



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: Allen County
Spencerville WWTP
NPDES Permit

February 28, 2008

Mayor and Council
Village of Spencerville
116 South Broadway
Spencerville, Ohio 45887

Dear Mayor and Council:

On January 30, 2008, a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit compliance inspection was conducted at the Spencerville wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Mr. Bill Becker, Jr. was present and provided information on operation and maintenance of the plant. The inspection included an interview with completion of the enclosed inspection checklist and a tour of the plant.

During our visit, all major treatment units were in operation except the mixer in the south reactor. Mr. Becker indicated that this unit would be pulled out for repair in the near future. The final effluent discharging to the tributary of Six Mile Creek was clear. However, no samples were taken to verify compliance with NPDES permit limits.

Our review of your monthly operating reports indicates that violations were reported for total suspended solids every month from April 2007 to October 2007. Mr. Becker stated that these violations are caused by algae growth in the tertiary pond. He plans to add bacteria to the pond in an effort to control algae this year.

On October 24, 2006, we received a letter indicating that the Village intends to comply with final table limits for copper and mercury, which become effective April 1, 2007. As discussed, our review of your monthly operating reports reveals that compliance with the mercury limits will not be achieved. In order to avoid NPDES permit violations, we strongly encourage you to apply for a mercury variance as soon as possible.

A copy of our completed inspection report is enclosed for your records. If you have any questions, please call Mr. Tom Poffenbarger at (419)373-3008.

Yours truly,

Allen L. Rupp, P.E.
District Engineer/Section Manager
Division of Surface Water

TP/llr

Enclosure

pc: DSW-NWDO File

Permit #: 2PC00000
 NPDES #: OH0020087



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 Northwest District Office

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

Section A: National Data System Coding					
Permit #	NPDES#	Month/Day/Year	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
2PC00000	OH0020087	1/30/2008	C	S	11

Section B: Facility Data		
Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Entry Time	Permit Effective Date
Spencerville Wastewater Treatment Plant 1225 South St. Mary's Road Spencerville, Ohio 45887.	11:00 AM	4/1/2005
	Exit Time	Permit Expiration Date
	11:30 AM	3/31/2010
Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representatives		Phone Number(s)
Mr. Bill Becker, Jr. Operator of Record		419-647-4853
Name, Address and Title of Responsible Official		Phone Number
Mayor and Council Village of Spencerville 116 South Broadway Spencerville, Ohio 45887		419-647-6263

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection					
(S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated)					
S	Permit	S	Flow Measurement	S	Pretreatment
S	Records/Reports	S	Laboratory	M	Compliance Schedule
S	Operations & Maintenance	M	Effluent/Receiving Waters	S	Self-Monitoring Program
S	Facility Site Review	S	Sludge Storage/Disposal	S	Other
S	Collection System				

Section D: Summary of Findings (Attach additional sheets if necessary)	
<p>Final effluent discharging to Six Mile Creek was clear.</p> <p>NPDES permit violations were reported for total suspended solids every month from April to October 2007.</p> <p>Record keeping requirements should be kept in a hard bound book with consecutive page numbering.</p> <p>Letter of intent to comply with mercury limits was October 24, 2006. Our review indicates that the Village cannot meet the final mercury limit contained in the NPDES permit.</p>	
Inspector	Reviewer
 Thomas Poffenbarger, P.E. Date 2/18/08 District Engineer Division of Surface Water Northwest District Office	 Elizabeth A. Wick, P.E. Date 2/19/08 Water Quality Engineer Division of Surface Water Northwest District Office

Sections E thru K: Complete on all inspections as appropriate
Y – Yes, N – No, N/A – Not Applicable, N/E – Not Evaluated

Section E: Permit Verification

Inspection observations verify the permit

- (a) Correct name and mailing address of permittee Y
- (b) Correct name and location of receiving waters..... Y
- (c) Product(s) and production rates conform with permit application (Industries)..... N/A
- (d) Flows and loadings conform with NPDES permit..... Y
- (e) Treatment processes are as described in permit application... Y
- (f) New treatment process(es) added since last inspection..... N
- (g) Notification given to State of new, different or increased discharges..... Y
- (h) All discharges are permitted..... Y
- (i) Number and location of discharge points are as described in permit..... Y

Comments/Status:

Section F: Compliance Schedules/Violations

- (a) Any significant violations since the last inspection..... Y
- (b) Permittee is taking actions to resolve violations..... Y
- (c) Permittee has a compliance schedule..... Y
- (d) Compliance schedule contained in NPDES Permit
- (e) Permittee is meeting compliance schedule..... Y

Comments/Status:

(a) Total Suspended Solids - April 2007, May 2007, June 2007, July 2007, August 2007, September 2007, October 2007
Fecal Coliform - July 2007, August 2007

(b) Plans are to add bacteria to the tertiary lagoon to control algae during the warmer months in an effort to reduce TSS concentrations.

