GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

SUMMARY PAGE

Name of Facility: City of Claxton – Claxton Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP)

NPDES Permit No.: GA0038351

This is a reissuance of the NPDES permit for the Claxton WPCP. Up to 0.49 MGD of treated domestic wastewater is land applied on a dedicated site in Evans County in the Ogeechee River Basin. Groundwater beneath the land treatment system is collected in an underdrain collection system and discharged to an unnamed tributary of the Canoochee River in the Ogeechee River Basin. The permit expired on April 30, 2020 and became administratively extended.

The permit was placed on public notice from December 1, 2020 to January 1, 2021

Please Note The Following Changes to the Proposed NPDES Permit From The Existing Permit:

Part I.B.4. – Groundwater Monitoring Requirements

- Replaced fecal coliform monitoring with *Escherichia coli* monitoring requirements to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Rules and Regulations.

Part I.B. – Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements for the Underdrain Collection System:

- Added orthophosphate, organic nitrogen, and nitrate-nitrite monitoring requirements to determine nutrient speciation and to quantify nutrient loadings in the Ogeechee River Basin.
- Added ammonia monitoring in accordance with the *EPD's NPDES Permitting Strategy for Addressing Ammonia Toxicity*, 2017.
- Added BOD limit of 10.0 based on demonstrated performance
- Added TSS limit of 20 in accordance with technology-based effluent limitations for POTWs.

Part I.B.6 – Surface Water Monitoring

- Removed Nitrate, BOD, pH, and TKN monitoring as enough data has been collected

Part I.C.8 – Watershed Assessment and Watershed Protection Plan

- Removed requirement as language was inadvertently included during the last permit reissuance

Standard Conditions and Boilerplate Modifications:

The permit boilerplate includes modified language or added language consistent with current NPDES permits.

Final Permit Determinations and Public Comments:

☐ Final issued permit did not change from the draft permit placed on public notice.
☐ Public comments were received during public notice period.
☐ Public hearing was held on
☒ Final permit includes changes from the draft permit placed on public notice. See attached permit revisions and/or permit fact sheet revisions.

GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Richard E. Dunn, Director

EPD Director's Office
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Suite 1456, East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-656-4713

Honorable Terry Branch, Mayor
City of Claxton
Post Office Box 829
Claxton, Georgia 30417

02/09/2021

RE: Permit Issuance
Claxton Water Pollution Control Plant
NPDES Permit No. GA0038351
Evans County, Ogeechee River Basin

Dear Mayor Branch:

Pursuant to the Georgia Water Quality Control Act, as amended; the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended; and the Rules and Regulations promulgated thereunder, we have today issued the attached National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the referenced wastewater treatment facility.

Your facility has been assigned to the following EPD office for reporting and compliance:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Coastal District – Brunswick Office
400 Commerce Center Drive
Brunswick, Georgia 31523

Please be advised that on and after the effective date indicated in the attached NPDES permit, the permittee must comply with all the terms, conditions and limitations of this permit.

If you have any questions, please contact Alyssa Thomson at 404-463-4946 or *alyssa.thomson@dnr.ga.gov*.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Dunn
Director

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Attachments: Response to Comments, Permit Revisions, NPDES Permit No. GA0038351, Fact Sheet
cc: Diane Parker, City of Claxton (dparker@cityofclaxton.net)
Trey Pearson, Tindall Enterprise (treypearson@tindallenterprises.net)
Bruce Foisy, EPD Coastal District (bruce.foisy@dnr.ga.gov)

Public Comments and EPD Responses on Draft Permit
City of Claxton – Claxton Water Pollution Control Plant
NPDES Permit No. GA0038351

Comment	Response to Comment
Page 4 of 24: Update "Effluent" to "Flow" in B.1. Header	The title of Part II.B.1 of the permit, "Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements" has been maintained to be consistent with the format of NPDES/LAS permits. Permittee must refer to the table to determine parameters to be monitored, monitoring location, monitoring frequency and applicable numerical limits.
1. Page 4 of 24: Update "Pond" to "Ponds" in B.1. Header 2. Page 4 of 24: Update "Pond" to Ponds" in description for B.1. and add "a." for consistent formatting 3. Page 5 of 24: Section Part I.B.2.b-e, "Part I.A.3" should be "Part I.D.1." 4. Page 7 of 24: Section "c." needs to be indented 5. Page 7 of 24: Section "c." and "4.b." references need to be updated 6. Page 9 of 24: Total suspended solids superscript needs a reference. 7. Page 10-24: Letter "d." references need to be updated because no time periods are noted 8. Page 11 of 24: Sample Location needs a reference number 9. Page 5 of 24: No reference for superscript (1) on Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand and Total Suspended Solids	Comments noted and these sections have been revised.
Page 8 of 24: Surface Water Monitoring Chart needs to be removed because section is not applicable	Part II.B.5 of the permit has been maintained to be consistent with the format of NPDES/LAS permits. EPD includes a stream monitoring section in all permits, including NPDES, LAS, and hybrid permits to enhance clarity of the permit. As stated in Part II.B.5 of the permit, the permittee is exempt from these requirements as indicated by the footnote, therefore no changes to the final permit have been made.
Page 8 of 24: Can you send us digital copy of DDR?	A copy of the 2001 DDR concurrence letter has been uploaded in GEOS under submittal ID 429604. However, a digital copy of the full DDR is not available at this time. We will make the document electronically available within two (2) weeks from issuance of the permit. A hard copy version of the engineering documents for this facility are available for review at 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Suite 1152 East, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. Please contact (404)-463-1511 to schedule an appointment.
Page 9 of 24: Part I.B.3. The 2 effluent tables need to be merged into one and weekly and average limits be removed	In accordance with 40 CFR 122.45(d)(2), permit limits for publicly-owned treatment works (POTW) must be expressed as monthly and weekly averages; therefore, no changes have been made to the effluent tables and the effluent limits remain unchanged.

GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

PERMIT REVISIONS

Claxton WPCP
NPDES Permit No. GA0038351
(Evans County)

Were there any revisions between the draft and the final permit? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, specify:

Part I.B.1	Updated header and description language per permittees request.
Part I.B.2	Removed superscripts from Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand and Total Suspended Solids as they were inadvertently added. References in Part I.B.2.b-e have been corrected.
Part I.B.3	References in Part I.B.3.d have been corrected.
Part I.B.4	Superscripts have been added to the sample location to reference footnote (1).
Part I.D.	Updated the e-Reporting compliance date of December 21, 2025, per 40 CFR 127.16. The revision to the rule became effective January 4, 2021.

Permit No. GA0038351
Issuance Date: 02/09/2021

GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

In accordance with the provisions of the Georgia Water Quality Control Act (Georgia Laws 1964, p. 416, as amended), hereinafter called the State Act; the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (33 U.S. C. 1251 et seq.), hereinafter called the Federal Act; and the Rules and Regulations promulgated pursuant to each of these Acts,

City of Claxton
Post Office Box 829
Claxton, Georgia 30417

is authorized to operate the land treatment system and discharge from a facility located at

Claxton Water Pollution Control Plant
204 West Railroad Street
Claxton, Georgia 30417
(Evans County)

to receiving waters

Unnamed Tributary of the Canoochee River
(Ogeechee River Basin)

in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in the permit.

This permit is issued in reliance upon the permit application signed on October 16, 2019, any other applications upon which this permit is based, supporting data entered therein or attached thereto, and any subsequent submittal of supporting data.

This permit shall become effective on March 1, 2021.

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, February 28, 2026

STATE OF GEORGIA 1776

R. Rhley

Director,
Environmental Protection Division

PART I

EPD is the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources.

The Federal Act referred to is The Clean Water Act.

The State Act referred to is The Water Quality Control Act (Act No. 870).

The State Rules referred to are The Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control (Chapter 391-3-6).

A. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. SLUDGE DISPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Sludge shall be disposed of according to the regulations and guidelines established by the EPD and the Federal Act section 405(d) and (e), and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). In land applying nonhazardous municipal sewage sludge, the permittee shall comply with the general criteria outlined in the most current version of the EPD "Guidelines for Land Application of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) at Agronomic Rates" and with the State Rules, Chapter 391-3-6-.17. Before disposing of municipal sewage sludge by land application or any method other than co-disposal in a permitted sanitary landfill, the permittee shall submit a sludge management plan to EPD for written approval. This plan will become a part of the NPDES Permit after approval and modification of the permit. The permittee shall notify the EPD of any changes planned in an approved sludge management plan.

If an applicable management practice or numerical limitation for pollutants in sewage sludge is promulgated under Section 405(d) of the Federal Act after approval of the plan, then the plan shall be modified to conform with the new regulations.

2. SLUDGE MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The permittee shall develop and implement procedures to ensure adequate year-round sludge disposal. The permittee shall monitor and maintain records documenting the quantity of sludge removed from the facility. Records shall be maintained documenting that the quantity of solids removed from the facility equals the solids generated on an average day. The total quantity of sludge removed from the facility during the reporting period shall be reported each month with the Discharge Monitoring Reports as required under Part I.D.1. of this permit. The quantity shall be reported on a dry weight basis (dry tons).

3. INTRODUCTION OF POLLUTANTS INTO THE PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS (POTW)

The permittee must notify EPD of:

a. Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger that would be subject to Sections 301 or 306 of the Federal Act if the pollutants were directly discharged to a receiving stream; and

b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants from a source that existed when the permit was issued.

This notice shall include information on the quality and quantity of the indirect discharge introduced and any anticipated impact on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.

4. EFFLUENT TOXICITY AND BIOMONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established by section 307(a) of the Federal Act and with Chapter 391-3-6-.03(5)(e) of the State Rules and may not discharge toxic pollutants in concentrations or combinations that are harmful to humans, animals, or aquatic life.

If toxicity is suspected in the effluent, the EPD may require the permittee to perform any of the following actions:

a. Acute biomonitoring tests;

b. Chronic biomonitoring tests;

c. Stream studies;

d. Priority pollutant analyses;

e. Toxicity reduction evaluations (TRE); or

f. Any other appropriate study.

The EPD will specify the requirements and methodologies for performing any of these tests or studies. Unless other concentrations are specified by the EPD, the critical concentration used to determine toxicity in biomonitoring tests will be the effluent instream wastewater concentration (IWC) based on the permitted monthly average flow of the facility and the critical low flow of the receiving stream (7Q10). The endpoints that will be reported are the effluent concentration that is lethal to 50% of the test organisms (LC50) if the test is for acute toxicity and the no observed effect concentration (NOEC) of effluent if the test is for chronic toxicity.

The permittee must eliminate effluent toxicity and supply the EPD with data and evidence to confirm toxicity elimination

6. LAND APPLICATION SYSTEM

a. Definitions

1. "Hydraulic Loading Rate" means the rate at which wastes or wastewaters are discharged to a land disposal or land treatment system, expressed in volume per unit area per unit time or depth of water per unit of time.

2. "Land Disposal System" means any method of disposing of pollutants in which the pollutants are applied to the surface or beneath the surface of a parcel of land and which results in the pollutants percolating, infiltrating, or being absorbed into the soil and then into the waters of the State. Land disposal systems exclude landfills and sanitary landfills but include ponds, basins, or lagoons used for disposal of wastes or wastewaters, where evaporation and/or percolation of the wastes or wastewaters are used or intended to be used to prevent point discharge of pollutants into waters of the State. Septic tanks or sewage treatment systems, as defined in Chapter 511-3-1-.02 (formally in Chapter 270-5-25-.01) and as approved by appropriate County Boards of Public Health, are not considered land disposal systems for purposes of Chapter 391-3-6-.11.

3. "Land Treatment System" means any land disposal system in which vegetation on the site is used for additional treatment of wastewater to remove some of the pollutants applied.

4. "Spray Field" means the wetted area of the land treatment system or land disposal system where treated wastes, treated effluent from industrial processes, agricultural or domestic wastewater, domestic sewage sludge, industrial sludge or other sources is applied to the land via spray, excluding the buffer zone.

5. "State Act" means the Georgia Water Quality Control Act, as amended (Official Code of Georgia Annotated; Title 12, Chapter 5, Article 2).

6. "Treatment System" means the wastewater treatment facility which reduces high strength organic waste to low levels prior to the application to the spray field.

b. Groundwater requirements

1. If any groundwater samples taken from the groundwater monitoring wells at the land treatment system are above the primary maximum contaminant levels for drinking water, the permittee shall immediately develop a plan which will ensure that the primary maximum contaminant levels for drinking water are not exceeded.

2. If any pollutants which are being discharged to the land treatment system are detected in the groundwater samples taken from the compliance monitoring wells at the land treatment system in amounts or concentrations which could be toxic or otherwise harmful to humans or biota if those pollutants mingle with waters of the State, then the permittee shall immediately develop a plan which will reduce the amounts or concentrations of the pollutants to ensure they are not toxic or otherwise harmful to humans or biota if those pollutants mingle with waters of the State.

c. Monitoring Well Requirements

The permittee, upon written notification by the EPD, may be required to install groundwater monitoring wells at the existing land treatment system. This requirement may apply if monitoring wells were not included in the original design of the facility and also, if the EPD determines the existing groundwater monitoring wells are not adequate.

B.1. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – TREATMENT PONDS

Discharge from treatment ponds:

a. Influent shall refer to the influent to the treatment facility and effluent shall refer to the discharge from the treatment pond to the storage ponds. The discharge shall be monitored as follows:

Parameter (units)	Discharge Limitations Monthly (Weekly) average, unless otherwise stated	Monitoring Requirements		
		Measurement Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Location
Flow (MGD)	Report	Seven Days/Week	Continuous	Influent
Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	Report	One Day/Month	Grab	Influent
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	Report	One Day/Month	Grab	Influent

B.2. LAND TREATMENT SYSTEM (SPRAYFIELDS)

1. FLOW LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

a. The discharge from the storage pond to the spray fields shall be limited and monitored as follows:

Parameter (units)	Discharge Limitation Monthly Average (unless otherwise stated)	Monitoring Requirements		
		Measurement Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Location
Flow (MGD), Weekly Average	0.49	Seven Days/Week	Continuous	Effluent
Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	50	One Day/Month	Grab	Effluent
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	90	One Day/Month	Grab	Effluent
Nitrate-Nitrogen (mg/L)	Report	One Day/Quarter	Grab	Effluent
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (mg/L)	Report	One Day/Quarter	Grab	Effluent
pH (standard units), Daily Minimum & Daily Maximum	6.0-9.0	One Day/Month	Grab	Effluent

b. The spray field of the land treatment system shall consist of 55 acres divided into 5 zones. The hydraulic wastewater loading to the spray field must not exceed 2.3 in/week. The instantaneous application rate for the site is 0.24 inches/hour. The hydraulic loading rates for each spray field shall be monitored daily and submitted to EPD in accordance with Part I.A.3 of this permit.

c. A daily log will be kept by the land treatment system operator of the volume (gal) of wastewater sprayed on each spray field for each day and shall be submitted to EPD in accordance with Part I.D.1 of this permit.

d. A daily log will be kept by the land treatment system operator of the amount of rainfall received each day within 0.5 miles of the permitted land treatment system and shall be submitted to EPD in accordance with Part I.D.1 of this permit.

e. A written summary of pertinent maintenance for the land treatment system such as planting, cutting vegetation, harvesting, resurfacing areas, etc. shall also be included in the report and submitted in accordance with Part I.D.1 of this permit.

2. LAND TREATMENT SYSTEM OPERATION

The land treatment system will be operated and maintained in accordance with the design criteria as presented in the approved engineering reports, operation and maintenance manuals, the permit application and/or other written agreements between EPD and the permittee. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

a. A vegetative cover must be maintained at all times on the land treatment site and must be managed according to design criteria;

b. All treatment units are to be maintained and operated for maximum efficiency;

c. Hydraulic and nitrogen loading is to be maintained within design criteria;

d. Unless otherwise approved, no wastewater shall be applied via spray or aboveground drip irrigation during rain and no wastewater shall be applied when the conditions are such that wastewater will not be absorbed into the soil; and

e. If the hydraulic application rate(s) cannot satisfactorily be handled by the approved land treatment system, corrective actions shall immediately be taken by the permittee.

3. GROUNDWATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

a. Groundwater leaving the land treatment system boundaries (as defined in this permit as the spray field) must not exceed the primary maximum contaminant levels for drinking water. The maximum contaminant level for nitrate nitrogen is 10.0 mg/L, as amended in the Safe Drinking Water Rules and Regulations. Samples of the groundwater shall be monitored from each groundwater monitoring well(s) by the permittee for the parameters and at the frequency listed below:

Parameter (units)	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Depth to Groundwater (feet)	One Day/Month	Measured
Nitrate-Nitrogen, (mg/L)	One Day/Quarter	Grab
pH (standard units)	One Day/Quarter	Grab
Specific Conductivity (µmhos/cm)	One Day/Quarter	Grab
Escherichia Coli (#/100mL)	One Day/Six Months	Grab

b. Monitoring wells shall be identified in all reports submitted to EPD as up-gradient, midfield, and down-gradient, as referenced below. The down-gradient groundwater monitoring wells shall be considered the compliance wells. The monitoring wells are identified as follows:

Well	Location
P1	Down-gradient
P2	Up-gradient

c. As per Part I.A.6.c of this permit, upon written notification to EPD, additional up-gradient, mid-field and down-gradient monitoring wells may be added in accordance with EPD's Manual for Groundwater Monitoring, September 1991, as amended, the Environmental Protection Agency Guidance Design and Installation of Monitoring Wells, or other approved guidance without EPD approval and without modification to this permit. The additional wells are subject to the sampling parameters and sampling frequency(s) in Part I.B2.3 of this permit, Groundwater Monitoring Requirements. The sampling analysis of additional wells shall be reported in accordance with Part I.D.1 of this permit.

4. SOIL MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

a. A Soil Fertility Test(s) shall be performed annually in the fourth (4^{th}) calendar quarter in accordance with the latest edition of Methods of Soil Analysis (published by the American Society of Agronomy, Madison, Wisconsin) or other methods approved by EPD. Representative soil samples shall be collected from the land treatment system using the Mehlich-1 extraction procedure. Results of the Soil Fertility Test(s) shall be utilized by the permittee in the continuing operation and maintenance of the land treatment system. The sampling analysis shall be reported in accordance with Part I.D.1 of this permit.

b. If the Soil Fertility Test(s) indicates a change in the pH value of one standard unit from the previous year's pH value, the permittee shall immediately perform a Cation Exchange Capacity and Percent Base Saturation analysis for the land treatment system. The monitoring results of the Cation Exchange Capacity and Percent Base Saturation analysis shall be submitted to EPD in accordance with Part I.D.1 of this permit.

c. Where there are categorical and/or significant industrial discharges to the sewer system, the permittee may be required, upon written notification by the Division, to sample for additional parameters. These parameters may include heavy metals and organic compounds.

