



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northwest District Office

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

Re: Richland County
Village of Bellville
NPDES Permit

November 7, 2008

Mr. Terry Gatton, Superintendent
Bellville WWTP
142 Park Place
Bellville, Ohio 44813

Dear Mr. Gatton:

On October 9, 2008, an inspection was made of the Village of Bellville WWTP located at 101 E. Durbin Ave, Bellville, Richland County. You were present to answer questions and provide a tour of the facilities. The purpose of the inspection was to observe the RBC unit that experienced a broken shaft a few days earlier. This unit will be out of service for several weeks until repairs can be made. Please contact our office once repairs have been made.

During the inspection we discussed the recent reoccurring fecal coliform violations. The UV disinfection equipment appears to be working correctly with no alarms from the control module. However several violations of the fecal limit have occurred. I recommended that you contact the equipment manufacturer for further guidance on possible causes of the violations.

You stated that you were no longer running the blowers on the aerobic digesters due to odor complaints from people within the Village. While our Agency understands the need to minimize any nuisance conditions caused by the treatment plant, we continue to believe that proper treatment of the sludge generated from the wastewater plant includes aeration of the digesters. Further investigation should be made as to the conditions that lead to odor complaints. Are odors generated only during times when the air is off for decanting? Are odors only a problem during the warm and humid summer months? Our Agency experience is that a properly operated aerobic digester, while not always odor free, does not generate excessive odor complaints.

A review of the discharge monitoring reports submitted to our office for the months of July through September 2008, revealed four violations of the limits contained in your NPDES permit. Three of these violations were for exceeding the fecal coliform limitation.

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Our office is in the process of drafting your renewal NPDES permit. You should receive a draft copy of the permit within the next few weeks. Please look this draft permit over and contact our office with any questions.

If you have any further questions, please give me a call at 419-373-3070.

Sincerely,



Walter Ariss
Environmental Specialist II
Division of Surface Water

/llr

~~pc: DSW-NWDO-File~~