(c) Copper schedule - received intent to comply 10/24/06
Mercury schedule - received intent to comply 10/24/06
Phosphorus schedule - received intent to comply 4/13/07

Section G: Operation & Maintenance

Treatment Works:

Treatment facility properly operated and maintained

- (a) Standby power available.....generator or dual feed Y
- (b) Adequate alarm system available for power or equipment failures.. Y
- (c) All treatment units in service other than backup units..... N
- (d) Wastewater Treatment Works classification (OAC 3745-7)..... II
- (e) Operator of Record holds unexpired license of class required by permit..... Y
 Class: III
- (f) Copy of certificate of Operator of Record displayed on-site..... Y
- (g) Minimum operator staffing requirements fulfilled (OAC 3745-7)... N/A
- (h) Routine and preventative maintenance scheduled/performed... Y
- (i) Any major equipment breakdown since last inspection..... Y
- (j) Operation and maintenance manual provided and maintained..... Y
- (k) Any plant bypasses since last inspection..... N
- (l) Regulatory agency notified of bypasses..... Y
 On MORs and/or Spill Hotline (1-800-282-9378)
- (m) Any hydraulic and/or organic overloads since last inspection..... N

Record Keeping:

- (a) Log book provided..... Y
- (b) Format of log book (i.e. computer log, hard bound book)

Tablet type notebook
- (c) Log book(s) kept onsite (in an area protected from weather)..... Y
- (d) Log book contains the following:
 - I. Identification of treatment works..... Y
 - II. Date/times of arrival/departure for Operator of Record and any other operator required by OAC 3745-7..... Y
 - III. Daily record of operation and maintenance activities (including preventative maintenance, repairs and request for repairs)..... Y
 - IV. Laboratory results (unless documented on bench sheets)... Y
 - V. Identification of person making log entries..... N
- (d) Has the operator of record submitted written notification to the permittee, Ohio EPA and (if applicable) any local environmental agencies when a collection system overflow, treatment plant bypass or effluent limit violation has occurred..... Y

Section G: Operation & Maintenance (con't)

Collection System:

- (a) Percent combined system: %
- (b) Any collection system overflows since last inspection..... N
(CSO and/or SSO)
- (c) Regulatory agency notified of overflows (SSOs)..... N/A
- (d) CSO O&M plan provided and implemented..... N/A
- (e) CSOs monitored and reported in accordance with permit..... N/A
- (f) Portable pumps used to relieve system..... N
- (g) Lift station alarms provided and maintained..... Y
- (h) Are lift stations equipped with permanent standby power
or equivalent..... Y
- (i) Is there an inflow/infiltration problem (separate sewer system),
or were there any major repairs to collection system since
last inspection..... Y
- (j) Any complaints received since last inspection of basement flooding N
- (k) Are any portions of the sewer system at or near capacity..... N

Comments/Status:

(h) generator hook-ups are provided on lift stations

Section H: Sludge Management

- (a) Sludge management plan (SMP)
Submitted date: 6/1/2000 Approval #: 03-409-PW Not submitted N/A
- (b) Sludge management plan current..... Y
- (c) Sludge adequately disposed..... Y
(Method:Land Application)
- (d) If sludge is incinerated, where is ash disposed of
- (e) Is sludge disposal contracted..... Y
(Name:Norm Heidelbaugh)
- (f) Has amount of sludge generated changed significantly since last inspection..... N
- (g) Adequate sludge storage provided at plant..... Y
- (h) Land application sites monitored and inspected per SMP..... Y
- (i) Records kept in accordance with State and Federal law..... Y
- (j) Any complaints received in last year regarding sludge..... N
- (k) Is sludge adequately processed (digestion, pathogen control)..... Y

Comments/Status:

Section I: Self-Monitoring Program

Flow Measurement:

- (a) Primary flow measuring device operated and maintained..... Y
Type of device: Ultrasonic & Parshall flume Ultrasonic & Weir Weir
Calculated from influent Other (Specify:)
- (b) Calibration frequency adequate Y
(Date of last calibration: 3/1/2007)
- (c) Secondary instruments operated and maintained..... Y
- (d) Flow measurement equipment adequate to handle full range of flows..... Y
- (e) Actual flow discharged is measured..... Y
- (f) Flow measuring equipment inspection frequency
 Daily Weekly monthly other

