Wastewater Enforcement: Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment - Division of Environmental Quality and Sparkman Lumber Facility Enter into Consent Administrative Order

Walter Wright, Jr.
wwright@mwlaw.com
(501) 688.8839

02/10/2026

The Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Division of Environmental Quality ("DEQ") and Ray White Lumber Company ("RWLC") entered into a January 30th Consent Administrative Order ("CAO") addressing alleged violations of a Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") Permit. See Case #: CAO-25-0085.

The CAO provides that RWLC operates a lumber facility in Sparkman, Arkansas.

The facility is stated to hold an NPDES Permit. Further, the facility is stated to discharge treated wet deck wastewater, boiler blowdown, and stormwater runoff to an unnamed tributary of Cypress Creek, which eventually flows into the Ouachita River.

The CAO identifies the following alleged violations:

- Failure to report monitoring results on a Discharge Monitoring Report no later than the 25th day of the month following the end of the monitoring period (referencing 12 monitoring periods that are past due).
- Failure to submit an administratively complete permit renewal application at least 180 days before the expiration date of the permit.

The CAO requires that RWLC submit on or before the effective date of the CAO an administratively complete permit renewal application. Further, the facility is required to comply with the existing permit until the renewal permit is issued.

The facility is also required to submit Discharge Monitoring Reports in accordance with the relevant sections of its NPDES Permit.

A civil penalty of $3,700 is assessed.

A copy of the CAO can be found here.