**The Texas Nitrogen Removal Program**

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division manages the NPDES surface water discharge program.

Based on communication with the Water Quality Division of the Texas Commission on Water Quality permitting and water quality planning staff there are four municipal or publicly owned (POTW) NPDES major dischargers, (over one million gallon per day average flow) that have total nitrogen or nitrate nitrogen limits. The permit limits at these facilities range from 15 mg/l to 30 mg/l total nitrogen. At present only one facility has been designed to use methanol and will only need to use supplemental carbon when the plant design flows reach near design capacity.

Texas has total nitrogen and nitrate nitrogen monitoring requirements at 32 major municipal wastewater treatment facilities without specific permit limits in place. Texas does not have any future total nitrogen permitting plans for major wastewater treatment plants at this time.

There are 23 meat, poultry processing and animal rendering facilities in Texas that have nitrogen monitoring requirements. One large beef processing facility uses glycerin for a supplemental carbon source to meet ground water nitrate nitrogen limits. One major poultry processing facility has an NPDES permit for nitrogen is based on the federal EPA technology based limit of 134 mg/l total nitrogen monthly average and 194 mg/l total nitrogen maximum month. Facilities that discharge to spray field or the ground water have a ground water nitrate nitrogen limit of 10 mg/l. Poultry and beef processing facilities that discharge into a municipal wastewater treatment facility have local limits that vary in the amount of nitrogen discharged into the municipal system. However, the municipal receiving facilities do not have a total nitrogen permit limit.