OhioEPA

State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northwest District Office

347 North Dunbridge Road
Bowling Green, OH 43402-9398

TELE: (419) 352-8461 FAX: (419) 352-8468
www.epa.state.oh.us

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

Re: Putnam County
Village of Columbus Grove WWTP
NPDES Permit

June 21, 2007

Attn: Jeffrey A. Vance
Village of Columbus Grove
113 E. Sycamore St.
Columbus Grove, Ohio 45830

Dear Mr. Vance:

On May 17, 2007 a reconnaissance compliance inspection of the Columbus Grove Waste Water Treatment Plant was conducted. No one was present to provide information concerning the operation and maintenance of the treatment facilities.

At the time of the inspection, all of the treatment units appeared to be operating, except the grease removal. The general operation and maintenance of the plant was not satisfactory.

The grit chamber appeared to be in service. The Village waited for a custom chain to be made to repair this unit. In the past, the grit chamber was not operated for many years and the effects of this neglect were obvious in the ponding that occurred in the trickling filter and the periodic replacement of the pumps following the trickling filters. To ensure the longevity of the facility it is important to prevent grit, grease, and floatables from adversely effecting the treatment facility.

During this inspection, there did not appear to be ponding in the trickling filter. However, both units had seals that were leaking heavily. I would estimate that half of the flow to the units was leaking through the center shaft seals. The motorized arm of one unit was moving and the stone was covered with black sludge material. The second unit was not rotating and the stone was dry and devoid of bacteria.

The primary tanks were in very bad shape. It appears that one of the surface skimmers had been removed and floatables were leaving the tank in the effluent. Both units were grey in color and had a septic odor. The weirs needed cleaning.

The facility still has numerous effluent violations which must be addressed by maintaining and operating all equipment which was included in the original design. These violations will be covered in a separate Notice of Violation(NOV). The leaking seals of the trickling filters and the frequent failure of the proceeding pumps warrants immediate attention. In addition, there are numerous violations related to the frequency of sampling at the facility. Time must be spent on correctly entering the sampling data into the computer submissions. Please contact Andy Gall, Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water, at (419) 373-3003 to discuss the sludge sampling data frequency violations.

A copy of our completed compliance inspection report is enclosed. If there are any questions, please advise.

Sincerely,

Dana Martin-Hayden
Division of Surface Water

/csl

Enclosure

pc: DSW, NWDO File

Form Approved
OMB No. 158-R0035

F. GUIDE - VISUAL OBSERVATION - UNIT PROCESS

RATING CODES: **S** = Satisfactory; **U** = Unsatisfactory; **M** = Marginal; **IN** = In Operation; **OUT** = Out of Operation

	CONDITION OR APPEARANCE	RATING	COMMENTS
General	Grounds	M	Storage of metal material/waste on north side of site
	Buildings	S	
	Potable Water Supply Protection	S	
	Safety Features		
	Bypasses		
	Stormwater Overflows	OUT	
	Alternate Power Source		none
Preliminary	Maintenance of Collection Systems		
	Pump Station		
	Ventilation		
	Bar Screen	IN	
	Disposal of Screenings	S	
	Comminutor		floatables reaching trickling filters
	Grit Chamber	IN	Appears to be working again
	Disposal of Grit	S	history of grit causing trickling filter ponding/algae, leads to pump failures
	Grease Removal/Floatables	OUT	hasn't worked in more than 10 years
Primary	Settling Tanks	IN	2 units - both tanks grey and smelling septic
	Scum Removal	IN	skimmer not present in one of the tanks, floatables present
	Sludge Removal	IN	1 pump
	Effluent	IN	need to clean weirs - both tanks grey and clogged
	Raw Water chamber/ flow splitter	IN	
Sludge Disposal	Digesters	IN	1 anaerobic
	Temperature and pH		
	Gas Production		
	Heating Equipment		
	Sludge Pumps		
	Drying Beds	U	2
	Vacuum Filter		
	Disposal of Sludge		
	Sludge Storage		
Other	Flow Meter and Recorder	IN	
	Records		
	Lab Controls		
	Chemical Treatment		
Secondary-Tertiary List items as	Trickling Filters	IN	center seals heavy leaking, 1 stationary (bare rocks) other motorized (black)
	Trickling Filter Pumps		
	Final Settling Tanks	IN	grey /green color in tanks - lots of algae on the weirs
	Pumps to Final Settling Tanks		
Disinfection	Effluent	IN	very light grey/ green color
	Disinfection System	IN	
	Effective Dosage	S	
	Contact Time	S	
	Contact Tank	S	
	Dechlorination	IN	at end of Chlorine tank

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Re: Putnam County
Village of Columbus Grove WWTP
Notice of Violation

June 21, 2007

Jeffrey A. Vance
Village of Columbus Grove
113 E. Sycamore Street
Columbus Grove, Ohio 45830

Dear Mr. Vance:

We are in receipt of your self-monitoring reports covering the month of April 2006- April 2007 for the referenced facility. Our review indicates significant violations of the conditions of your NPDES permit. We consider your facility to be in significant noncompliance. Immediate steps must be taken to achieve and maintain consistent compliance with the NPDES permit. The specific instances of noncompliance are attached.

When entering explanation codes, such as AH, you must enter a note in SWIMWARE justifying the use of the code. Failure to document appropriate codes with descriptive comments may result in a notice of violation.

