



City of Chattanooga

Mayor Tim Kelly

October 31, 2024

J.C. Goodwin
Water Enforcement Branch
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
US EPA-Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Re: *United States of America et. al. v. City of Chattanooga, No. 1:12-cv-00245*
Quarterly Report No. 45 – July 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024

Dear Mr. Goodwin:

On behalf of the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee ("City"), and in accordance with the consent decree entered by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee (Southern Division), on April 24, 2013, in the case styled the United States of America et. al. v. City of Chattanooga, No. 1:12-cv-00245 ("Consent Decree"), we are submitting to both the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation ("TDEC") the forty-third quarterly report required pursuant to paragraph 38 of the Consent Decree. This report is also being submitted in accordance with the letter from Denise Diaz, dated September 16, 2013, establishing the dates for reporting under the Consent Decree.

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering such information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Mr. John Goodwin
October 31, 2024
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Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our submittal.

Sincerely,


Mark Heinzer (Oct 29, 2024 14:06 EDT)

Mark Heinzer, P.E.
Administrator, Wastewater Department

Enclosure

cc:

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Chattanooga



Quarterly Report No. 45

July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024

Prepared for

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
and Tennessee Department of Environment and
Conservation**

City of Chattanooga
Wastewater Department
Consent Decree Program
Case No. 1:12-cv-00245

Prepared by

City of Chattanooga
Wastewater Department

Submitted by

Jacobs

Jacobs Engineering Group Inc.
Consent Decree Program Manager

Chattanooga, Tennessee

October 31, 2024

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Ave	Avenue
CD	Consent Decree
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CSO	Combined Sewer Overflow
CSS	Combined Sewer System
Dr	Drive
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
Gal	Gallons
Hrs	Hours
Hwy	Highway
Ln	Lane
MBWWTP	Moccasin Bend Wastewater Treatment Plant
MBEC	Moccasin Bend Environmental Campus
MG	Million Gallons
MH	Manhole
N/A	Not Applicable
No.	Number
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
PS	Pump Station
Rd	Road
SSO	Sanitary Sewer Overflow
St	Street
TDEC	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
Trl	Trail
UNK	Unknown
WCTS	Wastewater Collection and Transmission System
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The City of Chattanooga entered into a consent decree with the United States and the State of Tennessee in the case styled *United States of America et. al. v. City of Chattanooga, No. 1:12-cv-00245* (“CD”), which became effective on April 24, 2013. Pursuant to Section IX, paragraph 38 of the CD, Chattanooga is required to submit reports on a quarterly basis to the Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (“TDEC”). Chattanooga has prepared Quarterly Report No. 45 to satisfy the reporting requirements of the CD. This report is also being submitted in accordance with the letter from Denise Diaz, dated September 16, 2013, establishing the dates for reporting under the CD.

1.2 Requirements

As detailed in Section IX, paragraph 38 of the CD, Chattanooga is required to report the date, time, location, source, estimated duration and volume, and receiving water of the following events:

1. Sanitary sewer overflow (“SSO”) events occurring during the reporting period;
2. Combined sewer overflow (“CSO”) outfall discharges occurring during the reporting period;
and
3. Bypasses at the Moccasin Bend Environmental Campus (“MBEC”) formerly known as Moccasin Bend Wastewater Treatment Plant (“MBWWTP”) occurring during the reporting period.

This information is provided in tabular form in Sections 2.0 – 4.0 of this report.

2.0 SSO Events

For the reporting period of July 1, 2024, through September 30, 2024, Chattanooga experienced the SSOs listed in Table 2-1. An SSO event is defined in paragraph 8.(nn) of the CD as “any discharge of wastewater to waters of the United States or State from Chattanooga’s Sewer System through a point source not permitted in any National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (“NPDES”) permit, as well as any overflow, spill, or release of wastewater to public or private property from the Sewer System that may not have reached waters of the United States or the State, including all building backups.”

The storm event that was produced by Hurricane Helene on September 26-30, 2024, had a total rainfall of 5.14 inches and at its peak produced a total of 4.85 inches in 24-hrs. This event exceeds the 2-year 24-hour design storm event of 3.67 inches as defined in the CD. There are 9 SSOs associated with this event, or 53% of the total number of SSOs in this quarter. These SSOs are highlighted in gray in Table 2-1.

