

*This permit is granted in accordance with the referenced documents in Part I, and subject to the terms and conditions specified in Parts II and III of this permit as follows:*

**Part I: Referenced Documents - Permit application, plans, specifications, and other pertinent documents submitted to the Department:**

1. Sewage Sludge Utilization (SSU) Permit Application for treatment of sewage sludge and supporting documents submitted by the commissioners of Aberdeen, dated November 21, 1990 and received on December 5, 1990.
2. Correspondence, blueprints, topographic map, Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Manual, 100-year floodplain map, and tax plat submitted by Whitman, Requardt & Associates, dated November 19, 1991 and received on November 22, 1991.
3. Facility sizing calculations submitted by Whitman, Requardt & Associates, dated December 20, 1991 and received on December 24, 1991.
4. SSU Distribution Permit Application and supporting documents submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated February 8, 1993 and received on February 24, 1993.
5. Revised SSU Distribution Permit Application, revised distribution label, Department of Agriculture registration certificate and supporting documents describing the facility operations, testing, and reporting process submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated August 5, 1993 and received on August 13, 1993.
6. SSU Treatment Permit Renewal Application submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated February 16, 1995 and received on February 22, 1995.
7. Revised O&M Manual and facility plans submitted by the City of Aberdeen, Department of Public Works (DPW), dated February 1995 and received on February 28, 1995.
8. Revised O&M Manual Page 6-1, dated 6/96, submitted by the City of Aberdeen DPW, dated June 25, 1996 and received on June 28, 1996.
9. SSU Treatment Permit Renewal Application submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated June 4, 1998 and received on June 9, 1998.
10. SSU Distribution Permit Renewal Application and supporting documents submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated December 5, 1998 and received on December 15, 1998.
11. SSU Treatment Permit Modification Application and supporting documents submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated January 16, 2000 and received on February 4, 2000.
12. Additional information pertaining to the sewage spill response plan submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated February 4, 2000 and received on February 15, 2000.

13. SSU Treatment Permit Renewal Application submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated March 1, 2001 and received on March 12, 2001.
14. SSU Distribution Permit Renewal Application and supporting documents submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated December 15, 2003 and received on January 21, 2004.
15. SSU Treatment Permit Renewal Application submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated May 19, 2004 and received on July 20, 2004.
16. SSU Treatment Permit Renewal Application submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated July 30, 2007 and received on August 9, 2007.
17. SSU Distribution Permit Renewal Application and supporting documents submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated April 8, 2009 and received on April 24, 2009.
18. SSU Treatment Permit Renewal Application and supporting documents submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated July 30, 2010 and received on August 30, 2010.
19. SSU Treatment Permit Renewal Application and supporting documents submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated November 10, 2015 and received on November 16, 2015.
20. SSU Treatment Permit Renewal Application submitted by the City of Aberdeen, dated and received electronically on June 9, 2026.

**Part II: Facility Specific Conditions (Applicable to Sewage Sludge Composting and Distribution from In State Facility)**

**A. Composting Authorization:**

1. This permit authorizes only the composting of sewage sludge to be classified as Class A sewage sludge at the Aberdeen Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant Composting Facility (the "Facility") located at 361 Michael Lane, Harford County, Maryland as specified in this Facility's SSU Permit Application and its supporting documents referenced in Part I of this permit.
2. This permit authorizes only the composting of sewage sludge to be classified as Class A sewage sludge with respect to pathogens in accordance with Class A-Alternative 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations 40 CFR 503.32(a)(7). The permittee shall ensure that the sewage sludge generated by the Aberdeen Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and Aberdeen Proving Ground, Aberdeen Area WWTP is treated by a process to Further Reduce Pathogens (PFRPs) by:
  - Composting: utilizing the static aerated pile composting method. The permittee shall ensure that the sewage sludge composting requirements are achieved as follows:

