



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southeast District Office

2195 Front Street
Logan, Ohio 43138

TELE: (740) 385-8501 FAX: (740) 385-6490
www.epa.state.oh.us

Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor
Chris Korteski, Director

September 29, 2010

Re: Athens County
City of Athens
Reconnaissance Inspection
NPDES Permit OPD00000*HD
Correspondence (PWW)

Mayor Paul Wehl and Council
City of Athens
8 East Washington Street
Athens, Ohio 45701

Dear Mayor and Council:

On September 14, 2010, I conducted a reconnaissance inspection at the City of Athens wastewater sewer system. Scott Lambert, Athens Sewer Supervisor, represented the city during the inspection.

The purpose of the inspection was to examine the city's sanitary sewer and pump station system for compliance with the terms and conditions of the NPDES permit OPD00000*HD. Enclosed is a copy of my inspection report.

I have the following comments:

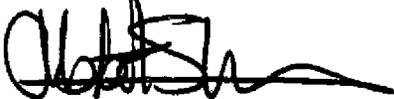
1. Scott Lambert has a class III wastewater operator's license and is the Operator of Record (ORC) for the collection system. Jeff Arnold, Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Superintendent, has a class III wastewater operator's license, and is the Operator of Record (ORC) for the WWTP. Jeff is also responsible for the operation and maintenance of the pump stations. He and Scott work together when there is a problem at a pump station. Ohio EPA has not received a Operator of Record form from the city for either the wastewater system or the water treatment plant. I have attached a copy of the form. Please return a completed copy for each the WWTP and the WTP as soon as possible to the address on the form with a copy to me at the Logan District Office.

The operator certification rules can be found at Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3745-07 and are available on our website at: <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/rules.aspx#ch7>. I strongly recommend that all city certified operators become familiar with the requirements in these rules, particularly record keeping requirements of OAC Chapter 3745-07-09.

2. The NPDES permit contains requirements for reporting sanitary sewer overflows (SSO). I have attached a copy of the language from the permit for your information. It is important that the Operators of Record are familiar with all the reporting requirements of this section. In addition to sewage overflowing from manholes and broken pipes or from a malfunctioning pump station, occasions where sewage backs up in basements (water in basement – WIB) must also be reported in the annual SSO report. See Part II, Item (2)(b)(iii) of the NPDES permit for details.
3. During the inspection of the Depot Street Pump Station it was noted that one of the three pumps was shut off. Provide an explanation for this and if repairs are required a schedule of when they will occur.
4. The 3 pump stations (PS) on SR 56: the A frame PS, the Dentist's Office PS and the SR 56 PS are all older stations that are showing signs of reaching the end of their useful life. Is there a replacement schedule for these pump stations?
5. We inspected the area of Fern Alley /Rose Alley/Court street in response to a citizen complaint regarding sewer odors and possible sanitary and storm sewer cross connections in the area. Scott indicated an investigation has been done and the problem has been identified. Provide a date when the construction for this sewer separation project will begin. A Permit to install will be required for this project if new sewerline and/or manholes are installed.

Please respond, in writing, within 30 days of receipt of this report, to Items 1-5 listed above. If you have any questions, please contact me at (740) 380-5284 at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Ms. Abbot Stevenson
Environmental Engineer
Permits and Enforcement Section
Division of Surface Water

AS/dh

Enclosure

- c: Andy Stone, Engineer & Director of Public Works, City of Athens
- c: Scott Lambert, Athens Sewer Supervisor
- c: Jeff Arnold, City of Athens WWTP

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

A. NATIONAL DATA SYSTEM CODING

Permit No.	NPDES No.	Date	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
OPD00000*HD	OH0023931	Sept. 14, 2010	R	S	1

B. FACILITY DATA

Name & Location of Facility Inspected	Entry Time	Permit Effective Date
Athens Wastewater Treatment Plant 557 E. State Street Athens, Ohio 45701	9:15 a.m.	January 1, 2008
	Exit Time	Permit Expiration Date
	4:00 p.m.	July 31, 2012

Name(s) & Title(s) of On-Site Representative(s)	Phone Number(s)
Scott Lambert, Athens Sewer Supervisor	(740) 593-7636
Name, Address, & Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number
Mayor Paul Wehl and City Council Members 8 East Washington Street Athens, Ohio 45701	(740) 592-3338

C. AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION

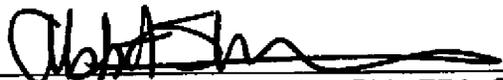
<u>S*</u> Permit	<u>N</u> Flow Measurement	<u>N</u> Pretreatment
<u>N</u> Records/Reports	<u>N</u> Laboratory	<u>N</u> Compliance Schedules
<u>S*</u> Operations & Maintenance	<u>N</u> Effluent/Receiving Waters	<u>N</u> Self-Monitoring Program
<u>S*</u> Facility Site Review	<u>N</u> Sludge Storage/Disposal	<u> </u> Other
<u>S</u> Collection System		

(S = Satisfactory; M = Marginal; U = Unsatisfactory; N = Not Evaluated; N/A = Not Applicable)

*These items were evaluated only with respect to the sewer collection system.

D. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS/COMMENTS (attach additional sheets if necessary)

See attached letter.


Abbot Stevenson, Inspector, Ohio EPA, Southeast District Office

9/29/10
Date


Timothy M. Campbell, Reviewer, Ohio EPA, Southeast District Office

9/29/10
Date