

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, OREGON

DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS



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October 24, 2014

Environmental Quality/Life Safety Compliance Officer
333 RiverBend Dr.
Springfield, OR 97478

Subject: Discharges into the wastewater system during Ebola patient care at Riverbend

Dear

Pursuant to your recent inquiry regarding discharges into the City of Springfield wastewater collection system from Ebola virus patient care areas of Riverbend Hospital; we have researched US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) documentation and guidance on the matter. The current interim CDC guidance states the following: "Sanitary sewers may be used for the safe disposal of (Ebola) patient waste. Additionally, sewage handling processes (e.g. anaerobic digestion, composting, and disinfection) in the United States are designed to inactivate infectious agents". As such, the City is currently allowing discharges into the wastewater collection system of bodily fluids from Ebola virus related patient care at Riverbend Hospital, subject to the following requirements:

- All stipulations in Wastewater Discharge Permit P-300-S-03013 must be adhered to.
- All Ebola or strongly suspected Ebola patient fluids must be mixed with a sanitizing agent prior to entering the wastewater collection system.
- City of Springfield pretreatment staff must be notified immediately upon diagnosis or reasonable suspicion of an Ebola virus case at Riverbend. Notification shall be by phone at [redacted] or [redacted] and by email at [redacted].

Note that this decision and associated requirements are dependent upon information received from the CDC and other official sources and may be subject to change at any time.

Please call me at [redacted] with any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Bill Hamann
City of Springfield, Water Programs Manager

c: Matt Stouder, ESD/MWMC General Manager
Ken Vogeney, Emergency Management Manager
Michele Cahill, City of Eugene Wastewater Division Director
Brian Conlon, City of Springfield Operations Division Manager
Industry File