



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

January 12, 2007

In Reply Refer To: WTR-7

Lance Heidenrich, Vice President  
American Reeling Devices, Inc.  
15 Air Park Vista Blvd  
Dayton, Nevada 89403

**Re: July 20, 2006 Clean Water Act Inspection**

Dear Mr. Heidenrich:

Enclosed is the January 12, 2007 report for our July 20 inspection of American Reeling Device. Please submit a short response to the findings in Sections 2 through 5 of this report, to EPA, Lyon County, and the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection, by **March 30, 2007**.

The main findings are summarized below:

- 1 American Reeling is an industrial user of the Lyon County sewer system that does not qualify for regulation under any Federal categorical rule or as a significant industrial user.
- 2 The only process-related discharges consists of shop floor mop water drainage. American Reeling does not need an industrial users permit as long as shop floor spills and drips are first wiped up with rags or dry swept-up with absorbents. Otherwise, the mop waters would require self-monitoring for oil & grease and pH at a minimum, and a sampling station would need to be established.
- 3 The lack of floor drains and the cleanliness of incoming parts minimize the generation of pollutants and thus the inadvertent introduction of pollutants into the sewers.

I certainly appreciate your helpfulness extended to me during this inspection. I remain available to Lyon County and to you to assist in any way. Please do not hesitate to call me at (415) 972-3504 or e-mail at [arthur.greg@epa.gov](mailto:arthur.greg@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

Greg V. Arthur  
CWA Compliance Office

Enclosure

cc: Joe Maez, NDEP  
Skeet Sellers, Lyon County



**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**REGION 9**

**CLEAN WATER ACT COMPLIANCE OFFICE**

**NPDES COMPLIANCE EVALUATION INSPECTION REPORT**

Industrial User: American Reeling Devices, Inc.  
15 Air Park Vista Blvd, Dayton, Nevada 89403  
Non-Categorical Non-Significant Industrial User

Treatment Works: Lyon County Utilities Department  
South Dayton Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant  
(No NPDES Permit - Nevada Permit NEV10017)

Date of Inspection: July 20, 2006

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Inspection Participants:

US EPA: Greg V. Arthur, Region 9, CWA Compliance Office, (415) 972-3504

State of Nevada: Joe Maez, NDEP, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, (775) 687-9431  
Steve McGoff, NDEP, Bureau of Water Poll Control

Lyon County: Skeet Sellers, Utilities, Wastewater Supervisor, (775) 246-6220

American Reeling: Lance Heidenrich, Vice-President, (775) 246-7100

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Report Prepared By: Greg V. Arthur, Environmental Engineer

January 12, 2007



## **1.0 Scope and Purpose**

On July 20, 2006 EPA, the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (“NDEP”), and Lyon County conducted a compliance evaluation inspection of American Reeling Devices in Dayton, Nevada. The purpose was to ensure compliance with the Federal, State and local regulations covering the discharge of non-domestic wastewaters into the sewers under the Clean Water Act and the Nevada Revised Statutes. In particular, it was to ensure:

- Classification in the proper Federal categories;
- Application of the correct Federal, State and local standards at correct sampling points;
- Consistent compliance with the standards; and
- Fulfillment of Federal self-monitoring requirements.

American Reeling qualifies as an industrial user under the Clean Water Act within the Lyon County Utilities sewer service area. Lyon County operates the South Dayton Valley wastewater treatment plant under a State of Nevada ground water permit. It does not operate under an NPDES permit because the treatment plant discharges to ground waters and to a golf course for reclaim. Lyon County Utilities does qualify under the Clean Water Act as a publicly-owned treatment works ("POTW") subject to the Federal regulations for pretreatment and sludge in 40 CFR 403 and 503. The inspection participants are listed on the title page. Arthur conducted this inspection on July 20.

## **1.1 Process Description**

American Reeling is an integrated machine and sheet metal shop that manufactures industrial hose reels from aluminum, steel, and stainless steel bar stock and sheet metal, and aluminum and bronze castings. The operations involve welding, lathe turning, bending, sheet metal fabrication, drilling, punch pressing, aqueous degreasing, and dry-booth powder coating. The operations do not involve forming steps such as rolling, casting, extrusion, or forging, nor other metal finishing steps such as electroplating, conversion coating, pickling, descaling, anodizing, or dyeing. Shop floor mop water constitutes the only discharge of process-related wastewater from American Reeling to the Lyon County domestic sewers.

## **1.2 Facility SIC Code**

American Reeling is assigned the SIC code for the manufacturing of miscellaneous fabricated metal products (SIC 3499).