5. SURFACE WATER MONITORING

Surface water(s)[1] adjacent to or traversing the land treatment system shall be monitored. Unless otherwise stated and or approved by EPD, surface water samples will be collected at a maximum of 100 feet upstream and a maximum 100 feet downstream of the land treatment system. The surface water shall be monitored for the parameters and at the frequency listed below:

Parameter (units)	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Nitrate, as N (mg/L)	One Day/Quarter	Grab
Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	One Day/Quarter	Grab
Specific Conductivity (µmho/cm)	One Day/Quarter	Grab
pH (standard units)	One Day/Quarter	Grab
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (mg/L)	One Day/Quarter	Grab
Temperature (°C)	One Day/Quarter	Grab
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	One Day/Quarter	Grab

a. Surface waters as identified in the Design Development Report and permit application are: **Not applicable**

6. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

a. Design Development Report

The permittee shall operate and maintain the system as described in the Design Development Report approved on November 1, 2001.

B.3. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS – UNDERDRAIN SYSTEM

Discharge to Unnamed Tributary of Canoochee River - Outfall #001 (32.183164°, -81.895657°):

a. The discharge from the underdrain system shall be limited and monitored as follows:

Parameters	Discharge limitations in mg/L (kg/day) unless otherwise specified		Monitoring Requirements		
	Monthly Average	Weekly Average	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Location
Flow (MGD) (1)	Report	Report	One Day/Month	Instantaneous	Effluent
Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand	10.0	15.0	One Day/Month	Grab	Effluent
Total Suspended Solids	20	30	One Day/Month	Grab	Effluent
Fecal Coliform Bacteria (#/100 mL)	Report	Report	One Day/Month	Grab	Effluent

Parameters	Discharge limitations in mg/L unless otherwise specified	Monitoring Requirements		
		Measurement Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Location
Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand Removal, Minimum (%) (2)	85	See Below	See Below	See Below
Total Suspended Solids Removal, Minimum (%) (2)	85	See Below	See Below	See Below
pH	Report	One Day/Month	Grab	Effluent
Ammonia, as N (3)	Report	One Day/Quarter	Grab	Effluent
Total Phosphorus, as P (4)	Report	One Day/Quarter	Grab	Effluent
Orthophosphate, as P (4)	Report	One Day/Quarter	Grab	Effluent
Organic Nitrogen, as N (3)	Report	One Day/Quarter	Grab	Effluent
Nitrate-Nitrite, as N (4)	Report	One Day/Quarter	Grab	Effluent
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, as N (4)	Report	One Day/Quarter	Grab	Effluent

(1) Flow and effluent quality monitoring shall be conducted when discharging. A minimum of one sample per month shall be collected. The permittee will be allowed to report "No Discharge" on the Discharge Monitoring Reports only if dry conditions were observed every day for the entire reporting period.

(2) Percent removal shall be calculated from monthly average influent and effluent concentrations. Influent and effluent samples shall be collected at approximately the same time.

(3) Ammonia, organic nitrogen, nitrate-nitrite, and total Kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN) must be analyzed or calculated from the same sample. Organic nitrogen, as N = TKN – ammonia, as N.

(4) Total phosphorus and orthophosphate must be analyzed from the same sample.

b. The monthly average, other than for fecal coliform bacteria, is the arithmetic mean of values obtained for samples collected during a calendar month.

c. The weekly average, other than for fecal coliform bacteria, is the arithmetic mean of values obtained for samples collected during a 7-day period. The week begins 12:00 midnight Saturday and ends at 12:00 midnight the following Saturday. To define a different starting time for the sampling period, the permittee must notify the EPD in writing. For reporting required by Part I.D.1. of this permit, a week that starts in one month and ends in another month shall be considered part of the second month. The permittee may calculate and report the weekly average as a 7-day moving average.

d. Fecal coliform bacteria will be reported as the geometric mean of the values for the samples collected during the time periods in I.B.3.b. and I.B.3.c.

e. Influent monitoring: Unless otherwise specified, influent samples shall be collected before any return or recycle flows. These flows include returned activated sludge, supernatants, centrates, filtrates, and backwash.

f. Effluent monitoring: Unless otherwise specified, effluent samples shall be collected after the final treatment process and before discharge to receiving waters.

g. A composite sample shall consist of a minimum of 5 subsamples collected at least once every 2 hours for at least 8 hours and shall be composited proportionately to flow.

h. Flow measurements shall be conducted using the flow measuring device(s) in accordance with the approved design of the facility. If instantaneous measurements are required, then the permittee shall have a primary flow measuring device that is correctly installed and maintained. If continuous recording measurements are required, then flow measurements must be made using continuous recording equipment. Calibration shall be maintained of the continuous recording instrumentation to ± 10% of the actual flow.

Flow shall be measured manually to check the flow meter calibration at a frequency of once a month. If secondary flow instruments are in use and malfunction or fail to maintain calibration as required, the flow shall be computed from manual measurements or by other method(s) approved by EPD until such time as the secondary flow instrument is repaired. For facilities which utilize alternate technologies for measuring flow, the flow measurement device must be calibrated semi-annually by qualified personnel.

Records of the calibration checks shall be maintained.

i. If secondary flow instruments malfunction or fail to maintain calibration as required in I.A.1.h., the flow shall be computed from manual measurements taken at the times specified for the collection of composite samples.

Some parameters will be reported as "not detected" when they are below the detection limit and will then be considered in compliance with the effluent limit. The detection limit will also be reported.

B.4. INSTREAM MONITORING

Unnamed tributary of the Canoochee River:

The receiving stream shall be monitored by the permittee as specified below:

Parameter (units)	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Location
Temperature (°C)	One Day/Month	Grab	Upstream and Downstream (1)
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	One Day/Month	Grab	Upstream and Downstream (1)

(1) Upstream sampling location refers to approximately 100 ft. upstream from the discharge. Downstream sampling location refers to approximately 100 ft. downstream from the discharge.

C. MONITORING AND REPORTING

1. REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLING

Samples and measurements of the monitored waste shall represent the volume and nature of the waste stream. The permittee shall maintain a written sampling and monitoring schedule.

2. SAMPLING PERIOD

a. Unless otherwise specified in this permit, quarterly samples shall be taken during the periods January-March, April-June, July-September, and October-December.

b. Unless otherwise specified in this permit, semiannual samples shall be taken during the periods January-June and July-December.

c. Unless otherwise specified in this permit, annual samples shall be taken during the period of January-December.

3. MONITORING PROCEDURES

All analytical methods, sample containers, sample preservation techniques, and sample holding times must be consistent with the techniques and methods listed in 40 CFR Part 136. The analytical method used shall be sufficiently sensitive. EPA-approved methods must be applicable to the concentration ranges of the NPDES permit samples.

4. RECORDING OF RESULTS

For each required parameter analyzed, the permittee shall record:

a. The exact place, date, and time of sampling, and the person(s) collecting the sample. For flow proportioned composite samples, this shall include the instantaneous flow and the corresponding volume of each sample aliquot, and other information relevant to document flow proportioning of composite samples;

b. The dates and times the analyses were performed;

c. The person(s) who performed the analyses;

d. The analytical procedures or methods used; and

e. The results of all required analyses.

5. ADDITIONAL MONITORING BY PERMITTEE

If the permittee monitors required parameters at the locations designated in I.B. more frequently than required, the permittee shall analyze all samples using approved analytical methods specified in I.C.3. The results of this additional monitoring shall be included in calculating and reporting the values on the Discharge Monitoring Report forms. The permittee shall indicate the monitoring frequency on the report. The EPD may require in writing more frequent monitoring, or monitoring of other pollutants not specified in this permit.

6. RECORDS RETENTION

The permittee shall retain records of:

a. All laboratory analyses performed including sample data, quality control data, and standard curves;

b. Calibration and maintenance records of laboratory instruments;

c. Calibration and maintenance records and recordings from continuous recording instruments;

d. Process control monitoring records;

e. Facility operation and maintenance records;

f. Copies of all reports required by this permit;

g. All data and information used to complete the permit application; and

h. All monitoring data related to sludge use and disposal.

These records shall be kept for at least three years. Sludge handling records must be kept for at least five years. Either period may be extended by EPD written notification.

7. PENALTIES

Both the Federal and State Acts provide that any person who falsifies or tampers with any monitoring device or method required under this permit, or who makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record submitted or required by this permit shall, if convicted, be punished by a fine or by imprisonment or by both. The Acts include procedures for imposing civil penalties for violations or for negligent or intentional failure or refusal to comply with any final or emergency order of the Director of the EPD.

D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. The permittee must electronically report the DMR, OMR and additional monitoring data using the web based electronic NetDMR reporting system, unless a waiver is granted by EPD.

   a. The permittee must comply with the Federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Electronic Reporting regulations in 40 CFR §127. The permittee must electronically report the DMR, OMR, and additional monitoring data using the web based electronic NetDMR reporting system online at: https://netdmr.epa.gov/netdmr/public/home.htm

   b. Monitoring results obtained during the calendar month shall be summarized for each month and reported on the DMR. The results of each sampling event shall be reported on the OMR and submitted as an attachment to the DMR.

   c. The permittee shall submit the DMR, OMR and additional monitoring data no later than 11:59 p.m. on the 15th day of the month following the sampling period.

   d. All other reports required herein, unless otherwise stated, shall be submitted to the EPD Office listed on the permit issuance letter signed by the Director of EPD.

2. **No later than December 21, 2025,** the permittee must electronically report the following compliance monitoring data and reports using the online web based electronic system approved by EPD, unless a waiver is granted by EPD:

   a. Sewage Sludge/Biosolids Annual Program Reports provided that the permittee has an approved Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) Plan;

   b. Pretreatment Program Reports provided that the permittee has an approved Industrial Pretreatment Program in this permit;

   c. Sewer Overflow/Bypass Event Reports;

   d. Noncompliance Notification;

   e. Other noncompliance; and

   f. Bypass

3. OTHER REPORTS

   All other reports required in this permit not listed above in Part I.D.2 or unless otherwise stated, shall be submitted to the EPD Office listed on the permit issuance letter signed by the Director of EPD.

