be distributed (CSO Workgroup).
- Special studies at the Inkster RTB (reduced detention time to evaluate disinfection ability), Redford RTB (the ability of the swirl concentrator to remove pollutants and allow for disinfection), and Bloomfield Village RTB (reduced detention time to evaluate disinfection ability) will be reported.
- CSO Workgroup will analyze RTB features for use in the next round of CSO facilities, as necessary.
- The routine RTB meetings to evaluate the DWSD RTBs will continue. The DWSD evaluation reports are due November 1, 2001.
- The feasibility reports for the planned improvements to address the remaining untreated CSOs in Wayne County (Redford, Inkster, Dearborn Heights) will be submitted during May 2001 (the communities).
- The Stream Data Workgroup will continue to evaluate the ability of the existing RTBs to meet phase III requirements (comply with water quality standards).
- MDEQ will continue to review the proposed Dearborn Flow-through-tunnel project.
- MDEQ will continue to work with DWSD on their proposed capture tunnel.
- Predictive models will be established and run to estimate if the proposed next set of CSO facilities are likely to comply with the state dissolved oxygen standard. These results will then be reviewed by the Stream Data Committee for possible concurrence.
- The Wayne County NPDES permits that address CSO discharges will have to be reissued by September 30, 2001.

-SE Michigan District Office, MDEQ – Surface Water Quality Division