## **1.3 Wastewater Sources and Handling**

The only process-related wastewaters discharged to the sewers are shop floor mop waters. These wastewaters could be expected to contain oil and grease, suspended solids, and surfactants, depending on the sort of clean-up methods used. American Reeling provides no on-site treatment. All other wastewaters are off-hauled for disposal or recycling.



Powder Coating – Manufactured hose reels are degreased through the manual wipe-down with an aqueous or solvent degreaser, with spents and rags handled for off-site disposal by Safety Kleen. The powder coating involves two dry-booths and one curing oven. The powder coating steps do not generate wastewaters.

Machining and Sheet Metal - The machining operations use a water-based Trimsol coolant cutting fluid. The machining and sheet metal shop itself does not have floor drains. Instead spills and drips on the floor are cleaned up through wet floor cleaning drained into a janitor's work sink to the sewers. Spent coolants are hauled off-site for recycling. The metal machining chips are hauled off-site to Western metals Recycling.

Domestic Sewage Sources – This inspection did not entail a determination of the domestic sewage sources to the sewers. There are no floor drains observed anywhere in the facility.

#### **1.4 POTW Wastewater Treatment**

State and Federal Legal Authorities – Lyon County operates the South Dayton Valley wastewater treatment plant under the authority of NDEP permit NEV10017 for the discharge of treated wastewater for reclaim and to the ground water. Lyon County does not possess a Federal NPDES permit issued under the Clean Water Act because the treated sewage does not discharge to surface waters. Nevertheless, Lyon County does qualify as a publicly-owned treatment works (“POTW”) under the Federal definition in 40 CFR 403.3(o) because the wastewater treatment plant treats mixed domestic and non-domestic wastewaters and its sludges are regulated under the Clean Water Act by the Federal regulations in 40 CFR 503.

POTW Configuration – The South Dayton Valley wastewater treatment plant consists of two treatment trains: a sequencing batch reactor ("SBR") and extended aeration lagoons. The City of Dayton generates an average of 220,000 gpd of domestic sewage. The domestic sewage feeds at a constant 140,000 gpd rate into the SBR. The remaining domestic flows are diverted through a splitter to the extended aeration lagoons. The SBR provides aerobic degradation, nitrification, and denitrification. In addition, the Dayton Valley business park generates an average of 60,000 gpd of process-related wastewaters and domestic sewage. Business park wastewaters, excess domestic sewage from city averaging 80,000 gpd, and the aerobic digester sludge from the SBR feed into the first of four lagoons. Primary Ponds #1 and #2 are aerated lagoons in series. Secondary Ponds #A and #B are facultative lagoons operated one at a time. The facultative lagoons discharge without chlorination to a rapid infiltration basin. The SBR discharges without chlorination to a golf course for reclaim.

#### **1.5 State and Local Legal Authorities**

There are no local or State permits in effect directly regulating the discharge of non-domestic wastewaters from American Reeling to the Lyon County sewers. However, a State permit issued to Lyon County indirectly affects the discharge from American Reeling. The State permit imposes ground water quality discharge limits upon the city sewage treatment plant and the Federal sludge standards to the disposal of city sewage treatment plant sludge.



Ground Water Permit for Lyon County - Permit NEV10017 does not require Lyon County to obtain an approved pretreatment program. This is in keeping with the Federal regulations in 40 CFR 403.8(a) that allow for, but do not mandate, States or EPA to require small POTWs with design capacities under 5.0 mgd to obtain approved pretreatment programs. The permit also does not impose any pretreatment provisions. However, NDEP has recommended that Lyon County obtain an approved pretreatment program. Lyon County drafted a sewer use ordinance (reviewed by EPA) but as of yet has not adopted it into municipal law.

Sewer Discharge Permits for American Reeling - Lyon County cannot issue its own local industrial user permits until the ordinance is adopted and the pretreatment program is funded by the Lyon County supervisors. NDEP has not issued a site-specific ground water permit that extends the Nevada revised statutes to American Reeling, as an industrial discharger into a sewage treatment plant regulated under a State ground water permit.

## **1.6 Compliance Sampling**

There currently is no identified location that could serve as an overall compliance sampling point for the non-domestic wastewaters.



## 2.0 Sewer Discharge Standards and Limits

*Federal categorical pretreatment standards (where they exist), national prohibitions, State groundwater, and the local limits (where they exist) must be applied to the sewer discharges from industrial users. (40 CFR 403.5 and 403.6).*

### **Summary**

There are no Federal categorical pretreatment standards that apply to the process wastewater discharges from American Reeling to the sewers. However, American Reeling is subject to the self-implementing authority of the national prohibitions in 40 CFR 403.5(a)(b). Once Lyon County obtains pretreatment program approval, its local limits would be technically-based on the State ground water limits and Federal sludge standards that apply to the South Dayton Valley wastewater treatment plant. The application of Federal standards, national prohibitions, and local limits was determined through visual inspection. *See* Appendix 1.

