

October 2, 2019

Eric Evans
Malheur County Planning Department
251 B Street West, No. 12
Vale, Oregon 97918

RE: Huntington Travel Plaza, Farewell Bend
Wastewater System

Dear Eric:

The purpose of this letter is to provide information to the County regarding the wastewater system at the Huntington Travel Plaza at Farewell Bend, Malheur County, Oregon. This letter is intended to reassure the County that the wastewater system will properly contain and handle wastewater flows for the proposed development in accordance with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requirements. A history of the system is presented, along with the status of the permitting process and improvements made for the proposed system.

Existing Wastewater System

The existing wastewater system, in place for the truck stop and motel that were formerly present on the site, consisted of standard wastewater collection piping for the businesses. Wastewater flowed by gravity in the collection system piping to a wastewater lift station. Wastewater was then pumped via a pressure pipeline to the existing lagoon system. The existing lagoons consist of four wastewater cells. All wastewater was stored in the lagoons and disposed of via evaporation.

The proposed Huntington Travel Plaza will operate in the same manner as the prior facility.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Permitting Process

In anticipation of the wastewater needs for the new facility, Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc. (AP) prepared a Water Pollution Control Facilities (WPCF) Permit for the proposed wastewater system. The WPCF Permit was submitted to the DEQ in June 2018 and is currently being processed by the DEQ. AP is working with the DEQ to confirm the number of employees, the anticipated facility wastewater flows, a water balance for the existing lagoon system, and a determination of the number of cells needed for the proposed system. Four lagoon cells exist, and it is likely all four cells will not be needed for the system.

The WPCF Permit is for year-round operation of the wastewater system. The wastewater system is fully contained, with all wastewater being piped to the storage lagoons where all wastewater is stored and disposed of via evaporation. There is no discharge of wastewater.

Proposed Improvements


For the proposed site facilities, consisting of a convenience store/gas station/truck stop, a restaurant, a truck repair facility, and a future motel, all wastewater is routed to a new wastewater collection system main line that routes wastewater via gravity flow to the existing lift station. The lift station pumps wastewater via a pressure pipe to the existing lagoon system. At this time, AP is working with the DEQ to determine how many of the cells need to be utilized to properly contain the wastewater so adequate evaporation can occur. The anticipated wastewater flows are being calculated and a water balance is being prepared to confirm the number of cells needed. The Huntington Travel Plaza will install liners in the necessary lagoons, in accordance with DEQ guidelines, to keep wastewater from seeping and to contain the wastewater for evaporation. It is currently anticipated that two of the four cells will be needed, but the final number of cells will be confirmed as part of the pending water balance.

Conclusion

The wastewater system will be fully contained, with no seepage or discharge occurring. The WPCF Permit has been prepared and submitted to the DEQ, and additional permit details are being determined in cooperation with the DEQ. At this time, the facility is pending WMCP Permit approval with the DEQ. If you have any questions concerning the proposed wastewater system for the Huntington Travel Plaza, please feel free to call at 541-963-8309.

Sincerely,

ANDERSON PERRY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

By 
Brad D. Baird, P.E.

BDB/jg

cc: Joseph Alee, Huntington Travel Plaza
File No. 1199-678-02