For permit violations occurring from April 2006 - April 2007, please inform this office in writing within 20 days of receipt of this letter as to the reasons for the above referenced violations, as well as a description of the actions taken or proposed to prevent any further violations. Your response should include the dates, either actual or proposed, for completion of the actions.

Please be advised that failure to comply with the effluent limitations and/or monitoring requirements specified in your NPDES permit may be cause for enforcement action pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 6111. If these violations continue to occur and if satisfactory progress is not made, it may be necessary to initiate enforcement action to achieve compliance.

The Ohio EPA strongly encourages pollution prevention as the preferred approach for waste management. The first priority of pollution prevention is to eliminate the generation of wastes and pollutants at the source (source reduction). For those wastes or pollutants that are generated, the second priority is to recycle or reuse them in an environmentally sound manner.

You can benefit economically, help preserve the environment, and improve your public image by implementing pollution prevention programs. For more information about pollution prevention, please contact the Ohio EPA Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention at (614) 644-3469.

If there are any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Dana Martin-Hayden
Division of Surface Water

/lb

pc: DSW-NWDO File

Permit No	Reporting Period	Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
2PC00004*GD	March 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.044	3/1/2007
2PC00004*GD	March 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.01	3/8/2007
2PC00004*GD	March 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.064	3/15/2007
2PC00004*GD	March 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.792	3/22/2007
2PC00004*GD	March 2007	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	30D Qty	31.1	31.1810	3/1/2007
2PC00004*GD	April 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.895	4/1/2007
2PC00004*GD	April 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.962	4/8/2007
2PC00004*GD	April 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.88	4/15/2007
2PC00004*GD	April 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.672	4/22/2007
2PC00004*GD	April 2007	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	30D Qty	37.3	37.8408	4/1/2007
2PC00004*GD	April 2007	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	7D Qty	56.0	58.2076	4/22/2007
2PC00004*GD	January 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.9725	1/1/2007
2PC00004*GD	January 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.992	1/8/2007
2PC00004*GD	January 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.13	1/15/2007
2PC00004*GD	January 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.126	1/22/2007
2PC00004*GD	July 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.305	7/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	July 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.294	7/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	July 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.256	7/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	July 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.192	7/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.396	6/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.39	6/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.366	6/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.314	6/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	01113	Cadmium, Total Recover	1D Conc	23	30.	6/20/2006
2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	01113	Cadmium, Total Recover	30D Conc	8	30.	6/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	01113	Cadmium, Total Recover	30D Qty	0.025	.06586	6/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	01114	Lead, Total Recoverabl	30D Conc	41.2	80.	6/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	01114	Lead, Total Recoverabl	30D Qty	0.13	.17562	6/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	May 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.252	5/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	May 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.47	5/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	May 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.26	5/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	May 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.376	5/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	May 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Qty	9.3	1367.76	5/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	May 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	30D Qty	6.2	304.645	5/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	May 2006	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	7D Conc	2000	19493.5	5/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	May 2006	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	7D Conc	2000	7174.95	5/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	May 2006	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	7D Conc	2000	9721.11	5/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	May 2006	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	30D Conc	1000	2944.44	5/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	November 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.788	11/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	November 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.838	11/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	November 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.866	11/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	November 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.93333	11/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	October 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.34	10/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	October 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.318	10/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	October 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.526	10/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	October 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.8	10/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	October 2006	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	7D Conc	2000	20000.	10/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	October 2006	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	7D Conc	2000	20000.	10/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	October 2006	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	30D Conc	1000	1050.77	10/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	April 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.91	4/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	April 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.73	4/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	April 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.596	4/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	April 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.566	4/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	August 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.316	8/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	August 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.34	8/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	August 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.264	8/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	August 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.238	8/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	August 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Conc	3	10.1	8/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	August 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Qty	9.3	36.5006	8/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	August 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	30D Conc	2	4.61222	8/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	August 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	30D Qty	6.2	14.5248	8/1/2006

2PC00004*GD	August 2006	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	7D Conc	2000	20000.	8/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	September 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.23	9/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	September 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.282	9/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	September 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.404	9/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	September 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.282	9/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	September 2006	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	30D Conc	1000	1218.46	9/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	September 2006	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	7D Conc	2000	20000.	9/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	December 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.092	12/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	December 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.018	12/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	December 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.924	12/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	December 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.895	12/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	February 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.17	2/1/2007
2PC00004*GD	February 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.148	2/8/2007
2PC00004*GD	February 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.0625	2/15/2007
2PC00004*GD	February 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.064	2/22/2007

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2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	01113	Cadmium, Total Recover	30D Conc	8	30.	6/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	01113	Cadmium, Total Recover	30D Qty	0.025	.06586	6/1/2006
2PC00004*GD	June 2006	001	01114	Lead, Total Recoverabl	30D Conc	41.2	80.	6/1/2006
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2PC00004*GD	August 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.316	8/1/2006
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2PC00004*GD	September 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.282	9/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	September 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.404	9/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	September 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.282	9/22/2006
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2PC00004*GD	December 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.018	12/8/2006
2PC00004*GD	December 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.924	12/15/2006
2PC00004*GD	December 2006	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	7.895	12/22/2006
2PC00004*GD	February 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.17	2/1/2007
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2PC00004*GD	February 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.0625	2/15/2007
2PC00004*GD	February 2007	001	00400	pH	7D Conc	6.5	8.064	2/22/2007