4. OTHER NONCOMPLIANCE

All instances of noncompliance not reported under Part I.B. and Part II. A. shall be reported to EPD at the time the monitoring report is submitted.

5. SIGNATORY REQUIREMENTS

All reports, certifications, data or information submitted in compliance with this permit or requested by EPD must be signed and certified as follows:

a. Any State or NPDES Permit Application form submitted to the EPD shall be signed as follows in accordance with the Federal Regulations, 40 C.F.R. 122.22:

1. For a corporation, by a responsible corporate officer. A responsible corporate officer means:

i. a president, secretary, treasurer, or vice president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy- or decision making functions for the corporation, or

ii. the manager of one or more manufacturing, production, or operating facilities employing more than 250 persons or having gross annual sales or expenditures exceeding $25 million (in second-quarter 1980 dollars), if authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures.

2. For a partnership or sole proprietorship, by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively; or

3. For a municipality, State, Federal, or other public facility, by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.

b. All other reports or requests for information required by the permit issuing authority shall be signed by a person designated in (a) above or a duly authorized representative of such person, if:

1. The representative so authorized is responsible for the overall operation of the facility from which the discharge originates, e.g., a plant manager, superintendent or person of equivalent responsibility;

2. The authorization is made in writing by the person designated under (a) above; and

3. The written authorization is submitted to the Director.

c. Any changes in written authorization submitted to the permitting authority under (b) above which occur after the issuance of a permit shall be reported to the permitting authority by submitting a copy of a new written authorization which meets the requirements of (b) and (b.1) and (b.2) above.

d. Any person signing any document under (a) or (b) above shall make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

PART II

A. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. PROPER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The permittee shall properly maintain and operate efficiently all treatment or control facilities and related equipment installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with this permit. Efficient operation and maintenance include effective performance, adequate funding, adequate operator staffing and training, and adequate laboratory and process controls, including appropriate quality assurance procedures. Back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems shall be operated only when necessary to achieve permit compliance.

2. PLANNED CHANGE

Any anticipated facility expansions, or process modifications which will result in new, different, or increased discharges of pollutants requires the submission of a new NPDES permit application. If the changes will not violate the permit effluent limitations, the permittee may notify EPD without submitting an application. The permit may then be modified to specify and limit any pollutants not previously limited.

3. TWENTY-FOUR HOUR REPORTING

If, for any reason the permittee does not comply with, or will be unable to comply with any effluent limitations specified in the permittee's NPDES permit, the permittee shall provide EPD with an oral report within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances followed by a written report within five (5) days of becoming aware of such condition. The written submission shall contain the following information:

a. A description of the noncompliance and its cause; and

b. The period of noncompliance, including the exact date and times; or, if not corrected, the anticipated time the noncompliance is expected to continue; and

c. The steps taken to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncomplying discharge.

4. ANTICIPATED NONCOMPLIANCE NOTIFICATION

The permittee shall give written notice to the EPD at least 10 days before:

a. Any planned changes in the permitted facility; or

b. Any activity which may result in noncompliance with the permit.

5. OTHER NONCOMPLIANCE

The permittee must report all instances of noncompliance not reported under other specific reporting requirements, at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information required under conditions of twenty-four hour reporting.

6. OPERATOR CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The person responsible for the daily operation of the facility must be a Class III Certified Operator in compliance with the Georgia State Board of Examiners for Certification of Water and Wastewater Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts Act, as amended, and as specified by Subparagraph 391-3-6-.12 of the Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control. All other operators must have the minimum certification required by this Act.

7. LABORATORY ANALYST CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Laboratory Analysts must be certified in compliance with the Georgia State Board of Examiners for Certification of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts Act, as amended.

8. BYPASSING

Any diversion of wastewater from or bypassing of wastewater around the permitted treatment works is prohibited, except if:

a. Bypassing is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;

b. There are no feasible alternatives to bypassing; and

c. The permittee notifies the EPD at least 10 days before the date of the bypass.

Feasible alternatives to bypassing include use of auxiliary treatment facilities and retention of untreated waste. The permittee must take all possible measures to prevent bypassing during routine preventative maintenance by installing adequate back-up equipment.

The permittee shall operate the facility and the sewer system to minimize discharge of pollutants from combined sewer overflows or bypasses and may be required by the EPD to submit a plan and schedule to reduce bypasses, overflows, and infiltration.

Any unplanned bypass must be reported following the requirements for noncompliance notification specified in II.A.3. The permittee may be liable for any water quality violations that occur as a result of bypassing the facility.

9. POWER FAILURES

If the primary source of power to this water pollution control facility is reduced or lost, the permittee shall use an alternative source of power to reduce or control all discharges to maintain permit compliance.

10. DUTY TO MITIGATE

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge disposal which might adversely affect human health or the environment.

11. NOTICE CONCERNING ENDANGERING WATERS OF THE STATE

Whenever, because of an accident or otherwise, any toxic or taste and color producing substance, or any other substance which would endanger downstream users of the waters of the State or would damage property, is discharged into such waters, or is so placed that it might flow, be washed, or fall into them, it shall be the duty of the person in charge of such substances at the time to forthwith notify EPD in person or by telephone of the location and nature of the danger, and it shall be such person's further duty to immediately take all reasonable and necessary steps to prevent injury to property and downstream users of said water.

Spills and Major Spills:

A "spill" is any discharge of raw sewage by a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) to the waters of the State.

A "major spill" means:

1. The discharge of pollutants into waters of the State by a POTW that exceeds the weekly average permitted effluent limit for biochemical oxygen demand (5-day) or total suspended solids by 50 percent or greater in one day, provided that the effluent discharge concentration is equal to or greater than 25 mg/L for biochemical oxygen demand or total suspended solids.

2. Any discharge of raw sewage that 1) exceeds 10,000 gallons or 2) results in water quality violations in the waters of the State.

"Consistently exceeding effluent limitation" means a POTW exceeding the 30 day average limit for biochemical oxygen demand or total suspended solids for at least five days out of each seven day period during a total period of 180 consecutive days.

The following specific requirements shall apply to POTW's. If a spill or major spill occurs, the owner of a POTW shall immediately:

a. Notify EPD, in person or by telephone, when a spill or major spill occurs in the system.

b. Report the incident to the local health department(s) for the area affected by the incident.

The report at a minimum shall include the following:

1. Date of the spill or major spill;
2. Location and cause of the spill or major spill;
3. Estimated volume discharged and name of receiving waters; and
4. Corrective action taken to mitigate or reduce the adverse effects of the spill or major spill.

c. Post a notice as close as possible to where the spill or major spill occurred and where the spill entered State waters and also post additional notices along portions of the waterway affected by the incident (i.e. bridge crossings, boat ramps, recreational areas, and other points of public access to the affected waterway). The notice at a minimum shall include the same information required in 11(b)(1-4) above. These notices shall remain in place for a minimum of seven days after the spill or major spill has ceased.

d. Within 24 hours of becoming aware of a spill or major spill, the owner of a POTW shall report the incident to the local media (television, radio, and print media). The report shall include the same information required in 11(b)(1-4) above.

e. Within 5 days (of the date of the spill or major spill), the owner of a POTW shall submit to EPD a written report which includes the same information required in 11(b)(1-4) above.

f. Within 7 days (after the date of a major spill), the owner of a POTW responsible for the major spill, shall publish a notice in the largest legal organ of the County where the incident occurred. The notice shall include the same information required in 11(b)(1-4) above.

g. The owner of a POTW shall immediately establish a monitoring program of the receiving waters affected by a major spill or by consistently exceeding an effluent limit, with such monitoring being at the expense of the POTW for at least one year. The monitoring program shall include an upstream sampling point as well as sufficient downstream locations to accurately characterize the impact of the major spill or the consistent exceedence of effluent limitations described in the definition of " Consistently exceeding effluent limitation" above. As a minimum, the following parameters shall be monitored in the receiving stream:

1. Dissolved Oxygen;
2. Fecal Coliform Bacteria;
3. pH;
4. Temperature; and
5. Other parameters required by the EPD.

The monitoring and reporting frequency as well as the need to monitor additional parameters, will be determined by EPD. The results of the monitoring will be provided by the POTW owner to EPD and all downstream public agencies using the affected waters as a source of a public water supply.

h. Within 24 hours of becoming aware of a major spill, the owner of a POTW shall provide notice of a major spill to every county, municipality, or other public agency whose public

water supply is within a distance of 20 miles downstream and to any others which could be potentially affected by the major spill.

12. UPSET PROVISION

Provision under 40 CFR 122.41(n)(1)-(4), regarding "Upset" shall be applicable to any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding brought to enforce this permit.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. DUTY TO COMPLY

The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance is a violation of the Federal Clean Water Act, State Act, and the State Rules, and is grounds for:

a. Enforcement action;

b. Permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or

c. Denial of a permit renewal application.

2. NEED TO HALT OR REDUCE ACTIVITY NOT A DEFENSE

It shall not be a defense of the permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.

3. INSPECTION AND ENTRY

The permittee shall allow the Director of the EPD, the Regional Administrator of EPA, and their authorized representatives, agents, or employees after they present credentials to:

a. Enter the permittee's premises where a regulated activity or facility is located, or where any records required by this permit are kept;

b. Review and copy any records required by this permit;

c. Inspect any facilities, equipment, practices, or operations regulated or required by this permit; and

d. Sample any substance or parameter at any location.

4. DUTY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION

The permittee shall furnish any information required by the EPD to determine whether cause exists to modify, revoke and reissue, or terminate this permit or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee shall also furnish the EPD with requested copies of records required by this permit.

5. TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

A permit may be transferred to another person by a permittee if:

a. The permittee notifies the Director in writing at least 30 days in advance of the proposed transfer;

b. An agreement is written containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility including acknowledgment that the existing permittee is liable for violations up to that date, and that the new permittee is liable for violations from that date on. This agreement must be submitted to the Director at least 30 days in advance of the proposed transfer; and

c. The Director does not notify the current permittee and the new permittee within 30 days of EPD intent to modify, revoke and reissue, or terminate the permit. The Director may require that a new application be filed instead of agreeing to the transfer of the permit.

6. AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS

Except for data determined to be confidential by the Director of EPD under O.C.G.A. 12-5-26 or by the Regional Administrator of EPA under the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 2, all reports prepared to comply with this permit shall be available for public inspection at an EPD office. Effluent data, permit applications, permittees' names and addresses, and permits shall not be considered confidential.

7. PERMIT ACTIONS

This permit may be modified, terminated, or revoked and reissued in whole or in part during its term for causes including, but not limited to:

a. Permit violations;

b. Obtaining this permit by misrepresentation or by failure to disclose all relevant facts;

c. Changing any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the permitted discharge;

d. Changes in effluent characteristics; and

e. Violations of water quality standards.

The filing of a request by the permittee for permit modification, termination, revocation and reissuance, or notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not negate any permit condition.

8. CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LIABILITY

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance.

9. PROPERTY RIGHTS

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

10. DUTY TO REAPPLY

The permittee shall submit an application for permit reissuance at least 180 days before the expiration date of this permit. The permittee shall not discharge after the permit expiration date. To receive authorization to discharge beyond the expiration date, the permittee shall submit the information, forms, and fees required by the EPD no later than 180 days before the expiration date.

11. CONTESTED HEARINGS

Any person aggrieved or adversely affected by any action of the Director of the EPD shall petition the Director for a hearing within 30 days of notice of the action.

12. SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this permit are severable. If any permit provision or the application of any permit provision to any circumstance is held invalid, the provision does not affect other circumstances or the remainder of this permit.

13. OTHER INFORMATION

Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report form to the Director, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

14. PREVIOUS PERMITS

All previous State wastewater permits issued to this facility, whether for construction or operation, are hereby revoked on the effective date of this permit. This action is taken to assure compliance with the Georgia Water Quality Control Act, as amended, and the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended. Receipt of the permit constitutes notice of such action. The conditions, requirements, terms and provisions of this permit authorizing discharge under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System govern discharges from this facility.

PART III

INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM FOR PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS (POTW)

1. The permittee may establish and operate an approved industrial pretreatment program.

2. If the EPD determines that the permittee is required to develop a local industrial pretreatment program, the permittee will be notified in writing. The permittee shall immediately begin development of an industrial pretreatment program and shall submit it to the EPD for approval no later than one year after the notification.

3. During the interim period between determination that a program is needed and approval of the program, all industrial pretreatment permits shall be issued by the EPD.

4. The permittee shall notify the EPD of all industrial users connected to the system or proposing to connect to the system from the date of issuance of this permit.

5. Implementation of the Pretreatment Program developed by the State can be delegated to the permittee following the fulfillment of requirements detailed in 391-3-6-.09 of the Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control.

GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division proposes to issue an NPDES permit to the applicant identified below. The draft permit places conditions on the discharge of pollutants from the wastewater treatment plant to waters of the State.

Technical Contact:

Alyssa Thomson, Environmental Specialist
alyssa.thomson@dnr.ga.gov
404-463-4946

Draft permit:

- ☐ First issuance
- ☐ Reissuance with no or minor modifications from previous permit
- ☒ Reissuance with substantial modifications from previous permit
- ☐ Modification of existing permit
- ☐ Requires EPA review

1. FACILITY INFORMATION

1.1 NPDES Permit No.: GA0038351

1.2 Name and Address of Owner/Applicant

City of Claxton
Post Office Box 829
Claxton, Georgia 30417

1.3 Name and Address of Facility

Claxton Water Pollution Control Plant
204 West Railroad Street
Claxton, Georgia 30417

1.4 Location and Description of the Discharge (as reported by applicant)

Outfall #	Latitude (°)	Longitude (°)	Receiving Waterbody
001	32.183164	-81.895657	Unnamed Tributary of Canoochee River

1.5 SIC Code and Description

SIC Code 4952 – Sewerage systems: Establishments primarily engaged in the collection and disposal of wastes conducted through a sewer system, including such treatment processes as may be provided.

1.6 Description of the Water Pollution Control Plant

Wastewater treatment:

The treatment process consists of screening, two aerated ponds, a holding pond, and a sprayfield. The land treatment system (sprayfield) is equipped with an underdrain system. Groundwater collected by the underdrain is discharged to an unnamed tributary of the Canoochee River.

Discharge from an underdrain system to water of the State is considered a point source discharge and therefore requires an NPDES permit. The purpose of the underdrain system is not to treat the wastewater but to lower the groundwater beneath the irrigation area, thereby improving the operation of the land treatment system.

Solids processing:

Solids settle and stabilize at the bottom of the ponds. Ponds will be dredged and dewatered sludge sent to a permitted landfill when needed.

1.7 Type of Wastewater Discharge

☐	Process wastewater	☐	Stormwater
☒	Domestic wastewater	☐	Combined (Describe)
☐	Other (Describe)		

1.8 Characterization of Effluent Discharge (as reported by applicant)

Underdrain Collection System:

Effluent Characteristics (as Reported by Applicant)	Maximum Daily Value	Average Daily Value
Flow (MGD)	0.049	0.021
Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	3.47	1.0
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	5.6	0.62
Fecal Coliform Bacteria (#/100mL)	190	4
Ammonia, as N (mg/L)	0	0
Total Phosphorus, as P (mg/L)	0.848	0.635

2. APPLICABLE REGULATIONS

2.1 State Regulations

Chapter 391-3-6 of the Georgia Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control

2.2 Federal Regulations

Source	Activity	Applicable Regulation
Municipal	Municipal Effluent Discharge	40 CFR 122 40 CFR 125 40 CFR 133
	Non-Process Water Discharges	40 CFR 122 40 CFR 125
	Municipal Sludge Use and Disposal	40 CFR 122 40 CFR 257 40 CFR 501 & 503

3. WATER QUALITY STANDARDS & RECEIVING WATERBODY INFORMATION

Section 301(b)(1)(C) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires the development of limitations in permits necessary to meet water quality standards. Federal Regulations 40 CFR 122.4(d) require that conditions in NPDES permits ensure compliance with the water quality standards which are composed of use classifications, numeric and or narrative water quality criteria and an anti-degradation policy. The use classification system designates the beneficial uses that each waterbody is expected to achieve, such as drinking water, fishing, or recreation. The numeric and narrative water quality criteria are deemed necessary to support the beneficial use classification for each water body. The antidegradation policy represents an approach to maintain and to protect various levels of water quality and uses.

3.1 Receiving Waterbody Classification and Information – Unnamed Tributary of Canoochee River

Specific Water Quality Criteria for Classified Water Usage [391-3-6-.03(6)]:

Fishing: Propagation of Fish, Shellfish, Game and Other Aquatic Life; secondary contact recreation in and on the water; or for any other use requiring water of a lower quality.

(i) Dissolved Oxygen: A daily average of 6.0 mg/L and no less than 5.0 mg/L at all times for water designated as trout streams by the Wildlife Resources Division. A daily average of 5.0 mg/L and no less than 4.0 mg/L at all times for waters supporting warm water species of fish.

(ii) pH: Within the range of 6.0 - 8.5.

(iii) Bacteria:

1. For the months of May through October, when water contact recreation activities are expected to occur, fecal coliform not to exceed a geometric mean of 200 per 100 mL based on at least four samples collected from a given sampling site over a 30-day period at intervals not less than 24

hours. Should water quality and sanitary studies show fecal coliform levels from non-human sources exceed 200/100 mL (geometric mean) occasionally, then the allowable geometric mean fecal coliform shall not exceed 300 per 100 mL in lakes and reservoirs and 500 per 100 mL in free flowing freshwater streams. For the months of November through April, fecal coliform not to exceed a geometric mean of 1,000 per 100 mL based on at least four samples collected from a given sampling site over a 30-day period at intervals not less than 24 hours and not to exceed a maximum of 4,000 per 100 mL for any sample. The State does not encourage swimming in these surface waters since a number of factors which are beyond the control of any State regulatory agency contribute to elevated levels of bacteria.

2. For waters designated as shellfish growing areas by the Georgia DNR Coastal Resources Division, the requirements will be consistent with those established by the State and Federal agencies responsible for the National Shellfish Sanitation Program. The requirements are found in National Shellfish Sanitation Program Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish, 2007 Revision (or most recent version), Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference, U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

(iv) Temperature: Not to exceed 90°F. At no time is the temperature of the receiving waters to be increased more than 5°F above intake temperature except that in estuarine waters the increase will not be more than 1.5°F. In streams designated as primary trout or smallmouth bass waters by the Wildlife Resources Division, there shall be no elevation of natural stream temperatures. In streams designated as secondary trout waters, there shall be no elevation exceeding 2°F natural stream temperatures.

3.2 Ambient Information

Outfall ID	30Q3 (cfs)	7Q10 (cfs)	1Q10 (cfs)	Annual Average Flow (cfs)	Hardness (mg $CaCO_3$/L)	Upstream Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)
001	0.011	0.003	0.001	1.1	20	10 [(1)]

[(1)] Not available. A conservative value of 10 mg/L will be used for the reasonable potential analysis calculations.