- a. The static aerated piles shall be constructed using a 12-inch bulking agent base, sewage sludge/bulking agent mixture, and a final blanket of 12-inch (1 foot) or greater of finished compost to be placed over all surfaces of the pile;
  - b. The temperature of the sewage sludge compost shall be maintained throughout the pile at 55°C (131°F) or greater for three (3) consecutive days or longer. During this process, the permittee shall insure that temperature profiles from every monitoring point throughout the mass of the pile mixture including toes of the piles meet or exceed the 55°C (131°F). The temperature of the pile should be monitored at multiple points at a range of depths throughout the composting medium including the toes of piles;
  - c. The composting process shall be followed by a minimum of eleven (11) consecutive days during which temperature throughout the mass of the sewage sludge profile is measured at over 40°C (104°F) with an average temperature of over 45°C (113°F);
  - d. The piles shall clearly be marked for identification including, at a minimum, the pile designation and construction date;
  - e. Records shall be maintained showing the amount of sewage sludge utilized in constructing each pile, the amount and type of bulking agent mixed with the sewage sludge, the date of construction, daily oxygen readings, daily temperature readings, date of pile tear-down, and descriptions of problems encountered and their solutions;
  - f. Once the sewage sludge piles achieved the pathogen and vector attraction reduction requirements, a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days curing period shall be achieved prior to the distribution of the finished compost so that the piles are no longer self-heating, and to allow for further reduction of volatile solids and odor potential;
  - g. The finished compost and curing piles shall be managed onsite in accordance with this facility's SSU Permit Application and its supporting documents referenced in Part I of this permit. The finished compost and curing piles shall be limited to a maximum height of 12 feet; and
  - h. Microbiological testing shall be conducted at the end of the curing process when compost is prepared for distribution. Compost which is stored on site for extended periods of time until it can be distributed shall be retested for compliance with the microbiological limits when it is to be disposed of.
3. Woodchips, sawdust, bark, and recycled compost may be used as bulking agents during the composting process.

4. The permittee shall not add additional sewage sludge sources, bulking agents, or any other amendment to the composting operation without prior written approval of the Department.

**B. Sampling and Analysis Requirements:**

1. The permittee shall analyze the Class A sewage sludge compost for constituents specified in Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.04.06.06A(2) including testing for *perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)* as directed using standard methods approved by the Department. Representative samples of the Class A sewage sludge compost that is generated by the Facility and is intended for distribution in Maryland shall be collected individually from the cured pile(s). A composite of the collected samples shall be formed and analyzed for the constituents listed in this Site Specific Condition in accordance with COMAR 26.04.06.06B at a frequency of once every quarter (four times every year).
2. All test results for nutrients, metals, and PCBs shall be reported in units of milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg), parts per million (ppm), or percent (%) on a dry weight basis.
3. The permittee shall monitor or analyze the Class A treatment process for temperature and oxygen of each active compost row or pile at minimum once a day; bulk density on finished compost to be performed twice a year (during summer and winter months); % total solids on bulking agent, composting mix, and finished compost formed per batch/pile, at points specified in the approved O&M Manual, or as determined by the Department.
4. The permittee shall analyze the Class A sewage sludge for pathogens once every quarter and prior to distribution as follows: A single grab of Class A sewage sludge representative of each end-product generated by the Facility shall be analyzed to demonstrate that either the density of fecal coliforms in the sewage sludge is less than 1,000 Most Probable Number (MPN) per gram total solids (dry weight basis), or the density of *Salmonella* sp. bacteria in the sewage sludge is less than 3 MPN per 4 grams total solids (dry weight basis) at the time the sewage sludge is used or disposed, at the time the sewage sludge is prepared for sale or give away in a bag or other container for land application, or at the time the sewage sludge or material derived from the sewage sludge is prepared to meet the requirements in 40 CFR Part 503.10(b), 503.10(c), 503.10(e), 503.10(f).
5. The sampling, sample handling, and analyses of analytical constituents required in this permit shall be performed in accordance with Code of Federal Regulations 40 CFR Part 503, which requires that testing for inorganic constituents be done in accordance with the most recent edition of the "Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods", EPA Publication SW-846. This publication lists procedures for sample handling and preservation, and categorizes the inorganic analytes as aqueous and solid samples. Aqueous samples are required to be preserved, while solid samples do not need to be preserved. The SW-846 does not define what is considered an aqueous sample as

opposed to a solid sample. Sewage sludge sample that is less than one percent solids is considered to be a liquid. The liquid sample may be preserved in the lab, and any cooling of the sample is optional when it comes to analysis for the inorganic analytes.

