

ORDINANCE NO.: 2019-042

Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 23, Utilities and Engineering, Article IV, Wastewater Service, Sec. 23-112 Violations; penalty

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council this 18th day of June, 2019, that the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 23, Utilities and Engineering, Article IV, Wastewater Service, Sec. 23-112 Violations; penalty, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 23-112. Violations; administrative orders; penalties.

(a) Civil Penalties: Any person who violates the provisions of this Ordinance or the provisions of any permit or order issued pursuant to this Ordinance is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$2000 for each day of violation. Each day on which a violation occurs or continues shall be deemed a separate and distinct violation. In the case of a monthly or long-term average discharge limit, the civil penalty may be assessed for each day during the period of the violation. Prior to imposition of a civil penalty, the city will issue a rule to show cause pursuant to Section 23-1.

(b) Administrative Orders: In addition to any other remedy available under this Section, the POTW may issue an administrative order (1) imposing a schedule to achieve compliance with this Ordinance or a permit issued pursuant to this Ordinance, (2) ordering a user to cease and desist activities, including the discharge of wastewater, in violation of this Ordinance or a permit issued pursuant to this Ordinance, (3) terminating water and sewer service, (4) revoking a permit issued pursuant to this Ordinance; or (5) ordering such other action as deemed necessary to address a violation of this Ordinance or a permit issued pursuant to this Ordinance.

Any person who has been issued an administrative order may request a hearing by filing a request for hearing within fifteen calendar days of the date of issuance of the administrative order. The request shall be filed with the city clerk and shall include reference to the administrative order and the reasons for the request for a hearing. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Section 23-1.

(c) Criminal Penalties: Any person who knowingly discharges waste into any portion of the system in violation of this article; or who knowingly makes any false statement, representation or certification in any application, record, report, plan or other document or files required to be maintained pursuant to this article or any wastewater contribution permit; or who falsifies, tampers with or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable, upon conviction, in accordance with section 1-5, with a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than thirty days, or both. Each day on which a violation shall occur or continue shall be deemed a separate and distinct offense.

(d) Injunctive Relief: In addition to any other criminal or civil remedies that may be available under this Section, the POTW may bring a civil action to obtain an injunction against any person in violation of this Ordinance or any provision of a permit or order issued pursuant to this Ordinance.

This ordinance is effective as of July 1, 2019.

Requested by:

Assistant City Manager Shealy


Mayor

Approved by:


City Manager

Approved as to form:


City Attorney

ATTEST:


City Clerk

Public Hearing: 6/11/2019
Introduced: 6/18/2019
Final Reading: 6/18/2019

ORIGINAL
STAMPED IN RED