3.3 Georgia 305(b)/303(d) List Documents

Canoochee River	Cedar Creek to Lotts Creek	Ogeechee	Not Supporting	DO, TWR	13	4u	TMDLs completed TWR 2005 & DO 2005 (revised 2007)
GAR030602030409	Evans		Fishing	1,55	NP	Miles	

The unnamed tributary is not listed in the 2020 305(b)/303(d) list. However, the Canoochee River, which is downstream of the discharge, is listed on the 2020 305(b)/303(d) list as not supporting its designated use (fishing) but TMDLs have been completed for the impacted parameters (Tropic-Weighted Residue (TWR) Value of Mercury & Dissolved Oxygen (DO)).

3.4 Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)

Dissolved oxygen

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division revised a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) evaluation for 23 stream segments in the Ogeechee River Basin in 2007 for dissolved oxygen. Claxton WPCP is not named in the TMDL for dissolved oxygen. Claxton WPCP is listed as a non-point source where run-off produced by the treatment system could potentially carry oxygen demanding substances to nearby surface waters; therefore, dissolved oxygen instream monitoring (upstream and downstream) has been included in the draft permit.

Fish Tissue (Mercury)

The Environmental Protection Agency completed a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for total mercury fish tissue in Ogeechee River (Ogeechee Watershed) in 2005. The TMDL states that "minor" dischargers with an effluent flow less than 1 MGD are considered minor sources that will contribute to the aggregate, less than 1% of the current total mercury loading in the watershed. The Claxton WPCP is a 0.52 MGD land application system that discharges to an unnamed tributary to the Canoochee River. The facility has an underdrain system that is intended to lower the groundwater table. As this is a minor facility where treated wastewater is applied, any contribution of mercury loading from this site should be minimal.

3.5 Wasteload Allocation (WLA)

The WLA for reissuance was issued on December 12, 2019. Refer to *Appendix A* of the Fact Sheet for a copy of the WLA.

4. EFFLUENT LIMITS AND PERMIT CONDITIONS

4.1 Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs) & Technology Based Effluent Limits (TBELS)

When drafting a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, a permit writer must consider the impact of the proposed pollutants in a discharge on the quality of the receiving water. Water quality goals for a waterbody are defined by state water quality criteria or standards. By analyzing the effect of a pollutant in the discharge on the receiving water, a permit writer could find that technology-based effluent limitations (TBELs) alone will not achieve the applicable water quality standards or protect downstream users. In such cases, the Clean Water Act (CWA) and its implementing regulations require development of water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs). WQBELs help meet the CWA objective of restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters and the goal of water quality that provides for the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and recreation in and on the water (fishable/swimmable).

WQBELs are designed to protect water quality by ensuring water quality standards are met in the receiving water and the designated use and downstream uses are protected. On the basis of the requirements of 40 C.F.R §125.3(a), additional or more stringent effluent limitations and conditions, such as WQBELs, are imposed when TBELs are not sufficient to protect water quality.

TBELs aim to prevent pollution by requiring a minimum level of effluent quality that is attainable using demonstrated technologies for reducing discharges of pollutants or pollution into the waters of the State. TBELs are developed independently of the potential impact of a discharge on the receiving water, which is addressed through water quality standards and WQBELs. The NPDES regulations at 40 C.F.R. §125.3(a) require NPDES permit writers to develop technology-based treatment requirements, consistent with CWA section 301(b), that represent the minimum level of control that must be imposed in a permit. The regulation also requires permit writers to include in permits additional or more stringent effluent limitations and conditions, including those necessary to protect water quality.

40 CFR Part §122.44(a)(1) requires that NPDES permits include applicable technology-based limitations and standards, while regulations at § 125.3(a)(1) state that TBELs for publicly owned treatment works must be based on secondary treatment standards and the "equivalent to secondary treatment standards" (40 CFR Part 133). The regulation applies to all POTWs and identifies the technology-based performance standards achievable based on secondary treatment for five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD_5), total suspended solids (TSS), and pH.

The table below shows the secondary treatment standards:

Parameter	**Secondary Treatment Standards**	
	30-day Average	*7-day Average*
BOD_5	30 mg/L	45 mg/L
TSS	30 mg/L	45 mg/L
BOD_5 and TSS removal (concentration)	≥ 85%	--
pH (Daily Minimum – Daily Maximum)	6.0-9.0 S.U.	

4.2 Reasonable Potential Analysis (RPA)

EPA regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(i) state, "Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level that will *cause*, have the *reasonable potential to cause*, or *contribute* to an excursion above any [s]tate water quality standard, including [s]tate narrative criteria for water quality." [emphasis added]

EPA regulations at 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(ii) require States to develop procedures for determining whether a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an instream excursion above a narrative or numeric criterion within a state water. If such reasonable potential is determined to exist, the NPDES permit must contain pollutant effluent limits and/or effluent limits for whole effluent toxicity. Georgia has reasonable potential procedures, based upon the specific category of pollutants and/or specific pollutant of concern. Chemical specific and biomonitoring data and other pertinent information in EPD's files will be considered in accordance with the review procedures specified in the GA Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-6 in the evaluation of a permit application and in the evaluation of the reasonable potential for a discharge to cause an exceedance in the numeric or narrative criteria.

The term "pollutant" is defined in CWA section 502(6) and 40 C.F.R. §122.2. Pollutants are grouped into three categories under the NPDES program: conventional, toxic, and nonconventional. Conventional pollutants are those defined in CWA section 304(a)(4) and 40 C.F.R.§401.16 (five day-biochemical oxygen demand (BOD_5), total suspended solids (TSS), fecal coliform, pH, and oil and grease). Toxic (priority) pollutants are those defined in CWA section 307(a)(1) and include 126 metals and manmade organic compounds. Nonconventional pollutants are those that do not fall under either of the above categories (conventional or toxic pollutants) and include parameters such as, but not limited to, chlorine, ammonia, nitrogen, phosphorus, chemical oxygen demand (COD), and whole effluent toxicity (WET).

EPD evaluates the data provided in the application and supporting documents. If a pollutant is listed in the following sections of this fact sheet below, the permit writer determined the pollutant is a pollutant of concern and there may be a reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an instream violation of the Georgia water quality standards. If a pollutant is not listed below, EPD determined the pollutant is not a pollutant of concern or has determined, based on the data provided in the application, there is no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an instream violation of the Georgia water quality standards. An example may be if the applicant reported "not detect" or "below detection limit".

Upon identification of a pollutant of concern by the permit writer, in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(ii), the permit writer must then perform a reasonable potential analysis using a procedure which has accounted for any combination of the following criteria: existing controls on point and nonpoint sources of pollution, the variability of the pollutant or pollutant parameter in the effluent, the sensitivity of the species to toxicity testing (when evaluating whole effluent toxicity), and where appropriate, the dilution of the effluent in the receiving water to determine if the pollutant and its discharge has the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an in-stream excursion above the allowable ambient concentration of a state narrative or numeric criteria within the state's water quality standard for an individual pollutant.

In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(iii), if the permit writer has determined, using a reasonable potential procedure the pollutant of concern in the discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an in-stream excursion above the allowable ambient concentration of a state numeric or narrative criteria within a state water quality standard for an individual pollutant, the permit must contain effluent limits for that pollutant. If the permit writer has determined there is insufficient data, the permit writer might also consider monitoring requirements to collect the additional data related to the presence or absence of a specific pollutant to provide information for further analyses for the development of appropriate numeric or narrative standard .

The conventional, nonconventional, and toxic pollutants listed in the following sections have been identified by the permit writer as pollutants of concern and the permit writer has determined through current practices and procedures one of the following: no additional monitoring or numeric and/or narrative effluent limits are needed; additional monitoring is required; or numeric and/or narrative effluent limits are necessary to protect the receiving water body and its downstream users and those limits have been included in the permit.

The monitoring and sampling locations are prescribed in the permit and determined by the permit writer after considering, at a minimum, the following: type of discharge, specific pollutant, discharge frequency, location of the discharge, receiving waterbody, downstream users, etc.

The sample type, grab vs. composite, is prescribed in the permit and determined by the permit writer after considering, at a minimum, the analytical method required in 40 C.F.R. §136, the type of pollutant, retention time, etc. Grab samples are required for the analysis of pH, temperature, cyanide, total phenols, residual chlorine, oil and grease, fecal coliform (including *E. coli*), or volatile organics.

4.3 Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)

WET tests are not required for facilities with a permitted design flow less than 1.0 MGD and without an approved pre-treatment program; therefore, no WET test results were submitted with the application and the draft permit does not include any WET testing requirements.

4.4 Conventional Pollutants

Discharge from the underdrain collection system – Outfall # 001:

Pollutants of Concern	Basis
pH	pH monitoring has been included in the draft permit. If stream monitoring or water quality monitoring indicates the need for a higher level of treatment, EPD may modify the permit to include a pH limit along with a compliance schedule to meet the new limit, if necessary.
Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD_5)	A monthly average limit of 10.0 mg/L has been included in the draft permit. A review of the DMRs indicates that the facility can meet the new limitation, therefore a compliance schedule has not been included. If stream monitoring or water quality monitoring indicates the need for a higher level of treatment, EPD may modify the permit to include a more stringent limit along with a compliance schedule to meet the new limit.
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	A monthly average limit of 20 mg/L has been included in the draft permit. The proposed limit is in accordance with EPD's *Guidelines for Establishing Technology-Based Total Suspended Solids (TSS) Limits in Domestic Wastewater NPDES Permits*, 2020. A review of the DMRs indicates that the facility can meet the new limitation, therefore a compliance schedule has not been included. If stream monitoring or water quality monitoring indicates the need for a higher level of treatment, EPD may modify the permit to include a more stringent limit along with a compliance schedule to meet the new limit.
Fecal Coliform Bacteria (FCB)	Monitoring requirements have been maintained in the draft permit. If stream monitoring or water quality monitoring indicates the need for a higher level of treatment, EPD may modify the permit to include a FCB limit along with a compliance schedule to meet the new limit.