6. All sample analyses shall be performed by an independent laboratory or another laboratory acceptable by the Department, using standards, procedures, and methods that are acceptable to the Department.
7. If analytical results for samples collected from the sewage sludge generated at this facility exceed the allowable levels or other health standard, the permittee shall notify the Department at (410) 537-3315 within 24 hours of receipt of the analytical data indicating this occurrence.
8. Upon detection of an exceedance of an allowable level or other health standard, the permittee shall investigate this exceedance within 48 hours following notification of the permittee of the exceedance of the standard by the analytical laboratory performing the original analysis of the sample which indicated the exceedance. The permittee shall also reanalyze within 7 calendar days the sewage sludge that exceeded the allowable level or other health standard to verify the initial detection.
9. At its discretion, the Department reserves the right to have the permittee reanalyze the sewage sludge compost, utilizing two non affiliated laboratories recommended by the Department, to perform the analysis on a single grab split sample of the sewage sludge compost.

**C. Distribution Authorization:**

1. The permittee is authorized to distribute the Class A sewage sludge compost as specified in this facility's SSU Permit Application and its supporting documents referenced in Part I of this permit.
2. This permit authorizes only the distribution in Maryland of composted sewage sludge classified as Class A sewage sludge, known as "ABERDEEN'S ABERGREEN COMPOST", generated at the Facility that has been composted in accordance with Site Specific Condition A.2 of this permit.
3. Class A sewage sludge to be distributed shall be free of liquid, will not cause undue risk to the environment or public health, safety, or welfare as may be determined by the Department, or in a manner that causes or likely to cause a discharge of constituents to the waters of the State. Also, Class A sewage sludge must be accompanied by labeling information representing end product generated by the Facility and approved in writing by the Department. Any changes to the label(s) should be approved in writing by the Department prior to adaptation.
4. Any contract entered into between the permittee or its agents and dealers to market or redistribute the ABERDEEN'S ABERGREEN COMPOST Class A treated sewage

sludge shall contain provisions which assure compliance with the labeling instructions for use and related warnings, and with all conditions of this permit including specific provisions requiring a marketing log of all initial sales of the product made by the permittee and labeling of the material.

5. Class A sewage sludge intended for distribution in Maryland shall not exceed the following concentrations of constituents on a dry weight basis:

| <u>Constituent</u> | <u>Monthly Average Concentrations</u><br><u>(milligrams per kilogram)</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Arsenic (As)       | 41                                                                        |
| Cadmium (Cd)       | 39                                                                        |
| Copper (Cu)        | 1,500                                                                     |
| Lead (Pb)          | 300                                                                       |
| Mercury (Hg)       | 17                                                                        |
| Nickel (Ni)        | 420                                                                       |
| Selenium (Se)      | 100                                                                       |
| Zinc (Zn)          | 2,800                                                                     |
| PCBs               | 10                                                                        |

**D. Hours of Construction and Operation:**

1. The permittee may construct and operate this Facility during daylight only between the hours of 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM, Monday through Friday. These specified hours may be changed upon written approval by the Department. For approval, a letter requesting the change of hours and a letter from the appropriate local government office stating that the change is consistent with local zoning and land use requirements must be submitted with such a request.
2. A statement of the days and hours of operation shall be posted at the entrance to this Facility. The posting shall also include a statement restricting non Facility personal from accessing the composting areas.
3. Emergency conditions or unusual circumstances which require the performance of the activities which are authorized under D.1, after hours, shall be reported to the Department at (410) 537-3315 during normal business hours, or via the Department's Emergency Network at (866) 633-4686 at other times.