### **Requirements**

- Any permit must apply technically-based local limits derived from the regulatory requirements that now apply to the South Dayton Valley wastewater treatment plant.

### **Recommendations**

- If shop floor spills and drips are not wiped-up with rags or dry swept-up with absorbents, then the shop floor mop water should be sampled at least once for oil & grease and pH.

## 2.1 Classification by Federal Point Source Category

American Reeling does not qualify as a categorical industrial user subject to any of the Federal standards in 40 CFRs 407-471. In particular, American Reeling does not qualify as a metal finisher under 40 CFR 433 because the operations do not involve any of the six core metal finishing operations of electroplating, electroless plating, anodizing, chemical etching, chemical coating, or printed circuit board manufacturing. Powder coating often falls under the metal finishing rule when it involves acid preparation and a discharges to the sewers. Neither condition exists at American Reeling. American Reeling also does not qualify under the iron and steel, metals casting, aluminum forming, copper forming, or non-ferrous metals forming rules in 40 CFR 420, 464, 467, 468 or 471 because the operation do not involve the manufacturing or galvanizing of steel, metals casting, forging, rolling, extrusion, or drawing.

## 2.2 Local Limits and National Prohibitions

Local limits and national prohibitions are meant to express the limitations on non-domestic discharges necessary to protect the sewers, treatment plants, treatment plant sludges, and their receiving waters from adverse impacts. Generally, technically-based numerical local



limits supplant national prohibitions and any site-specific State limits. *See* Appendix 1 for the national prohibitions and local limits that currently apply.

National Prohibitions – For POTWs to surface waters, the national prohibitions in 40 CFR 403.5 prohibit discharges that can cause the pass-through of pollutants into the receiving waters, operational interference of the treatment works, sewage sludge contamination, sewer worker health and safety risks, fire or explosive risks, and corrosive sewer damage. Pass-through and interference, however, as defined in the Federal regulations only occur when NPDES permit limits are violated. So with no NPDES permit for Lyon County, the national prohibitions cannot prohibit discharges that result in violations of the NDEP ground water permit either through pass-through or operational interference. They do however prohibit discharges that cause unpermitted discharges or bypasses to surface waters.

Local Limits – However, local limits should protect the POTW from all adverse impacts including violations of State permits. In this case, technically-based local limits would be approved if they restrict discharges that can cause the pass-through of pollutants and operational interference resulting in violations of the NDEP ground water permit for Lyon County. Local limits still need to be adopted based on the performance of the sewage treatment plants and the current regulatory requirements in the NDEP permit and the Federal sludge regulations. They would apply to all non-domestic discharges in its service area upon adoption.

## **2.5 Compliance Sampling**

If shop floor spills and drips are wiped-up with rags or dry swept-up with absorbents, then discharge sampling points to the sewers do not need to be established.

## **2.6 Pollutants of Concern**

The pollutants of concern for American Reeling comprise those regulated by the national prohibitions and site-specific pollutants for which there is a potential to cause the South Dayton Valley wastewater treatment plant to violate its NDEP permit or Federal sludge limits.

National Prohibitions – The pollutant measures regulated by the national prohibitions would include pH for corrosivity, *40 CFR 403.5(b)(2)*.

Local Limits – Site-specific pollutants can cause violations of the NDEP permit or Federal sludge limits in two ways. First, the pollutants could cause an operational interference of the treatment works which results in either (1) the unauthorized release of untreated or partially treated sewage or (2) the violation of permit limits for pollutants that measure performance such as BOD. Second, the pollutants could pass-through the treatment works into either the WWTP sludge or the receiving waters at levels exceeding permit or regulatory limits. From this inspection, EPA determined that the only pollutants of concern at American Reeling likely include pH, and oil and grease.



### 3.0 Compliance with Federal Standards

*Industrial users must comply with the Federal categorical pretreatment standards that apply to their process wastewater discharges. 40 CFR 403.6(b).*

*Categorical industrial users must comply with the prohibition against dilution of the Federally-regulated waste streams as a substitute for treatment. 40 CFR 403.6(d).*

*Industrial users must comply with the provision restricting the bypass of treatment necessary to comply with any pretreatment standard or requirement. 40 CFR 403.17(d).*

#### ***Summary***

No Federal categorical standards apply to the wastewaters generated by American Reeling.

