

Department of Environmental Quality

Office of Compliance and Enforcement 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600 Portland, OR 97232-4100 (503) 229-5696

FAX (503) 229-5100

May 1, 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL: 7017 1450 0000 8310 4913

Willamette Graystone, LLC c/o Corporate Creations Network, Inc., Registered Agent 5708 SE 136th Ave, Suite 2 Portland, OR 97236

Re:

Notice of Civil Penalty Assessment and Order

Case No. WQ/SW-WR-2020-032

DEQ is committed to balancing its vital obligation to enforce the law and protect the environment with a consideration of the dramatic disruptions to public health and the economy caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. We understand the outbreak may impact your ability to timely appeal, pay the assessed civil penalty, or comply with this order. You may submit to DEQ documentation identifying whether COVID-19-related disruption affects your ability to comply with this order. Visit our webpage https://www.oregon.gov/deq/Pages/covid-19.aspx for more information about documenting specific COVID-19 disruptions your facility may be encountering and how that affects your ability to comply. DEQ will exercise reasonable discretion regarding settlement of this order.

This letter is to inform you that the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has issued Willamette Graystone LLC a civil penalty of \$6,800 for failing to perform all of the required grab sample monitoring during the 2018-2019 monitoring year as required under the NPDES 1200-Z General Permit issued for the facility located at 2190 Hyacinth St. NE, in Salem, Oregon.

DEQ issued this penalty because monitoring is an important condition of the Permit. Monitoring may reveal the presence of harmful levels of pollutants that pose a threat to waters of the state. In addition, monitoring allows permittees and DEQ to gauge the effectiveness of stormwater controls and best management practices at reducing levels of pollutants in discharges.

If you wish to appeal this matter, DEQ must receive a request for a hearing within 20 calendar days from your receipt of this letter. <u>The hearing request must be in writing</u>. Send your request to DEQ Office of Compliance and Enforcement:

Via mail – 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232 Via email – DEQappeals@deq.state.or.us Via fax – 503-229-5100

Once DEQ receives your request, we will arrange to meet with you to discuss this matter. If DEQ does not receive a timely written hearing request, the penalty will become due. Alternatively, you can pay the penalty by sending a check or money order to the above address.

The attached Notice further details DEQ's reasons for issuing the penalty and provides further instructions for appealing the penalty. <u>Please review and refer to it when discussing this case with DEQ</u>.

DEQ may allow you to resolve part of your penalty through the completion of a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP). SEPs are environmental improvement projects that you sponsor instead of paying a penalty. Further information is available by calling the number below or at http://www.oregon.gov/deg/regulations/pages/sep.aspx

DEQ's rules are available at http://www.oregon.gov/deq/Regulations/Pages/administrative-rules.aspx or by calling the number below.

If you have any questions, please contact Courtney Brown at 503-229-6839 or toll free in Oregon at 800-452-4011, extension 6839.

Sincerely,

Kieran O'Donnell, Manager

Office of Compliance and Enforcement

Enclosures

cc:

Jill Seale, DEQ, Western Region Zach Loboy, DEQ, Western Region

Accounting, DEQ

1	BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION
2	OF THE STATE OF OREGON
3	IN THE MATTER OF: NUMBER OF CHARLES OF CHAR
4	WILLAMETTE GRAYSTONE, LLC,) NOTICE OF CIVIL PENALTY INC., a limited liability corporation,) ASSESSMENT AND ORDER
5	Respondent.) CASE NO. WQ/SW-WR-2020-032
6	I. AUTHORITY
7	The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) issues this Notice of Civil Penalty Assessment
8	and Order (Notice) pursuant to Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 468.100, ORS 468.126 through 468.140,
9	ORS Chapter 183, ORS Chapter 468B, and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) Chapter 340, Divisions
10	011, 012, and 045.
11	II. FINDINGS OF FACT
12	1. Respondent is registered under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
13	1200-Z Permit (the "Permit") for the facility located at 2190 Hyacinth St, NE, in Salem, Oregon (the
14	Facility).
15	2. Schedule B, condition 2(f) of the Permit requires permittees to monitor for benchmark
16	pollutants four times per monitoring year, with two samples taken between January 1 and June 30, and
17	two samples between July 1 and December 31.
18	3. During the 2018-2019 monitoring year, Respondent failed to complete monitoring of
19	one monitoring event for oil and grease at outfall 001.
20	III. CONCLUSIONS
21	Respondent has violated ORS 468B.025(2) and Schedule B, condition 2(f) of the Permit by
22	failing to perform one instance of benchmark monitoring during the 2018-2019 monitoring year. This is a
23	Class I violation pursuant to OAR 340-012-0055(1)(o). DEQ hereby assesses a \$6,800 civil penalty for
24	this violation.
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26	
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IV. ORDER TO PAY CIVIL PENALTY

Based upon the foregoing FINDINGS OF FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS, Respondent is hereby ORDERED TO: Pay a total civil penalty of \$6,800. The determination of the civil penalty is attached as Exhibit 1 and is incorporated as part of this Notice.

If you do not file a request for hearing as set forth in Section V below, your check or money order must be made payable to "State Treasurer, State of Oregon" and sent to the DEQ, Business Office, 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232. Once you pay the penalty, the Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order become final.

V. NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING

You have a right to a contested case hearing on this Notice, if you request one in writing. DEQ must receive your request for hearing within 20 calendar days from the date you receive this Notice. If you have any affirmative defenses or wish to dispute any allegations of fact in this Notice or attached exhibit, you must do so in your request for hearing, as factual matters not denied will be considered admitted, and failure to raise a defense will be a waiver of the defense. (See OAR 340-011-0530 for further information about requests for hearing.) You must send your request to: DEQ, Office of Compliance and Enforcement, 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232, fax it to 503-229-5100, or email it to DEQappeals@deq.state.or.us. An administrative law judge employed by the Office of Administrative Hearings will conduct the hearing, according to ORS Chapter 183, OAR Chapter 340, Division 011 and OAR 137-003-0501 to 0700. You have a right to be represented by an attorney at the hearing, however you are not required to be. If you are an individual, you may represent yourself. If you are a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, unincorporated association, trust or government body, you must be represented by an attorney or a duly authorized representative, as set forth in OAR 137-003-0555.

Active duty Service members have a right to stay proceedings under the federal Service Members Civil Relief Act. For more information contact the Oregon State Bar at 1-800-452-8260, the Oregon Military Department at 503-584-3571, or the nearest United States Armed Forces Legal Assistance Office through http://legalassistance.law.af.mil. The Oregon Military

Department does not have a toll free telephone number. If you fail to file a timely request for hearing, the Notice will become a final order by default without further action by DEQ, as per OAR 340-011-0535(1). If you do request a hearing but later withdraw your request, fail to attend the hearing or notify DEQ that you will not be attending the hearing, DEQ will issue a final order by default pursuant to OAR 340-011-0535(3). DEQ designates the relevant portions of its files, including information submitted by you, as the record for purposes of proving a prima facie case. 5/1/2020 Kieran O'Donnell, Manager Office of Compliance and Enforcement

EXHIBIT

FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION OF RESPONDENT'S CIVIL PENALTY PURSUANT TO OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULE (OAR) 340-012-0045

<u>VIOLATION</u>: Violating ORS 468B.025(2) and Schedule B, condition 2(f) of the

Permit by failing to monitor for total oil and grease one time during

the 2018-2019 monitoring year.

<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>: This is a Class I violation pursuant to OAR 340-012-0055(1)(o).

MAGNITUDE: The magnitude of the violation is moderate pursuant to OAR 340-

012-0130(1), as there is no selected magnitude specified in OAR 340-012-0135 applicable to this violation, and the information reasonably available to DEQ does not indicate a minor or major

magnitude.

<u>CIVIL PENALTY FORMULA</u>: The formula for determining the amount of penalty of each

violation is: $BP + [(0.1 \times BP) \times (P + H + O + M + C)] + EB$

"BP" is the base penalty, which is \$4,000 for a Class I, moderate magnitude violation in the matrix listed in OAR 340-012-0140 (3)(b)(A)(ii) and applicable pursuant to OAR 340-012-0140 (3)(a)(E)(iii) because Respondent has coverage under an NPDES General Permit.

- "P" is whether Respondent has any prior significant actions, as defined in OAR 340-012-0030(19), in the same media as the violation at issue that occurred at a facility owned or operated by the same Respondent, and receives a value of 3 according to OAR 340-012-0145(2)(a)(C) because Respondent has two prior significant actions: EEO #2015-EEO-1015 which included one class I violation and case no: WQ/SW-WR-2018-138 which includes one class I violation.
- "H" is Respondent's history of correcting prior significant actions, and receives a value of 0 according to OAR 340-012-0145(3)(c) because there is insufficient information on which to base a finding under paragraphs (3)(a) or (b).
- "O" is whether the violation was repeated or ongoing, and receives a value of 2 according to OAR 340-012-0145(4)(a) because there was only one occurrence of the violation.
- "M" is the mental state of the Respondent, and receives a value of 4 according to OAR 340-012-0145(5)(c), because Respondent's conduct was negligent. Respondent applied for coverage under the Permit and has a copy of the Permit, which expressly requires Respondent to perform four instances of benchmark monitoring during the monitoring year. Respondent was informed by correspondence that the sampling it performed on 10/31/2018 was invalid yet Respondent did not perform additional sampling to make up for the invalid sample. By failing to perform all of the required monitoring, Respondent failed to take reasonable care to avoid a foreseeable risk that it would violate the Permit and Oregon law.

- "C" is Respondent's efforts to correct or mitigate the violation, and receives a value of 0 according to OAR 340-012-0145(6)(f) because the violation or the effects of the violation could not be corrected or minimized.
- "EB" is the approximate dollar value of the benefit gained and the costs avoided or delayed as a result of the Respondent's noncompliance. It is designed to "level the playing field" by taking away any economic advantage the entity gained and to deter potential violators from deciding it is cheaper to violate and pay the penalty than to pay the costs of compliance. In this case, "EB" receives a value of \$0. Respondent gained a de minimis economic benefit as a result of this violation.

<u>PENALTY CALCULATION</u>: Penalty = BP + $[(0.1 \times BP) \times (P + H + O + M + C)] + EB$

- $= $4,000 + [(0.1 \times $4,000) \times (3 + 0 + 0 + 4 + 0)] + 0
- $= \$4,000 + (\$400 \times 7) + \$0$
- = \$4,000 + \$2,800 + \$0
- =\$6,800