



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northwest District Office

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

December 1, 2008

Re: Ashland County
City of Ashland WWTP
NPDES Permit

Steve Humrichouser, Superintendent
Ashland WWTP
206 Claremont Ave.
Ashland, Ohio 44805

Dear Mr. Humrichouser:

On November 5, 2008 an inspection was made of the wastewater treatment facilities serving the City of Ashland located at 865 U.S. 42, Ashland, Ashland County. At the time of the inspection all major treatment units were in operation and appeared to be functioning normally. A clear final effluent was being discharged into Lang Creek. No concerns were noted with the plant operations during the inspection.

During the inspection you indicated that the final effluent automatic sampler was currently down for repairs. All samples were being composited manually by the operators. Efforts should be made to return the automatic sampler to service as soon as possible.

A review of the discharge monitoring reports for the period of March through October 2008 revealed six violations of the limits contained in your NPDES permit. Of particular concern is a copper violation that occurred on October 27, 2008. The reported value was 209 ug/L. The permit limit is 48 ug/L daily maximum. It was also observed that the influent copper sample for the month of October was 133 ug/L. This value is more than three times the average for the previous six months. Given that the Ashland WWTP has experienced previous violations of the effluent copper limit, the City's industrial pretreatment program should investigate the possible causes for this exceedence and follow up accordingly.

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

Sincerely,

Walter Ariss
Environmental Specialist II
Division of Surface Water
/csl

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Mr. Mike Hunter, City of Ashland