#### ***Requirements***

- None.

#### ***Recommendations***

- None.





#### 4.0 Compliance with Local Limits and National Prohibitions

*All non-domestic wastewater discharges to the sewers must comply with local limits and the national prohibitions. 40 CFR 403.5(a,b,d).*

*Industrial users must comply with the provision restricting the bypass of treatment necessary to comply with any pretreatment standard or requirement. 40 CFR 403.17(d).*

##### **Summary**

American Reeling generates almost no process-related wastewaters, primarily because the materials and parts arrive descaled and cleaned, the powder coating does not involve aqueous preparation steps, and there are no shop floor drains. As a result, the only wastewaters discharged to the sewers are shop floor mop waters. The only other wastewaters generated, spent solvent degreasers, spent water-based machining coolant, are off-hauled for disposal or recycling. Therefore, no permit would be needed as long as American Reeling has instituted a procedure to clean-up shop floor spills and drips by wiping with rags or dry sweeping with absorbents.

##### **Requirements**

- None.

##### **Recommendations**

- None.

#### 4.1 National Objectives

The general pretreatment regulations were promulgated in order to fulfill the national objectives to prevent the introduction of pollutants that:

- (1) cause operational interference with sewage treatment or sludge disposal,
- (2) pass-through sewage treatment into the receiving waters or sludge,
- (3) are in any way incompatible with the sewerage works, or
- (4) do not improve the opportunities to recycle municipal wastewaters and sludge.

This inspection did not include an evaluation of whether achievement of the national objectives in 40 CFR 403.2 have been demonstrated by the Lyon County wastewater treatment plant through consistent compliance with their sludge and discharge limits.



## 5.0 Compliance with Federal Monitoring Requirements

*Significant industrial users must self-monitor for all regulated parameters at least twice per year unless the sewerage agency monitors in place of self-monitoring. 40 CFR 403.12(e) & 403.12(g).*

*Each sample must be representative of the sampling day's operations. Sampling must be representative of the conditions occurring during the reporting period. 40 CFR 403.12(g) and 403.12(h).*

### ***Summary***

American Reeling does not qualify as a significant industrial user since it is not subject to any Federal categorical standards and it discharges less than 25,000 gpd. Lyon County could designate American Reeling as a significant industrial user if the small wastewater discharges are found through sampling to entrain significant concentrations of pollutants deemed to pose a risk to the operations of the sewerage works. Otherwise, self-monitoring is not required to be advanced through a local permit.

### ***Requirements***

- See Appendix 1 for the expected self-monitoring requirements for American Reeling.

### ***Recommendations***

- None.



<b>Appendix 1</b> Sewer Discharge Standards and Limits American Reeling Devices						
pollutants of concern (mg/l)	Fed Categorical Standards		NDEP ⑥ Permit (d-max)	Nat'l ⑥ Prohibtns (instant)	Proposed LocLimits (instant)	Proposed Monitoring Frequency
	(d-max)	(mo-avg)				
est discharge (gals)	-	-	-	-	-	month est
pH (s.u.)	-	-	-	<5.0 su.	5.5-10.0	④
EC (µmohs/cm)	-	-	-	-	-	-
explosivity	-	-	-	① ②	-	-
oil&grease - petroleum	-	-	-	-	150	④
sulfides	-	-	-	-	0.1	-
BOD/COD	-	-	-	-	1000	-
total suspended solids	-	-	-	-	1000	-
cadmium	-	-	-	-	③	-
chromium	-	-	-	-	③	-
copper	-	-	-	-	③	-
iron	-	-	-	-	③	-
lead	-	-	-	-	③	-
mercury	-	-	-	-	③	-
molybdenum	-	-	-	-	③	-
nickel	-	-	-	-	③	-
selenium	-	-	-	-	③	-
silver	-	-	-	-	③	-
zinc	-	-	-	-	③	-
total cyanide	-	-	-	-	③	-
amenable cyanide	-	-	-	-	③	-
total toxic organics	-	-	-	-	③	-
temperature (°F)	-	-	-	⑤	③	-

① National-prohibitions - Closed-cup flash point <140°F and pH <5.0 su.  
 ② Narrative prohibition against the introduction of flammable or explosive substances  
 ③ Potential technically-based local limits to be re-adopted to ensure POTW permit compliance.  
 ④ One-time sample of the shop floor mop water sink if dry clean-up procedures are not used.  
 ⑤ National-prohibitions - Not causing >104°F at POTW's wastewater treatment plant

Proposed Self-Monitoring Frequency **red** - increase **black** - no change **green** - decrease