**Part III: General Conditions (Applicable to Sewage Sludge Composting and Handling-Distribution From In State Facility)**

**A. Property Rights:**

The issuance of this permit does not intend to convey any property rights in either real or personal property, or any exclusive privilege or franchise, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of federal, State or local laws or regulations.

**B. Suspension or Revocation:**

1. This permit may be suspended or revoked upon a final, unreviewable determination that the permittee lacks, or is in violation of, any federal, State or local approval necessary to conduct the activity authorized by this permit.
2. The Department may suspend, revoke, or modify this permit in whole or part, if the Department finds that:
  - a. The application contained false or inaccurate information;
  - b. There has been a substantial deviation from:
    - i. The documents accepted by the Department as part of this permit application; or
    - ii. Any requirement established by the Department;
  - c. A representative of the Department has been denied entry to any area in which activities regulated by this permit are conducted or to any documents required to be maintained by this permit;
  - d. There is or has been a violation of the terms and conditions of this permit or any applicable State law or regulation; or
  - e. There is any other good cause.

3. The provisions of this permit are severable. If any provision of this permit shall be held invalid for any reason, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect. If the application of any provision of this permit for any circumstance is held invalid, its application to other circumstances shall not be affected.

**C. Civil or Criminal Liability:**

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action nor relieve the permittee from civil or criminal responsibilities and/or penalties for non-compliance with Title 9 of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, or any federal, local or other State laws or regulations.

**D. Facility Operations:**

1. The permittee shall operate this facility in accordance with this facility's SSU Permit Application and its supporting documents referenced in Part I of this permit.
2. The permittee shall operate this facility in a manner as to prevent public health hazards, environmental degradation, or health nuisance conditions.
3. The permittee shall clearly identify any sewage sludge that fails to meet the standards established in this permit and identified in this facility's SSU Permit Application and its supporting documents referenced in Part I of this permit. The permittee shall either recycle this sewage sludge into the process for further composting or remove and handle this sewage sludge in accordance with a separate SSU Permit, and the following:
  - a. The sewage sludge generated shall not be utilized at this facility without a SSU Permit issued by the Department that authorizes all sewage sludge utilization activities; and
  - b. The permittee shall submit to the Department a written report within five working days following the removal of any sewage sludge generated during emergency conditions that did not meet the treatment standards set by this permit. The written report shall include, but not limited to, the dates the sewage sludge was generated and removed from this facility, the quantity of sewage sludge removed, the destination and final utilization of the sewage sludge; and actions implemented to handle the sewage sludge that did not meet the treatment standards set by this permit.
4. Composted sewage sludge authorized for distribution in Maryland may not be mixed with other materials without a SSU Permit issued by the Department that authorizes this activity.

5. The permittee shall control the dispersion of odors, prevent infestation by insects, rodents, or other vectors at this facility in accordance with this facility's SSU Permit Application and its supporting documents referenced in Part I of this permit. If applicable, the permittee shall maintain the sewage sludge loading and unloading areas in a sanitary condition, including washing and cleaning, as is necessary to control nuisance odors off-site. In the event of odor problems, the permittee shall take immediate steps as directed by the Department to alleviate the condition. The immediate steps may include, but are not limited to, additional liming and obtaining and maintaining a SSU Permit to transport the sewage sludge from this facility. Such a permit must be obtained before the sewage sludge may be transported from this facility.
6. The permittee shall control public access to this facility.
7. The permittee shall maintain a 1,000 foot buffer zone between the sewage sludge composting area and the nearest inhabited off-site dwelling.
8. The permittee shall inspect all structural components of this composting facility for degradation and damages and repair or replace as required.
9. The permittee shall employ additional sediment and erosion control measures at this facility, if required by the Department.
10. The permittee shall regularly wash and maintain all equipment used at this facility in a clean manner in order to avoid movement of sewage sludge or composted sewage sludge from this facility. The permittee shall maintain this facility and the surrounding road surfaces in a clean manner at all times.
11. The permittee shall maintain all equipment used for controlling dust generated during the sewage sludge composting process in good working condition at all times. Should failure in the system occurs, the permittee shall contact the Department to report the situation and the permittee's plan of action.
12. The permittee shall ensure that the construction, operation, and maintenance of any required air quality and odor control systems are in compliance with all applicable rules and regulations and valid permits issued by the Department. Should any of these systems fail or shutdown for a long period of time, other than for routine maintenance; the permittee shall contact the Department to report the situation and the permittee's plan of action.
13. The permittee shall repair or replace equipment as required. The permittee shall obtain substitute equipment when breakdown or maintenance renders essential operating equipment inoperative for a period in excess of 24 hours during days of operation.

14. Any modification to this facility or its operating plans must be approved in writing by the Department prior to implementation. Modifications include, but are not limited to, any changes that alter a significant structural feature, operational procedure, element of design, or type of equipment described in this facility's SSU Permit Application and its supporting documents referenced in Part I of this permit.

**E. Air Quality Control:**

If applicable, the permittee shall comply with all of the air emissions standards, provisions, and requirements set forth in this facility's Operating Permit issued by the Department's Air and Radiation Administration.

**F. As-Built Plans:**

The permittee shall submit to the Department a certified copy of the as-built engineering plans and specifications after completion of the construction of structures as specified in this facility's SSU Permit Application and its supporting documents referenced in Part I of this permit.

**G. Ground and Surface Water Monitoring Plan:**

1. Except for a facility that is located within the perimeter of a wastewater treatment plant, the permittee shall monitor the ground and surface waters of the State around and beneath this facility in accordance with a Ground and Surface Water Monitoring (G&SWM) Plan approved by the Department.
2. The permittee shall conduct the G&SWM Plan in accordance with the following:
  - a. The permittee shall arrange for a qualified groundwater scientist to sample, or to oversee qualified environmental technicians who sample the wells in accordance with the following schedule:

Twice annually samples shall be collected and analyzed for the life of this facility for the following constituents and their Practical Quantitation Limits (PQL): pH, alkalinity, ammonia nitrogen, nitrate nitrogen, nitrite nitrogen, chloride, specific conductance, total dissolved solids, total coliforms, fecal coliforms, fecal streptococcus, total phosphorus, total organic carbon, calcium, sulfate, turbidity, barium, cadmium, copper, chromium, mercury, nickel, lead, selenium, zinc, iron, and chemical oxygen demand. The Department may approve an alternative list of constituents or an alternative PQL;

- b. The sampling, sample handling, analyses and reporting of analytical parameters shall be performed in accordance with a G&SWM Plan

approved by the Department;

- c. A qualified independent laboratory certified for water quality analysis by the Department or which is otherwise acceptable to the Department shall perform the analyses;
- d. A qualified groundwater scientist or professional shall evaluate the results and advise the permittee of any changes in water quality or any exceedance of the State and Federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), Action Level or other health standard;
- e. If analytical results for samples collected from any wells associated with the composting facility or surrounding properties exceed MCL, Action Level or other health standard for the first time, the permittee shall notify the Department in writing within 24 hours of receipt of the analytical data detecting this occurrence. Thereafter, if there is any significant increases above the MCL, Action Level, or other health standard, the permittee shall notify the Department in writing within 24 hours of receipt of the analytical data detecting this occurrence;
- f. Upon detection of the exceedance of an MCL, Action Level or other health standard for the first time, the permittee shall immediately resample the monitoring point(s) in which the standard was exceeded to verify the initial detection. This resampling shall occur as soon as possible, and no later than 30 days following notification of the permittee of the exceedance of the standard by the analytical laboratory performing the analysis of the sample which indicated the exceedance;
- g. Upon detection of the exceedance of an MCL, Action Level or other health standard after the resampling has taken place, the permittee shall immediately provide the Department with a plan of action to investigate and verify the source of contamination, and solutions to stop further contamination;
- h. All "J" values must be reported. "J" values are analytical results that are below the PQL but can be estimated; and
- i. The requirements of 40 CFR §258 subpart E concerning groundwater monitoring and remediation shall be followed to the satisfaction of the Department.

