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ELIZABETH S. BISER

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RICHARD E. ROGERS, JR.

Director



NORTH CAROLINA
Environmental Quality

December 21, 2023

CERTIFIED MAIL 7018 3090 0001 2322 5696

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Jennifer Eggerichs
Stone's Throw Homeowners Association
PO Box 690725
Charlotte, NC 28227-7013

**SUBJECT: NPDES Statutory Moratorium
Permit No. NC0070289
Ridgewood Farms at Stones Throw WWTP
Cabarrus County**

Ms. Eggerichs:

The North Carolina Division of Water Resources [hereby known as the Division] has determined that the Ridgewood Farms at Stones Throw Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is unable to consistently and adequately treat wastewater the facility is receiving. This determination is based upon (1) an analysis of data provided by your firm on monthly self-monitoring reports; (2) the results of on-site inspections of the WWTP; (3) failure to comply with NPDES Permit condition A. (3.) Engineering Assessment [NCGS 143-215.1 (b)] to evaluate the structural integrity and operational efficiency of subject wastewater treatment facility.

A review of self-monitoring data submitted to the Division indicates a trend and frequency of effluent limit violations (ref.: Attached MR). Based on this data there are issues associated with the existing treatment facility and its ability to consistently treat wastewater as required by NPDES permit NC0070289.

[See Attached Monitoring Report (MR) Violations for November 2018 through October 2023.]

The last three (3) inspections of the subject WWTP have shown the facility noncompliant with permit NC0070289. During the most recent inspection on October 24, 2023, Division personnel discovered unsafe conditions at the WWTP from two large trees that have been girdled and left standing dead next to the treatment plant. Trees pose a danger of falling and damaging treatment plant and/or injuring treatment plant operators. Special NPDES permit condition in Part I, A. (3) requires a North Carolina Licensed Professional Engineer to evaluate the structural integrity and operational efficiency of the WWTP. This requirement has not been accomplished



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during the last permit cycle from effective date April 1, 2020, through expiration on November 30, 2023. The permit had a completion date to perform the Engineer Evaluation of October 31, 2020.

North Carolina General Statute 145-215.67 (a) states, in part that "no person subject to the provision of NCGS 143-215.1, shall cause or allow the discharge of any wastes to a waste-disposal system in excess of the capacity of the disposal system or of any waste which the waste-disposal system cannot adequately treat." Should these terms be violated, NCGS 143-215.67 states a moratorium can be imposed "on the addition of waste to a treatment works" if the treatment works is not capable of adequately treating additional waste.

Based upon the facts and determination noted above, the Ridgewood Farms at Stones Throw WWTP is hereby placed on a moratorium prohibiting the introduction of any additional wastewater to the collection system tributary to the WWTP. This is to be interpreted as to prohibit the issuance of permits for new sewer lines to be connected to the WWTP, any new tap-on to the existing collection system, and/or the introduction of significant volumes of new wastewater flow via existing taps (subject to the provisions of the statute). This moratorium shall become effective 45 days from your receipt of this letter.

This moratorium will remain in effect until Ridgewood Farms at Stones Throw WWTP is consistently compliant with permit NC0070289 and has obtained written notification from the Division lifting this moratorium.

Correspondence pertaining to this moratorium should be sent to the Division at the address listed at the bottom of the page of this letter. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Regional Operations Section in the Mooresville Regional Office at 704-663-1699 or at andrew.pitner@deq.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Andrew H Pitner
F161F09A2D84A3...

Andrew H. Pitner, Regional Supervisor
Water Quality Regional Operations Section
Mooresville Regional Office
Division of Water Resources, NCDEQ

ATTACHMENT

Cc: Jacob Snyder, Cabarrus County Environmental Health, email:
jacob.snyder@cabarrushealth.org
Matt Love, Cabarrus County Building Inspections, email: tmlove@cabarruscounty.us
Laserfiche
NPDES Compliance/Enforcement Unit - Enforcement Fille



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