4.5 Nonconventional Pollutants

Discharge from the underdrain collection system – Outfall # 001:

Pollutants of Concern	Basis
Total Phosphorus (TP)	Total phosphorus monitoring has been included in the draft permit in accordance with EPD's *Strategy for Addressing Phosphorus in NPDES Permitting*, 2011.
Orthophosphate, Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN), Organic Nitrogen, Nitrate-Nitrite	Orthophosphate, organic nitrogen, TKN and nitrate-nitrite monitoring has been included in the draft permit. The data will be used to determine nutrient speciation and to quantify nutrient loadings in the Ogeechee River Basin.
Ammonia (NH_3)	The current permit does not include ammonia effluent limitations. In the future, if instream monitoring or water quality modeling indicates the need for a higher level of treatment to meet or protect the Water Quality Standards for dissolved oxygen, then EPD may modify the permit to include an ammonia limit along with a compliance schedule to meet the new limit, if necessary. In accordance with EPD's *NPDES Permitting Strategy for Addressing Ammonia Toxicity*, 2017, NPDES permits that do not have ammonia limits are to be reissued with effluent ammonia monitoring. As resources allow and as permits are coming up for reissuance, EPD will conduct instream monitoring upstream and downstream of the facility. If data indicates a problem with the narrative toxicity criteria for mussels then, based on a priority consideration regarding water quality impact, EPD will reissue or modify the permit with an ammonia limit that complies with 2013 criteria, along with a compliance schedule to meet the new limit.

4.6 Toxics & Manmade Organic Compounds

Discharge from the underdrain collection system – Outfall # 001:

Expanded effluent testing data in EPA Form 3510-2A is not required for facilities with a permitted design flow less than 1.0 MGD and without an approved pre-treatment program; therefore, no test results were submitted with the application.

4.7 Calculations for Effluent Limits

Discharge from the underdrain collection system – Outfall # 001:

4.7.1 Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand:

Q = Flow
C = Concentration
M = Mass

- *Weekly Average Concentration:*

$[C]_{Weekly} = [C]_{Monthly}$ (mg/L) x 1.5

= 10.0 x 1.5

= 15.0 mg/L

4.7.2 Total Suspended Solids:

- *Weekly Average Concentration:*

$[C]_{Weekly} = [C]_{Monthly}$ (mg/L) x 1.5

= 20 x 1.5

= 30 mg/L

5. OTHER PERMIT REQUIREMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 Land Treatment System

5.1.1. Flow to the sprayfields

The current permit includes monthly and weekly flow limitations of 0.52 MGD and 0.65 MGD, respectively. However, the spray field has a capacity of 0.49 MGD (weekly average); therefore, a weekly average flow limitation of 0.49 MGD has been included in the draft permit.

5.1.2. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), and pH

BOD_5: 50 mg/L; TSS: 90 mg/L; pH: 6.0 – 9.0

The proposed BOD_5, TSS and pH limits in the draft permit are in accordance with EPD guidelines for land application of domestic wastewater.

5.1.3. Nitrogen monitoring:

Quarterly monitoring for nitrate and total Kjeldahl nitrogen for the storage pond effluent has been maintained in the draft permit to quantify nitrogen loading to the sprayfield and verify design assumptions.

5.1.4. Application rate, wetted area and site capacity:

Treated effluent is disposed of via spray irrigation:

Crop: Fescue

Wetted area: 55 acres (divided into 5 zones)

Application rate: 2.3 in/week

Site capacity:

The maximum allowable flow to the spray field is as follows:

$$\text{Site capacity} = \frac{A_{Site}\,(\text{acres}) \times \text{WLR}\,(\text{in/week}) \times 43{,}560\,\text{ft}^2/\text{acre} \times 7.48\,\text{gal/ft}^3}{12\,\text{in/ft}}\ \text{gal/week}$$

$$= \frac{55 \times 2.3 \times 43{,}560 \times 7.48}{12}$$

= 3,434,778 gal/week maximum or 0.49 MGD (7-day average)

5.1.5. Groundwater Monitoring Requirements:

The intent of monitoring is to determine the influence of the land treatment system on the quality of the groundwater. Groundwater leaving the spray field boundaries must meet drinking water maximum contaminant levels (MCLs).

In accordance with EPD requirements for all municipal LAS facilities, groundwater will be monitored for the following parameters:

Parameter (units)
Depth to Groundwater (feet)
Nitrate, as N (mg/L)
pH (standard units)
Specific Conductivity (µmhos/cm)
Escherichia Coli (#/100mL)

Groundwater monitoring at the site is conducted in one upgradient (P2) and one downgradient (P1) wells.

5.1.6. Soil Monitoring Requirements:

The intent of monitoring is to determine the influence of the treated wastewater on the soil chemistry/composition. It will also aid the permittee with operation and maintenance of the land treatment system.

In accordance with EPD requirements for all municipal LAS facilities, requirements to conduct soil fertility tests, as well as Cation Exchange Capacity and Percent Base Saturation analysis (depending on pH results), have been included in the draft permit.

Based on the application submitted, it has been determined that monitoring for additional parameters is not required at this time.

5.1.7. Surface Water Monitoring Requirements:

The intent of monitoring is to determine if the facility has an impact on perennial surface water adjacent to or traversing the sprayfields by comparing results from upstream and downstream samples.

Surface water, if present, will be monitored for the following parameters:

Parameter (units)
Nitrate, as N (mg/L)
Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)
Specific Conductivity (µmhos/cm)
pH (standard units)
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (mg/L)
Temperature (°C)
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)

There is no surface water adjacent to the sprayfields. However, instream monitoring to measure impact of the discharge from the underdrain system has been included in the draft permit (refer to section below)

5.2 Instream monitoring

Monitoring requirements for the unnamed tributary upstream and downstream of the discharge has been included in the draft permit.

5.3 Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP)

The City of Claxton does not have an approved IPP; therefore, language for establishing an IPP, if necessary, has been included in the draft permit.

5.4 Sludge Management Plan (SMP)

Sludge is disposed of in a landfill (Evans County Landfill, 3 Freeman Street, Claxton, Georgia 30417) therefore, a SMP is not required.

5.5 Watershed Protection Plan (WPP)

The City of Claxton does not have an approved WPP. A WPP is only required for new or expanding facilities, as well as for facilities with design permitted flow greater or equal to 1.0 MGD.

5.6 Service Delivery Strategy

The City of Claxton is in compliance with the Department of Community Affairs approved Service Delivery Strategy for Evans County.

5.7 Compliance Schedules

Effluent limitations are applicable immediately upon the effective date of the permit.

5.8 Anti-Backsliding

The limits in this permit are in compliance with the 40 C.F.R. 122.44(l), which requires a reissued permit to be as stringent as the previous permit.

6. REPORTING

6.1 Compliance Office

The facility has been assigned to the following EPD office for reporting, compliance and enforcement:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Coastal District – Brunswick Office
400 Commerce Center Drive
Brunswick, Georgia 31523

6.2 E-Reporting

The permittee is required to electronically submit documents in accordance with 40 CFR Part 127.

7. REQUESTED VARIANCES OR ALTERNATIVES TO REQUIRED STANDARDS

Not applicable.

8. PERMIT EXPIRATION

The permit will expire five years from the effective date.

9. PROCEDURES FOR THE FORMULATION OF FINAL DETERMINATIONS

9.1 Comment Period

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) proposes to issue a permit to this applicant subject to the effluent limitations and special conditions outlined above. These determinations are tentative.

The permit application, draft permit, and other information are available for review at 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Suite 1152 East, Atlanta, Georgia 30334, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and on EPD's website accessible through the publicly available Georgia EPD Online System (GEOS) at: https://geos.epd.georgia.gov/GA/GEOS/Public/GovEnt/Shared/Pages/Main/Login.aspx For additional information, you can contact 404-463-1511.

9.2 Public Comments

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations are invited to submit same in writing to the EPD address above, or via e-mail at *EPDcomments@dnr.ga.gov* within 30 days of the initiation of the public comment period. All comments received prior to that date will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the application. The permit number should be placed on the top of the first page of comments to ensure that your comments will be forwarded to the appropriate staff.

9.3 Public Hearing

Any applicant, affected state or interstate agency, the Regional Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or any other interested agency, person or group of persons may request a public hearing with respect to an NPDES permit application if such request is filed within thirty (30) days following the date of the public notice for such application. Such request must indicate the interest of the party filing the request, the reasons why a hearing is requested, and those specific portions of the application or other NPDES form or information to be considered at the public hearing.

The Director shall hold a hearing if he determines that there is sufficient public interest in holding such a hearing. If a public hearing is held, notice of same shall be provided at least thirty (30) days in advance of the hearing date.

In the event that a public hearing is held, both oral and written comments will be accepted; however, for the accuracy of the record, written comments are encouraged. The Director or a designee reserves the right to fix reasonable limits on the time allowed for oral statements and such other procedural requirements, as deemed appropriate.

Following a public hearing, the Director, unless it is decided to deny the permit, may make such modifications in the terms and conditions of the proposed permit as may be appropriate and shall issue the permit.

If no public hearing is held, and, after review of the written comments received, the Director determines that a permit should be issued and that the determinations as set forth in the proposed permit are substantially unchanged, the permit will be issued and will become final in the absence of a request for a contested hearing. Notice of issuance or denial will be made available to all interested persons and those persons that submitted written comments to the Director on the proposed permit.