Comments/Status:

Section I: Self-Monitoring Program (con't)

Sampling:

- (a) Sampling location(s) are as specified by permit..... Y
- (b) Parameters and sampling frequency agree with permit..... Y
- (c) Permittee uses required sampling method..... Y
- (d) Sample collection procedures are adequate..... Y
 - (i) Samples refrigerated during compositing..... Y
 - (ii) Proper preservation techniques used..... Y
 - (iii) Containers and sample holding times prior to analysis conform with 40 CFR 136.3..... Y
- (e) Monitoring records (i.e., flow, pH, DO) maintained for a minimum of three years including all original strip chart recordings (i.e, continuous monitoring instrumentation, calibration and maintenance records)..... Y
- (f) Adequate records maintained of sampling date, time, location, etc.. Y

Laboratory:

General

- (a) EPA approved analytical testing procedures used (40 CFR 136.3).. Y
 - (b) If alternate analytical procedures are used, proper approval has been obtained..... N/A
 - (c) Analyses being performed more frequently than required by permit. Y
 - (d) If (c) is yes, are results in permittee's self-monitoring report..... Y
 - (e) Commercial laboratory used..... Y
- Parameters analyzed by commercial lab: Ammonia, fecal coliform, oil & grease, phosphorus, nitrate, quarterit parameters, sludge.

Lab name: Alloway - Lima

Quality Control/Quality Assurance

- (f) Quality assurance manual provided and maintained..... Y
- (g) Satisfactory calibration and maintenance of instruments/equipment. Y
- (h) Adequate records maintained..... Y
- (i) Results of latest USEPA quality assurance performance sampling program: Satisfactory Marginal Unsatisfactory

Date:

Comments/Status:

Section J: Effluent/Receiving Water Observations

Outfall Number	Oil sheen	Grease	Turbidity	Visible Foam	Visible Floating Solids	Color	Other
001	none	none	clear	none	none	clear	--

Comments/Status:

Section K: Multimedia Observations

- (a) Are there indications of sloppy housekeeping or poor maintenance in work and storage areas or laboratories..... N
- (b) Do you notice staining or discoloration of soils, pavement or floors.. N
- (c) Do you notice distressed (unhealthy, discolored, dead) vegetation.. N
- (d) Do you see unidentified dark smoke or dust clouds coming from sources other than smokestacks..... N
- (e) Do you notice any unusual odors or strong chemical smells..... N
- (f) Do you see any open or unmarked drums, unsecured liquids, or damaged containment facilities..... N

If any of the above are observed, ask the following questions:
 (1) What is the cause of the condition?
 (2) Is the observed condition or source a waste product?
 (3) Where is the suspected contaminant normally disposed?
 (4) Is this disposal permitted?
 (5) How long has the condition existed and when did it begin?

Comments/Status:

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	S	
	Buildings	S	
	Potable Water Supply Protection	--	
	Safety Features	S	Fence surrounding plant
	Bypasses	OUT	Secondary bypass
	Stormwater Overflows	OUT	
	Alternate Power Source	S	Generator
Preliminary	Maintenance of Collection Systems	S	
	Pump Station	IN	3 Submersible pumps
	Ventilation	S	
	Bar Screen	IN	2 Units
	Disposal of Screenings	S	Landfill
	Comminutor	--	
	Grit Chamber	--	
	Disposal of Grit	--	
	Mechanical Screens	IN	3 Units
Primary	Settling Tanks	--	
	Scum Removal	--	
	Sludge Removal	--	
	Effluent	--	
Sludge Disposal	Digesters	IN	2 Tanks, aerobic
	Temperature and pH	--	
	Gas Production	--	
	Heating Equipment	--	
	Sludge Pumps	IN	2 Units
	Drying Beds	--	
	Vacuum Filter	--	
	Disposal of Sludge	S	Land application
Sludge Storage	IN	3 Tanks, aerated	
Other	Flow Meter and Recorder	IN	
	Records	S	
	Lab Controls	--	
	Chemical Treatment	--	
Secondary - Tertiary	Sequencing Batch Reactors	IN	One react/filling, One settling
	Storm Pond	OUT	Empty
	Tertiary Lagoon	IN	1 aerator operating
Disinfection	Effluent	S	Clear
	Disinfection System	OUT	Ultraviolet
	Effective Dosage	--	
	Contact Time	--	
	Contact Tank	--	
	Dechlorination	--	