

CITY of GALLATIN County Seat of Daviess County, Missouri

EXHIBIT A

112 East Grand Gallatin, MO 64640 Ph: 660-663-2011

Fax: 660-663-3978

October 11, 2013

Rains Natural Meats 23500 260th St Gallatin, MO 64640

RE: Wastewater Treatment

Dear Mr. Rains,

As you are aware, the City of Gallatin and Rains Natural Meats have had an agreement in place since 1998 to allow your facility to transfer wastewater to our collection system for treatment. In a letter of understanding dated October 25, 1998, the City addressed two prior concerns with this process. First, water quality test were completed on the transferred wastewater to ensure low organic strength and there would be no negative effect to our treatment facility. Second, the City requested the wastewater continue to be added to our collection system upstream from the treatment facility. This is necessary to help equalize the wastewater flow into and through our treatment facility.

From 1998 to 2013, the City has had no issues with this process. The additional loading by your transfer has had no effects on our treatment facility. Loading has been done at optimal times and has not caused any issues regarding flow. Therefore, the City sees no reasons not to continue doing business with Rains Natural Meats. You have been forward and up front with your intentions and I was glad to resign the 10/25/98 letter on August 13, 2013 to continue our working relationship.

On September 20, 2013, I was contacted by Steven Feeler with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Feeler informed me that by accepting your wastewater the City of Gallatin *might* be in violation of our permit. Mr. Feeler stated MoDNR's attorneys were reviewing the issue. I informed Mr. Feeler of the urgency of MoDNR's findings. As of this letter, we have received no word from MoDNR on the issue.

We feel that accepting your waste does not violate our permit and we intend to argue the issue if that is the stance MoDNR decided to take. Our argument is very simple. MoDNR required the Gallatin Livestock Auction, a local sale barn located within the city limits of Gallatin, to construct a "holding basin" to collect all runoff from the livestock holding pens. The wastewater collected in the "holding basin" is pumped into the City's wastewater collection system. Gallatin Livestock Auction's permit was just renewed by MoDNR in July 2011. Their permit number is MO-0136646. We feel the wastewater from your facility and from the Gallatin Livestock Auction is similar in nature and therefore should be allowed.

When the Gallatin Livestock Auction's permit was discussed with Mr. Feeler, he indicated being directly connected to our system is what makes the process acceptable. We will continue to argue how a direct connection is a negative impact on our collection system. With a direct connection, we lose the ability to control when the additional wastewater is entered into our system. This has caused problems in the past at our treatment plant during high flow events. Your method of transferring is much more suitable for our treatment plant and our operators.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at City Hall (660.663.2011).

Sincerely,

Zachary Johnson City Administrator