## **H. Liquids Management:**

- 1. Under no circumstances may any collected contaminated liquids be discharged by any means, except to the sanitary sewerage system or any permitted composting

facility, without written authorization from the Department. Any discharge to a sanitary sewerage system shall comply with the applicable provisions of the State's pre-treatment program, as described in COMAR 26.08.08.

2. Stormwater management at this facility shall be in accordance with the requirements of COMAR 26.17.02. Any point source discharge of pollutants to waters of the State is prohibited unless permitted by the Department.

**I. Pollution Monitoring and Control Device Requirements:**

1. All pollution control and ground and surface water monitoring systems (including stormwater management and sediment control systems) shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and plans and specifications identified in this facility's SSU Permit Application and its supporting documents referenced in Part I of this permit. All pollution control and ground and surface water monitoring systems shall remain operational and shall be maintained in accordance with the provisions of this facility's SSU Permit Application and its supporting documents referenced in Part I of this permit.
2. Any incidence of damage to this facility's monitoring or pollution control systems shall be reported to the Department at (410) 537-3315 within two hours of the incident, or within two hours of the discovery of the damage if the damage occurred outside of working hours. All repairs needed to correct the damage shall be completed as soon as practical or as specified by the Department.
3. During construction and operation of this facility, the sediment and stormwater basins shall be cleaned out whenever (a) a clean-out elevation is reached; (b) construction is completed; (c) the amount of sediment reaches 50% capacity, and/or (d) as specified by the approved Sediment and Erosion Control Plan.

**J. Roads:**

The permittee shall provide all-weather access roads to this facility and to all required pollution control and monitoring systems and devices. Roads shall be maintained in such a manner so as to prevent the tracking of sewage sludge or soil onto any public road and/or to cause a public nuisance. If necessary, vehicles shall be cleaned prior to leaving this facility. Additional actions or facilities may be required at the discretion of the Department in order to control tracking of sewage sludge or soil.

**K. Controlled Access:**

Access to this facility shall be controlled at all times. Gates, fencing, and other ingress/egress controls around the perimeter of this facility shall be adequate to control access when this facility is not in operation. All gates shall be locked when this facility is

unattended. Access shall be limited to those times when authorized personnel are on duty at this facility.

**L. Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements:**

1. The permittee shall maintain all records required by this permit for a period of five years after the generation of the records. The records shall include, but not limited to, the following:
  - a. **An Annual Report.** The permittee shall submit to the Department an Annual Report regarding the activities of this facility for each calendar year ending December 31. The permittee shall submit the Annual Report to the Department by **February 15** of the following year on the form provided by the Department. The Annual Report shall include, but not limited to:
    - i. The sources, types, and quantity including documentation, of sewage sludge received and composted at this facility;
    - ii. The sewage sludge composting methods;
    - iii. Process monitoring and operating information demonstrating that the composted sewage sludge meets the requirements as specified in this permit;
    - iv. The quantity, including documentation, of composted and uncomposted sewage sludge transported or distributed from this facility;
    - v. The dates of transportation and distribution of the composted and uncomposted sewage sludge from this facility;
    - vi. The destinations and final utilization of the composted and uncomposted sewage sludge from this facility;
    - vii. The time periods during which this facility is inoperational;
    - viii. Descriptions of problems encountered and their solutions;
    - ix. Other related information regarding this facility as required by this permit; and
    - x. Other information requested by the Department;
  - b. **An Annual Generator Report.** The permittee shall submit to the Department an Annual Generator Report for each calendar year ending

December 31. The permittee shall submit the Annual Generator Report to the Department by **January 31** of the following year on the form provided by the Department;

