



The State of New Hampshire  
**Department of Environmental Services**



**Robert R. Scott, Commissioner**

September 20, 2017

Terry Desmarais  
City Engineer  
Portsmouth Public Works Department  
680 Peaverly Hill Road  
Portsmouth, NH 03807

Re: Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment Program  
Compliance Inspection

Dear Mr. Desmarais:

On August 22, 2017, the Department of Environmental Services (DES) conducted a Pretreatment Compliance Inspection (PCI) of the Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) for the City of Portsmouth's Wastewater Treatment Facilities (WWTF). The WWTF are comprised of the Pease Wastewater Treatment Plant located at the Pease International Tradeport and the Portsmouth Wastewater Treatment Plant located on Peirce Island.

The findings of the PCI indicate that overall the IPP is properly structured and effectively implemented. A few areas for potential improvement were discovered during the PCI, namely;

1. The Sewer Use Ordinance (SUO) currently in effect is circa 1971, and it is silent on the IPP's responsibility to control the discharge of fats, oil and grease (FOG) from food service establishments (FSE) into the WWTF. With the substantial upgrade of the Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Plant soon to be completed, an overall revision and update of the SUO would be timely.
2. The WWTF's existing protocol for inspecting Industrial Users (IU) is to inspect only at time of discharge permit renewal or substantial change in discharge characteristics or source. Though not a regulatory requirement, more frequent (e.g. annual) inspections of major IU could prove beneficial to the continued successful operation of the pretreatment program.

Thank you for your time and efforts assisting in the PCI.

Please feel free to contact me at 603-271-2052 or [alexis.rastorguyeff@des.nh.gov](mailto:alexis.rastorguyeff@des.nh.gov) with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Alexis Rastorguyeff, PE  
Wastewater Engineering Bureau  
Industrial Pretreatment Supervisor

Cc: