



Environmental
Protection Agency

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

Re: Richland County
Richland County Board of Commissioners
NPDES Permits

May 19, 2011

Mr. Richard Freeman
1740 Fleming Falls Road
Mansfield, Ohio 44903

Dear Mr. Freeman:

On April 27, 2011, inspections were conducted at several of the wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) owned and operated by the Richland County Commissioners. Lynn Miller and you were present to answer questions and provide a tour of the different facilities. The facilities that were inspected included the Lust Subdivision, Harp Subdivision, Country Meadows Subdivision, Dayspring Care Facility, and Eastview WWTP.

During the inspection at Lust Subdivision all components of the treatment system were in operation and functioning normally. The color of the aeration tanks was rich brown. A clear effluent was being discharged from the clarifiers. The surface sand filters were in use and were fairly clear of any dried sludge. Our office has received a Permit to Install application for abandonment of this treatment plant by tying into the City of Shelby sanitary sewer system. We are currently awaiting revisions to the detailed plans from your consulting engineer. During the inspection we discussed the proper procedure to properly drain and clean the polishing lagoon. The commissioners are encouraged to move forward with this project as soon as possible. The NPDES permit for this facility contains a compliance schedule. The next milestone is for advertisement for bids and is due by August 1, 2011.

During the inspection at Country Meadows Subdivision, all components were in operation and functioning normally. A clear effluent was being discharged. The color of the aeration tanks was weak. Our office has approved a Permit to Install application for abandonment of this treatment plant by tying into the City of Shelby sanitary sewer system. The commissioners are encouraged to move forward with this project as soon as possible. The NPDES permit for this facility contains a compliance schedule. The milestone for advertisement for bids was due by August 1, 2010. You are currently in **violation** of the compliance schedule contained in the NPDES permit.

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During the inspection at the Dayspring Care Facility, the plant was in operation and functioning. The sand filter beds were both clean. A clear effluent was being discharged to the receiving stream. This plant continues to perform extremely well. Ms. Miller noted that some downspouts serving the facility were found to be tied into the sanitary system. These should be removed as soon as possible.

During the inspection at Harp Subdivision, all major treatment components were in operation and functioning. The color of the aeration tanks was very weak and more the color of mud than healthy activated sludge. The sand filters were in use. A relatively clear effluent was being discharged to the receiving stream. It was noted that the block wall between the northern two filter beds had failed and crumbled into the lower sand bed. Only four of the six sand beds are available for use due to the failed wall. Flows at this treatment plant have exceeded four (4) times the average daily design flow during the last nine months. You indicated that work is ongoing with the sewers tributary to the package plant. Conversations continue with the owner of the mobile home park in order to address the large amount of I/I coming from this area. The compliance schedule included in the NPDES permit for the facility requires that a PTI for upgrades or abandonment be submitted no later than August 1, 2010. As of the date of this letter our office has yet to receive the required application. **You are in violation** of the compliance schedule contained in the permit.

During the inspection at the Eastview WWTP all treatment units were in operation and functioning normally. The new fine screen continues to perform well. A clear final effluent was being discharged to the receiving stream. You indicated that it is still the intent to upgrade the sludge handling at the plant with the addition of sludge drying beds. This project is desperately needed due to the limited opportunities the County has available for land application of liquid sludge. The upgrades would provide for dry storage and much easier management of the material. Andrew Gall from our office was present and conducted an interview regarding compliance with Ohio's sewage sludge rules. A separate letter will follow in regards to that inspection.

We also reviewed the County's laboratory where testing for compliance with several of the NPDES permit parameters takes place. Please see the attached laboratory inspection report for details on this inspection. We reviewed the criteria for performing a CBOD sample. In summary the laboratory was found to be satisfactory.

The discharge monitoring reports for all the facilities were reviewed for the period of July 2010 through March 2011. A printout of the limit **violations** for the plants is attached for your review. Failure to meet the limits contained in the NPDES permit is a **violation** of the conditions in the permit.

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Our office appreciates the Commissioners taking on the task of upgrading or abandoning three treatment plants almost simultaneously. In order to ensure the projects are moving ahead as soon as possible, we request that you provide a written proposed schedule for the completion of each project.

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

Sincerely,



Walter Ariss
Environmental Specialist II
Division of Surface Water

/llr

Enclosure

pc: DSW-NWDO File for Harp, Lust, Country Meadows, Dayspring, Eastview
w/enclosure
Richland County Commissioners w/enclosure