- c. **Sewage Sludge Analysis Reports.** The permittee shall submit to the Department Sewage Sludge Analysis reports for the sewage sludge chemical quality for constituents listed in COMAR 26.04.06.13F(1) or an alternate list approved by the Department. The Sewage Sludge Analysis reports shall be submitted to the Department in accordance with a frequency as specified in COMAR 26.04.06.13F(2), or an alternate frequency approved by the Department. The Sewage Sludge Analysis reports shall include, but not limited to, a summary of the results of laboratory analysis including copies of all analysis of chemical quality of the composted sewage sludge generated at this facility for all constituents listed in this permit. In the event that a constituent exceeded the allowable level, a discussion or explanation of the exceedance shall be included; and
- d. **A Semiannual Water Quality Report.** If required, the permittee shall submit to the Department a Semiannual Water Quality Report **within ninety days** of the close of every first and third calendar quarters unless an alternative schedule is specified in the G&SWM Plan approved by the Department. Sampling shall occur during the period between **January through March and July through September** unless an alternative schedule is specified in the G&SWM Plan approved by the Department. The Semiannual Water Quality Report shall include, but not limited to:
  - i. A summary of the results of laboratory analysis including copies of all analysis of water quality of all constituents listed in this permit. In the event that a constituent exceeded the allowable level, a discussion or explanation of the exceedance shall be included;
  - ii. A complete copy of the laboratory data and the qualified groundwater scientist or professional's interpretive findings shall be included in the water quality report referenced in this permit;
  - iii. All data for each well must be summarized and presented in time series format. The data for each well must be presented in a spreadsheet so that the water quality data for each parameter for each well can be observed simultaneously. The discussion should emphasize historical trends in the data;
  - iv. A statistical analysis methods in evaluating groundwater monitoring data;
  - v. A copy of the most current topographic map generated by a survey performed as required in this permit shall be included in each

semiannual report on water quality and shall depict the location of all monitoring wells and piezometers in existence at the time of the survey; and

- vi. A copy of a current groundwater contour map depicting the location of all monitoring wells from which groundwater data is collected shall be included in each semiannual report on water quality. Multiple aquifers shall be depicted on separate groundwater contour maps.
2. The permittee shall submit all reports required by this permit for each year this permit is in effect to:

**Maryland Department of the Environment  
Land and Materials Administration  
Resource Management Program  
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 610  
Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1719**

**M. Transportation:**

1. The permittee is authorized to transport sewage sludge as specified in the SSU Permit Application and its supporting documents referenced in Part I of this permit.
2. Liquid sewage sludge (percent solids less than 15%) may be pumped and transported by pipeline. If liquid sewage sludge is transported by truck, rail, or barge, the permittee shall use closed watertight vessels such as tank trucks and railroad tank cars.
3. Sewage sludge cake (percent solids 15% to 35%) may be transported in watertight boxes, such as dump trucks or dump trailers properly sealed to prevent leaks, or cement transport type vehicles. When sewage sludge cake is transported in dump trucks or dump trailers, the permittee shall comply with the following standards:
  - a. The trucks shall be equipped with splash guards firmly attached horizontally at the front and rear of the trailer;
  - b. Each splash guard shall cover at least 25% of the trailer's open area; and
  - c. A minimum two feet of freeboard shall be maintained between the sewage sludge and the top of the trailer unless the top of the trailer is completely sealed.

4. Dried sewage sludge (percent solids greater than 35%) may be transported in open boxes, such as dump trucks, which are properly sealed to prevent leakage. The permittee shall cover the trucks with tarps or the equivalent.
5. If sewage sludge with percent solids of 20 to 35% is transported in Maryland, the permittee transporting the sewage sludge may elect to modify the manner in which the sewage sludge is transported as follows:
  - a. The permittee shall ensure that the transporting trucks are equipped with metal splash guards firmly welded horizontally to the front and rear body of the trailer. Each splash guard shall cover at least four feet of the length of the trailer. No gaps through which sewage sludge may escape shall exist between the splash guards and the trailer body; and
  - b. A medium to heavy-duty solid vinyl tarp shall cover the open area of the trailer and shall overlap the splash guards horizontally by a minimum of one foot. The tarp shall be drawn tightly across the top of the trailer and be firmly held in place with straps that are attached to ratchets bolted to the trailer. The tarp shall cover the top of the trailer so that there is no vertical gap through which sewage sludge may escape between the tarp and the sides of the trailer, or the tarp and the splash guards. A minimum of two feet of freeboard must still be maintained between the sewage sludge and the top of the transport vehicle if the hauler elects to use the shorter splash guard and tarp.
6. The permittee shall clean the transport vehicle(s) on site to prevent drag-out of dirt or sewage sludge onto public roads. In the event dirt or sewage sludge is tracked onto the roads, the permittee shall immediately initiate clean-up procedures.
7. The permittee shall have available in the cab of each transport vehicle(s) a copy of page one of this SSU Permit, and a copy of the sewage sludge analysis report that was submitted to the Department as part of the application for this permit.

