



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: Ashland County  
City of Ashland  
NPDES Permit

April 24, 2008

Mr. Michael Hunter, Director  
City of Ashland  
206 Claremont Avenue  
Ashland, Ohio 44805

Dear Mr. Hunter:

On March 25, 2008, Walter Ariss conducted an inspection of the City of Ashland Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Mr. Steve Humrichouser, yourself, as well as various operators and lab personnel were present to provide information on facility operations. At the time of the inspection, all major treatment units were in service. The equalization basin was not in use and all flow was receiving complete treatment. A clear final effluent was being discharged. Effluent samples were obtained by our staff. Results will be forwarded upon receipt. No major concerns with plant operations were noted. A copy of our inspection report is included for your reference.

A review of the monthly operating reports for the wastewater plant that were submitted to our office for the period of March 2007 through February 2008 revealed several **violations** of the limits contained in your NPDES permit. A listing of these violations has been enclosed for your review. It was noted that a majority of these violations were for outfall 003, the combined effluent of the secondary treated flow and EQ basin overflow.

If you have any questions please call Walter Ariss at 419-373-3070.

Yours truly,

Elizabeth A. Wick, P.E.  
District Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

/llr

Enclosure

pc: Steve Humrichouser, Superintendent, City of Ashland WWTP  
DSW-NWDO:File

Permit #: 2PD00010  
 NPDES #: OH0023906



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
 Northwest District Office

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

Section A: National Data System Coding					
Permit #	NPDES#	Month/Day/Year	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
2PD00010	OH0023906	03/25/2008	S	S	1

Section B: Facility Data		
Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Entry Time	Permit Effective Date
Ashland WWTP 865 U.S. 42 Ashland Ohio	1:00 P.M.	3/1/2007
	Exit Time	Permit Expiration Date
	4:00 P.M.	1/31/2010
Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representatives	Phone Number(s)	
Steve Humrichouser - Superintendent	419-281-7081	
Name, Address and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number	
Michael Hunter - Director	419-281-7041	

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

Section D: Summary of Findings (Attach additional sheets if necessary)			
Inspector		Reviewer	
 Date		 Date	
Walter Ariss Division of Surface Water Northwest District Office		Elizabeth A. Wick, P.E. 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..... N/A
- (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..... N
- (b) Permittee is taking actions to resolve violations..... N/A
- (c) Permittee has a compliance schedule..... N
- (d) Compliance schedule contained in
- (e) Permittee is meeting compliance schedule..... N/A

Comments/Status:

briefly discussed outstanding completion of SEP project from Consent Decree

**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)..... III
- (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)... Y
- (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..... Y
- (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..... Y

**Record Keeping:**

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

compute log and maintenance request form
- (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..... Y
- (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: 0%
- (b) Any collection system overflows since last inspection..... Y  
(CSO  and/or SSO )
- (c) Regulatory agency notified of overflows (SSOs)..... Y
- (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..... N
- (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 Y
- (k) Are any portions of the sewer system at or near capacity..... N

**Comments/Status:**

**Treatment Works**

- a) EQ basin not on generator. Hope to buy new generator to run EQ basin.
- b) staffed 24 hours, 7 days
- g) 2 class III operators, 2 class I operators
- i) fine rotary screen currently down
- k) 2 overflow events from EQ basin

**Section H: Sludge Management**

- (a) Sludge management plan (SMP)  
Submitted date: 1992      Approval #: 03-309PW      Not submitted       N/A
- (b) Sludge management plan current..... Y
- (c) Sludge adequately disposed..... Y  
(Method: Land application with subsurface injection)
- (d) If sludge is incinerated, where is ash disposed of
- (e) Is sludge disposal contracted..... Y  
(Name: H&L Biosolids)
- (f) Has amount of sludge generated changed significantly since  
last inspection..... N
- (g) Adequate sludge storage provided at plant..... N
- (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:**

a) using high pH - option 6  
Please refer to sludge inspection report completed by Andy Gall

**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: Magmeter on influent and effluent)
- (b) Calibration frequency adequate ..... N/A  
(Date of last calibration:      )
- (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. N
  - (d) If (c) is yes, are results in permittee's self-monitoring report..... Y
  - (e) Commercial laboratory used..... Y
- Parameters analyzed by commercial lab: Oil and Grease, Strontium, Antimony, Cyanide, Mercury, Dioxin  
Lab name: Alloway, Ginosko, Wright State University

*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	none	slight	none	none	

**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	S	
	Safety Features	S	
	Bypasses		
	Stormwater Overflows	OUT	After EQ tank
	Alternate Power Source	OUT	Generator and dual feed
	Septage Receiving Station	IN	Currently add septage to main trunk prior to influent wet well
Preliminary	Maintenance of Collection Systems	M	Excessive I/I flows
	Pump Station	IN	4 raw pumps, 2 fixed speed, 2 variable speed valve
	Ventilation	S	
	Bar Screen	IN	Mechanical Course screen, 1 manual for backup
	Disposal of Screenings	S	Landfill
	Comminutor	-	
	Grit Chamber	IN	Aerated
	Disposal of Grit	S	Landfill
	Micro Screen - Rotary	OUT	Operates when flow is >4 MGD
	Medium Screen	IN	
Primary	Settling Tanks	IN	4 Units
	Scum Removal	IN	
	Sludge Removal	IN	
	Effluent	S	
	EQ tanks	OUT	
Sludge Disposal	Digesters	-	
	Temperature and pH		
	Gas Production		
	Heating Equipment		
	Sludge Pumps	IN	3 RAS, 2 WAS
	Drying Beds	-	
	Vacuum Filter	-	
	Disposal of Sludge	S	Most is removed as a liquid after lime stabilization
	Belt Press	OUT	Used as needed
Storage Tanks	IN	4 at 84,000 gallons total capacity	
Other	Flow Meter and Recorder	IN	Magmeter on effluent
	Records	S	
	Lab Controls	S	
	Chemical Treatment		
Secondary-Tertiary List items as	Trickling Filters	IN	2 plastic media, 5 MGD capacity each
	Solids Contact Tank	IN	
	Final Clarifiers	IN	2 units
	Blowers	IN	3 units
	Effluent Pumps	IN	4 units
Disinfection	Effluent	S	
	Disinfection System	OUT	UV not required in winter months
	Effective Dosage	-	
	Contact Time	-	
	Contact Tank		
	Dechlorination		