If no public hearing is held, but the Director determines, after a review of the written comments received, that a permit should be issued but that substantial changes in the proposed permit are warranted, public notice of the revised determinations will be given and written comments accepted in the same manner as the initial notice of application was given and written comments accepted pursuant to EPD Rules, Water Quality Control, subparagraph 391-3-6-.06(7)(b). The Director shall provide an opportunity for public hearing on the revised determinations. Such opportunity for public hearing and the issuance or denial of a permit thereafter shall be in accordance with the procedures as are set forth above.

9.4 Final Determination

At the time that any final permit decision is made, the Director shall issue a response to comments. The issued permit and responses to comments can be found at the following address:

http://epd.georgia.gov/watershed-protection-branch-permit-and-public-comments-clearinghouse-0

9.5 Contested Hearings

Any person who is aggrieved or adversely affected by the issuance or denial of a permit by the Director of EPD may petition the Director for a hearing if such petition is filed in the office of the Director within thirty (30) days from the date of notice of such permit issuance or denial. Such hearing shall be held in accordance with the EPD Rules, Water Quality Control, subparagraph 391-3-6-.01.

Petitions for a contested hearing must include the following:

1. The name and address of the petitioner;
2. The grounds under which petitioner alleges to be aggrieved or adversely affected by the issuance or denial of a permit;
3. The reason or reasons why petitioner takes issue with the action of the Director;
4. All other matters asserted by petitioner which are relevant to the action in question.

FACT SHEET

Appendix A

Claxton Water Pollution Control Plant
NPDES Permit No. GA0038351

Waste Load Allocation (WLA)

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
Wasteload Allocation Form

AHV

Part I: Background Information

WLA Request Type:	Reissuance ☒	Expansion ☐	Relocation ☐	New Discharge ☐	Reevaluation ☐		
Facility Name:	Claxton WPCP		County:	Evans	WQMU:	0209	
NPDES Permit No.:	GA0038361		Expiration Date:	4/30/2020	Outfall Number:	001	
Receiving Water:	Unnamed Tributary to Canoochee River		River Basin:	Ogeechee	10-Digit HUC:	0306020304	
Discharge Type:	Domestic ☒	Industrial ☐	Both ☐	Proportion (D:I):	Flow(s) Requested (MGD):	(0.52)	

Industrial Contributions Type(s):

Treatment Process Description: Influent bar screen, two aerated treatment ponds, a holding pond and a LAS sprayfield. An underdrain system located underneath the LAS collects groundwater to be discharged to natural swales that discharge to an unnamed tributary to the Canoochee River.

Additional Information: (history, special conditions, other facilities): 1st WLA reissuance

Requested by: WRP Title: Program: WRP

Telephone: Date: 2019

Part II: Receiving Water Information

Receiving Water: Unnamed Tributary to the Canoochee River Designated Use Classification: Fishing

Integrated 305(b)/303(d) List: Yes ☐ No ☒ Support: ☐ Not Support: ☐ Criteria:

Total Maximum Daily Load: Yes ☒ No ☐ Parameter(s) TWR, DO WLA Complies with TMDL Yes ☒ No ☐

A TMDL for total mercury fish tissue in the Canoochee River was finished in 2005. Claxton WPCP is a minor facility with LAS plus underdrain discharge system, it is not expected to contribute mercury in amounts greater than the loadings in the TMDL. This facility is not named in the DO TMDL completed in 2005 and revised in 2007 for stream segments in the Ogeechee River Basin.

Part III: Water Quality Model Review Information

Model Type: Uncalibrated ☐ Calibrated ☐ Verified ☐ Not Modeled ☒ Model Length (mi):

Field Data: None ☐ Fair ☐ Good ☐ Excellent ☐

Model and Field Data Description:

Critical Water Temperature:(°C):	27	Drainage Area (mi^2):	1.4	Mean annual streamflow at discharge (cfs):	1.1
7Q10 Yield (cfs/mi^2):		Velocity (range fps).		30Q3 streamflow at discharge (cfs):	0.011
Effluent Flow Rate (cfs):	(0.80)	IWC (%):	100	7Q10 streamflow at discharge (cfs):	0.003
Slope (range - fpm):	K1:	K3:	K2 :	1Q10 streamflow at discharge (cfs):	0.001
SOD:	Escape Coef. (ft^{-1}):	f-Ratio BOD_u/BOD_5		Background Hardness (as $CaCO_3$)(mg/L):	20

Part IV: Recommended Permit Limitations and Conditions (mg/L as a monthly average except as noted)

Rationale: Same as current ☐ Revised ☒ New ☐

Location: Unnamed Tributary to the Canoochee River at Underdrain Pipe Discharge

Effluent Flow Rate (MGD)	BOD_5	NH_3-N	Fecal Coliform (No./100ml)	Total Phosphorus	*DO *Temperature (Instream)
-	10	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor

Additional Comments:

- Priority pollutants permit limits, aquatic toxicity testing requirements and other parameters required by categorical effluent guidelines or identified during review of permit application are to be determined by WRP.
- Discharges from the underdrain outfall occur intermittantly. From 2010 to 2019, the facility reported average discharge is less than 0.03 MGD.
- BOD_5 limit is based on analysis of DMR data from LAS underdrain permits.
- *Instream monitoring of DO and temperature is recommended from May through October. The monitoring locations should include upstream and downstream from the underdrain discharge.

Prepared by: Lucy Sun LS Date: 12/12/2019 | Reviewed by: Josh Welte JW Date: 12.DEC.19

Part V: Program Manager Comments

Elizabeth O Booth

Elizabeth Booth Date: 12/12/19

FACT SHEET

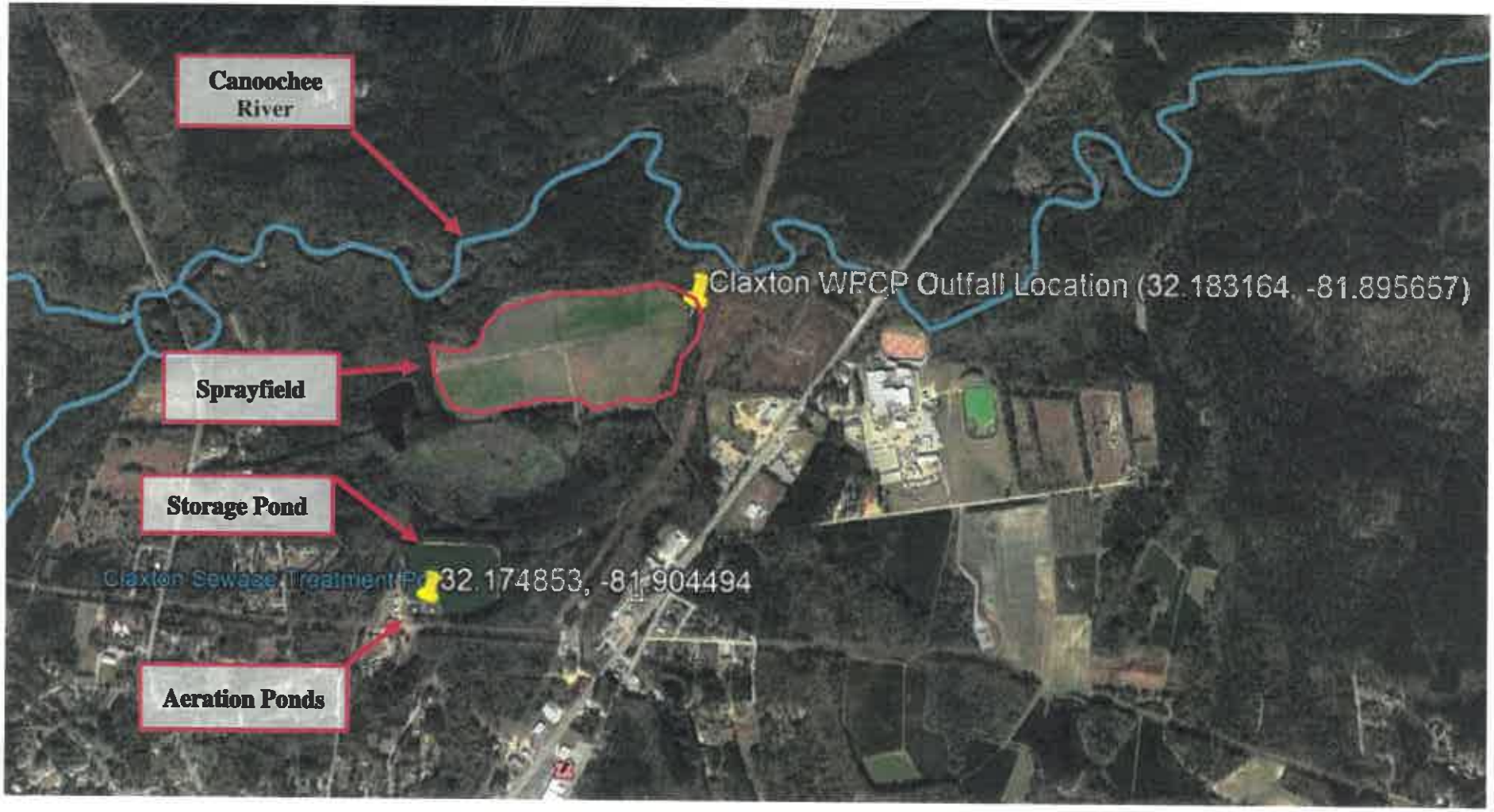
Appendix B

Claxton Water Pollution Control Plant
NPDES Permit No. GA0038351

Location Map

Claxton Water Pollution Control Plant
NPDES Permit No. GA0038351

Prepared by: Alyssa Thomson
Date: January 2021



Source: Google, 2020

Site Location