



One of the two trickling filters at the wastewater treatment facility currently is in disrepair to a point that it can no longer rotate. The trickling filter must be taken out of service and the rotary distributor must be disassembled to replace all worn parts. The City estimates it will take approximately two to three weeks for the repairs. The City is requesting a provisional variance for 45 days to allow the nitrifying bacteria the necessary time for regrowth.

*Relief Requested*

The City requests a variance from the ammonia nitrogen limitations contained in NPDES permit IL 0027006 ( Attachment B). This permit requires the City to meet the following for ammonia nitrogen:

Month	Monthly Avg. (mg/l)	Daily Max. (mg/l)
Apr-Oct.	4.2	5.7
Nov-March	6.9	8.6

During the period of the requested provisional variance the City will not exceed 18 mg/l ammonia nitrogen as a daily maximum.

*Agency Determinations*

The Agency has reviewed the requested provisional variance and has concluded the following:

1. The environmental impact from the requested relief is predicted to be minimal;
2. No other reasonable alternative appears available;
3. No public water supplies will be affected;
4. No federal regulations will preclude the granting of this request; and
5. The City will face an arbitrary and unreasonable hardship if the request is not granted.

The Agency hereby GRANTS the City of Morrison a provisional variance from the ammonia nitrogen limits of NPDES IL 0027006, subject to the following conditions:

- A. The provisional variance shall begin the day the trickling filter is taken out of service for repairs and shall continue for a maximum of 45 days.
- B. The City shall operate its wastewater treatment system to produce the best effluent possible, and at no time shall the City exceed a daily maximum of 18 mg/l for ammonia nitrogen.

- C. Immediate notification to the Agency shall be required if the 18 mg/l ammonia nitrogen limit is exceeded and measures will be immediately taken to provide supplemental treatment.
- D. The City shall notify Roger Callaway of the Agency by telephone at 217/782-9720 when the trickling filter is taken out of service for repairs and again when the trickling filter is returned back to service. Written confirmation of each notice shall be sent within five days to the following address:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Bureau of Water – Water Pollution Control  
Attention: Roger Callaway  
1021 North Grand Avenue East, MC #19  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

- E. The City shall sign a Certificate of Acceptance of this provisional variance and forward that certificate to Roger Callaway at the address indicated above within one day of the date of this order. The certificate should take the following form:

I (We) \_\_\_\_\_, hereby accept and agree to be bound by all terms and condition of the provisional variance granted by the Agency in \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

The City shall continue to monitor and maintain compliance with all other parameters and conditions specified in its NPDES Permit No. IL0027006.

Conclusion

The Agency grants this provisional variance in accordance with its authority contained in Sections 35(b), 36(c), and 37(b) of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/35(b), 36(c), and 37(b) (2004). The decision to grant this provisional variance is not intended to address compliance with any other applicable laws or regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert A. Messina". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Robert A. Messina  
Chief Legal Counsel

cc: Marcia Willhite  
Roger Callaway  
Tom Andryk  
Vera Herst