**N. Spill Control:**

1. The permittee shall report to the Department, within one hour of becoming aware of its occurrence, any spills or unauthorized discharges of sewage sludge occurring either in transit or due to site conditions at either (410) 537-3315 during working hours, or at (866) 633-4686 during non-working hours.
2. In the event of a spill, the permittee shall ensure that cleanup procedures are initiated as soon as possible, but no later than two hours after becoming aware of the spill. The permittee shall complete the cleanup to the satisfaction of the Department.

**O. Right of Entry:**

The permittee shall ensure that the Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment, or the local health official, or their authorized representatives are permitted, at reasonable times and upon presentation of credentials to:

1. Enter upon the permittee's premises or where any records are required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this permit;
2. Have access to and copy any records required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this permit;
3. Inspect any collection, transport vehicles, composting, pollution management, or control facilities required under this permit; and
4. Obtain any photographic documentation or evidence.

**P. Application for Renewal:**

At least two calendar weeks before the expiration date of this permit, unless the Department has granted permission for a later date, the permittee shall submit an application for a permit renewal or notify the Department of the intent to cease operating by the expiration date. In the event that a timely and complete permit renewal application has been submitted and the Department is unable, through no fault of the permittee, to issue a permit renewal before the expiration date of this permit, the terms and conditions of this permit are automatically continued and remain fully effective and enforceable until a new permit is issued or a determination is made on the status of the renewal application.

**Q. Transfer of Permit or Ownership:**

1. This permit is only valid for the permittee named and may not be transferred to another entity. In order for a new entity to become the permittee for this activity, the new entity must first obtain a new SSU Permit from the Department.
2. Within 30 days of any change in control or ownership of the property, the permittee shall provide the succeeding owner(s), by certified mail, with a copy of the owner's written authorization signed by the current legal owner(s), a copy of this permit, and notify the succeeding owner(s) of any outstanding permit noncompliance. At the same time, the permittee shall provide the Department with a copy of the notification.

**R. Compliance:**

1. The permittee shall comply with the terms and conditions of this permit, and with all applicable federal, local and State laws and regulations.
2. If for any reason the permittee does not comply or is unable to comply with any of the terms or conditions of this permit, the permittee shall notify the Department at (410) 537-3315 on the same day or on the next working day, following any noncompliance. Within five (5) working days after this notification, the permittee shall provide the Department with the following information in writing:
  - a. Description of the noncompliance, including dates, time, and type of noncompliance;
  - b. Cause of the noncompliance;
  - c. Anticipated time the noncompliance is expected to continue or if such condition has been corrected;
  - d. Steps taken by the permittee to correct the noncompliance; and
  - e. Steps to be taken by the permittee to prevent recurrence of the noncompliance.
3. If the permittee discovers through any means, including notification by the Department, that a noncompliance with any condition of this permit has occurred, the permittee shall immediately take all necessary steps to eliminate the condition of noncompliance and to minimize the adverse impact on public health, safety, welfare, or the environment.
4. If the permittee discovers that a noncompliance with any condition of this permit has affected the public health, safety, welfare, or the environment, the permittee shall immediately notify the Department.

**S. Severability:**

If any provision of this permit shall be held invalid for any reason, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect, and such invalid provision shall be considered severed and deleted from this permit.

**T. Signatory Requirements:**

All applications, request for modifications or transfer, renewal requests, reports, or information submitted to the Department shall be signed and verified in accordance with Section 1-201 of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, by the permittee or authorized representative of the permittee as being true.