**Table 2-1
Quarterly SSO Outfall Discharge Report**

July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024									
SSO ID	Start Date	Start Time	Location	Source	MH ID#	Estimated Duration (hrs)	Estimated Volume (gal)	SSO Destination	Cause
1	15-Jul-24	9:30 AM	1073 Enclave Rd	Manhole	S118K158	1.50	450	Storm Ditch	Blockage - Grease
2	23-Jul-24	1:45 PM	5801 Northshore Dr	Manhole	S110M084	1.75	105	Ditch*	Blockage - Trash/Debris
3	14-Aug-24	3:45 PM	200 Manufacturers Rd	Main Line	UNK ¹	52.25	1,500,000	Tennessee River	Break
4	20-Aug-24	3:30 PM	1900 E 25th St Place	Manhole	S156J057	18.00	27,000	Storm Drain	Blockage - Trash/Debris
5	20-Aug-24	7:30 PM	1893 Holly Oak Ln	Other	UNK ¹	2.00	25	Land*	Blockage - Trash/Debris
6	27-Aug-24	3:50 PM	1547 Mercer St	Main Line	UNK ¹	20.77	2,146	Storm Ditch	Blockage - Roots
7	03-Sep-24	5:30 PM	2317 Green Forest Ln	Manhole	S137J020	43.00	25	Storm Drain	Blockage - Gravel
8	06-Sep-24	2:30 PM	4300 Rossville Blvd	Main Line	UNK ¹	2.50	15,000	Storm Ditch	Blockage - Grease
9	27-Sep-24	6:30 AM	929 Riverside Dr (Citico PS)	Manhole	S136P008	26.50	4,770,000	Tennessee River	Station on Bypass - At Capacity
10	27-Sep-24	6:45 AM	3910 Juandale Trail (Friars Branch PS)	Manhole	S137N004	1.25	18,750	South Chickamauga Creek	Power Failure from Power Source
11	27-Sep-24	10:00 AM	511 W 38th St	Manhole	S155N049	4.00	12,000	Storm Drain	Wet Weather
12	27-Sep-24	10:00 AM	5203 Old Mission Rd	Manhole	S157F057	4.75	15,000	Storm Drain	Wet Weather
13	27-Sep-24	10:00 AM	Old Mission Rd	Manhole	S157K056	2.00	6,000	Storm Drain	Wet Weather
14	27-Sep-24	11:00 AM	2500 Robin Glen Dr	Manhole	S139P062	29.00	12,000	Storm Ditch	Wet Weather
15 ²	27-Sep-24	11:00 AM	1820 E 23rd St	Manhole	S156G052	3.50	52,500	Dobbs Branch	Wet Weather

July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024									
SSO ID	Start Date	Start Time	Location	Source	MH ID#	Estimated Duration (hrs)	Estimated Volume (gal)	SSO Destination	Cause
16	27-Sep-24	1:15 PM	7724 Old Lee Hwy	Manhole	S139D002	25.75	154,500	Storm Ditch	Wet Weather
17	30-Sep-24	1:00 PM	2754 Kanasita Dr	Manhole	UNK ¹	UNK ¹	3,273	Storm Ditch	Wet Weather

¹ This information was not available at time of reporting.

² Common cause, within 500 yards of separate event.

* Did not reach waters of the United States.

3.0 Moccasin Bend EC Bypasses

The CD sets forth the same definition for bypass as the EPA's regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m), which defines a bypass as the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. The City's current NPDES permit defines a bypass as the intentional diversion of wastewater away from any portion of a treatment facility other than through peak excess flow treatment facilities or permitted outfalls in accordance with both the long-term control plan and the nine minimum technology-based effluent controls for combined sewer systems. The City reports bypasses and wet weather discharges separately on the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports, as a discharge from the City's permitted wet weather discharge is not a bypass under the City's current NPDES permit. Based on the foregoing, the WWTP experienced no bypasses during the reporting period of July 1, 2024, through September 30, 2024.

4.0 CSO Outfall Discharges

For the reporting period of July 1, 2024, through September 30, 2024, Chattanooga experienced CSO discharges from CSO outfall treatment facilities as listed in Table 4-1. Paragraph 8.(h) of the CD defines a CSO as “any discharge from the CSS from any outfall currently identified, or identified in the future, as a permitted combined sewer overflow outfall in any Chattanooga NPDES permit from which CSOs are discharged to waters of the United States or the State.” The CSS is defined as the portion of Chattanooga’s wastewater collection and transmission system (“WCTS”) designed to convey municipal sewage (domestic, commercial and industrial wastewaters) and storm water runoff through a single-pipe system to Chattanooga’s WWTP or CSO outfalls. Chattanooga operates eight (8) permitted CSO outfall treatment facilities, five (5) of which discharged during the reporting period. We note that all of the CSOs set forth in Table 4-1 were related to the storm event that was produced by Hurricane Helene on September 26-30, 2024.

**Table 4-1
Quarterly CSO Outfall Discharge Report**

July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024						
Start Date	Start Time	Location/Nearest Stream	Duration (hrs)	Volume (MG)	Receiving Water	Cause
27-Sept-24	12:30 AM	19th St CSO (008)	15	23.943218	Tennessee River	Rain Event
27-Sept-24	1:24 AM	Carter St CSO (009)	16.3	31.574458	Tennessee River	Rain Event
27-Sept-24	1:48 AM	Citico CSO (004)	70.2	21.167584	Tennessee River	Rain Event
27-Sept-24	2:08 AM	Central Ave CSO (002)	93.8	42.763990	Tennessee River	Rain Event
27-Sept-24	6:04 AM	Tremont CSO (005)	8.8	2.341802	Tennessee River	Rain Event