



REGION 8

DENVER, CO 80202

FILED

Mar 19, 2025

9:40 am

**U.S. EPA REGION 8
HEARING CLERK**

IN THE MATTER OF:	Docket No. CWA-08-2025-0004
City of Hardin, Montana,	EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT
Respondent	AGREEMENT

On May 14, 2024, authorized representatives of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted an inspection of the City of Hardin water treatment plant, which is located within the exterior boundaries of the Crow Reservation. This facility is owned and/or operated by the City of Hardin, Montana (Respondent). The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate Respondent's compliance with applicable Clean Water Act (Act) and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements.

As a result of the inspection, the undersigned EPA Complainant has found that Respondent, a "person" as defined in section 502(5) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(5), violated the EPA-issued General Permit for the Discharge of Wastewater Associated with Drinking Water Production in Indian Country, MTDW0005I. Details are described in the enclosed Expedited Settlement Offer Worksheet – Findings and Alleged Violations (Violations Form), which is incorporated into this Expedited Settlement Agreement (Agreement) by reference.

By signing this Agreement, Respondent:

- (1) certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false statement to the United States Government, that the violations alleged in the Violations Form have been corrected; and
- (2) agrees to pay a penalty in the amount and manner stated below.

Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,320.00 within 30 days after a final order (Final Order) ratifying this Agreement is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk for EPA Region 8. Respondent shall pay this penalty using any of the methods provided on the website <https://www.epa.gov/financial/makepayment>, with additional instructions available at <https://www.epa.gov/financial/additional-instructions-making-payments-epa>. Respondent's payment shall indicate it is payable to "Environmental Protection Agency." In the check or other instrument of payment, Respondent shall also

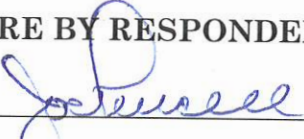
rights or defenses Respondent has or may have for this matter to be resolved in federal court, including but not limited to any right to a jury trial, and (iii) any right to appeal or challenge the lawfulness of any final order ratifying this Agreement.

Complainant and Respondent consent to service of this Agreement and the Final Order at the following valid email addresses: livingston.peggy@epa.gov (for Complainant), and hardinmayor@hardinmt.com (for Respondent). Respondent agrees that this email address and any other address for Respondent provided to the Regional Hearing Clerk in connection with this proceeding may be made public when this Agreement, the Final Order, and any related Certificate(s) of Service are filed or uploaded to a searchable database.

Before this Agreement is submitted to the Regional Judicial Officer or Regional Administrator for approval, the EPA will provide public notice of this Agreement and a reasonable opportunity to comment on the matter, under section 309(g)(4) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1319(g)(4), and 40 C.F.R. § 22.45. The Complainant may modify or withdraw his or her consent to this Agreement if comments received disclose facts or considerations indicating this Agreement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate, or if a hearing is requested under section 309(g)(4)(C) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(4)(C).

The undersigned representative of Respondent certifies that he or she is fully authorized by Respondent to execute this Agreement and to bind Respondent to it. Complainant agrees to accept the Respondent's digital or original signature on this Agreement.

SIGNATURE BY RESPONDENT:

Signature  Date 11/26/24

Name and Title (print): Joe Purcell Mayor

Mailing Address: 406 N. Cheyenne Ave.
Hardin MT 59034

Email Address: hardinmayor@hardinmt.com

Telephone: 406-665-9260

SIGNATURE BY EPA COMPLAINANT:

Emilio Llamozas, Supervisor NPDES and Wetlands Section Water Enforcement Branch Environment and Compliance Assurance Division U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 1595 Wynkoop Street Denver, Colorado 80202 llamozas.emilio@epa.gov (303) 312-6407	Date
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FINAL ORDER

Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b) and (c), the Agreement resolving this matter is hereby ratified and incorporated by reference into this Final Order.
Respondent is hereby ORDERED to comply with all terms of the Agreement, effective upon the date of filing of this Final Order.

Regional Judicial Officer

Date