



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
Black River Local Schools WWTP
NPDES Permit

January 24, 2008

Janice Wyckoff, Superintendent
Black River Local Schools
257 County Road 40
Sullivan, Ohio 44880

Dear Superintendent Wyckoff,

On January 10, 2008, an inspection was made of the wastewater treatment facilities serving the Black River Local Schools. Mr. Joe Kmitt, head of maintenance, was present during the inspection. The purpose of the inspection was to discuss several deficiencies that were noted during my previous inspection. Our office received a letter from Derrick Chennault with Eastwood Environmental, your certified operator, dated December 28, 2007 that addressed several of our comments.

At the time of the inspection the major components of the treatment plant were in operation. It was noted that both of the sand filter beds were ponded with water. The western filter bed appeared to have overflowed onto the ground recently. It is apparent that the filters are not functioning correctly. Mr. Chennault stated in his letter that the need to replace the media within the filter beds was relayed to you and that the cost of upgrading the beds would be included in the 2008 budget. Please keep our office informed when this work will begin so that we may inspect the replacement operations.

Mr. Chennault also discussed the filter dosing station in his letter. He stated that a control panel component needed replaced. I also discussed with Mike of Eastwood Environmental, via phone, the need to possibly reseal the joints in the dosing station and grout around the inlet pipe. High groundwater in the area of the plant may be seeping into the dosing station through gaps in the concrete joints.

I discussed with Mr. Kmitt the need to report more accurate flows at the treatment plant. For plants of your size this is typically accomplished by installing pump run time meters on the sand filter dosing station. The installation of these meters is fairly low cost and should be included with the replacement of the other component in the dosing station control panel. Please have these meters installed within 60 days.

Mr. Janice Wyckoff
January 24, 2008
Page Two

Mr Chennault also addressed the violations from October and November 2006 in his letter. While the old NPDES permit expired on October 31, 2006 and the new permit was not effective until December 1, 2006, you are still responsible for meeting all conditions of any expired permit until a renewal is issued. The violations from October and November 2006 listed in our previous letter are indeed considered violations. If you have any questions regarding this please contact me directly.

A review of the monthly operating report submitted for October 2007 revealed several violations of the pH and ammonia limits contained in your NPDES permit. We will continue to closely monitor your plant operations and monitoring reports.

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

Sincerely,



Walter Ariss
Environmental Specialist II
Division of Surface Water

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pc: ~~NWDO:DSW:file~~

Derrick Chennault, Eastwood Environmental Inc.