



\*2PR0014020070824\*

ASHLAND COBURN INC

2PR00140 2007/08/24 ARISS, WALTER

HAYESVILLE



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  
Coburn, Inc.  
NPDES Permit 2PR00140  
*Notice of Violation*

August 24, 2007.

Mr. Chuck Zimmerman, President  
Coburn Incorporated  
P.O. Box 147  
636 County Road 30-A  
Hayesville, Ohio 44838

Dear Mr. Zimmerman:

On August 16, 2007, an inspection was made of the wastewater treatment facilities serving Coburn Incorporated located at 636 County Road 30-A, Vermillion Township, Ashland County. At the time of the inspection all major treatment units were in operation and appeared to be functioning normally. A few concerns were noted as follows.

The color of the water in the aeration tank was almost black. Ideally this tank should be a chocolate brown color. The water in the clarifier tank was also black, and an oily sheen was evident floating on the surface of this tank. The skimmer return line was positioned several inches below the surface of the water in the clarifier tank. The skimmer should be positioned at the water's surface. The sludge return line was returning clear liquid. This return should ideally be a chocolate brown color. The sides of the clarifier should be scraped in a gentle downward motion to help push the settled sludge toward the return. No dechlorination tablets were observed in the dechlorination unit.

A review of the monthly operating reports submitted to our office for the months of January through June 2007 revealed numerous **violations** of the conditions of your NPDES permit. A printout of these violations is enclosed for your review. Our agency remains extremely concerned with the performance of the treatment plant. The limit for Dissolved Oxygen has been violated almost every month for the past 20 months. It is evident that some type of post aeration will need to be installed in order to meet the dissolved oxygen limit. This can be accomplished by running an air line from the blower to the chlorine contact tank. This work shall be completed as soon as possible but no later than 60 days from the date of this letter. You are required to notify this office in writing when this work is complete.

A review of the monthly operating reports also revealed an extremely large amount of frequency **violations** of your NPDES permit. These occur when data that is required to be submitted is not recorded on the monthly operating report forms. The reporting for the parameters of odor, color, and turbidity is being performed as required. However it was noted that reporting for flow rate is not occurring every day as required by the permit. The flow rate can either be estimated off of water usage from the plant's water well or by pump run time meters installed on the sand filter dosing station at the treatment plant. The lack of reporting for daily flow rate should be corrected immediately.

Mr. Chuck Zimmerman, Present  
August 24, 2007  
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Your plant is equipped with all of the treatment units needed in order to meet the limits contained in the NPDES permit, however these units need to be operated correctly in order for the plant to perform as designed. We are concerned that the operation and maintenance needed to assure that the plant operates correctly is not being completed. Ohio EPA recently adopted rules governing the minimum on site time needed for treatment plant operators. These rules, portions of which are currently effective, require that a plant of your type be visited by a certified operator no less than 3 days per week for a minimum of 1.5 hours per week. Should Chem-Tech Consultants, your certified operator, not be making visits near this level of frequency, we strongly encourage you to increase the frequency of their visits. Beginning December 21, 2008, you will be required to meet the above mentioned minimum staffing levels. However, given the extreme non-compliance history of your treatment plant, immediate steps need to be taken to improve the treatment plant performance. Should compliance not improve dramatically, our Agency will be left with no choice but to pursue enforcement action.

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

Sincerely,



Walter Ariss  
Environmental Specialist II  
Division of Surface Water

/llr

Enclosure

pc: CDSW-NWDO File  
Gary Hoam, Chem-Tech Consultants Inc.

OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE INSPECTION  
 WWTP'S LESS THAN 25,000 GPD

NPDES Permit No. 2PR00140

Facility Name Coburn Inc Expiration Date 4/30/2011

Facility Address 636 CR 304 Date 8/16/07 Time 1:00 am pm

City Hayesville County Ashland Township \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of Owner Chuck Zimmerman

Person Contacted \_\_\_\_\_ Owner Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Flow: Design 4,500 GPD Present ? GPD (metered - estimated)

Trib. Pop. ~~70~~ ~70 (actual - estimated) Weather at time of inspection: Temp 85 sunny

OEPA Personnel Walter Ariss District NWDO

1. Plant Effluent - Mark Severity No.

No.	Severity Description	No.	Turbidity	No.	Odor	No.	Color
0	None		Clear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Colorless
1	Mild	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
2	Moderate		Light Solids		Musty		Grey
3	Serious						
4	Extreme		Heavy Solids		Septic		Black

2. Effect of effluent on Receiving Stream - Name: not observed

No.	Severity Description	No.	Turbidity	No.	Odor	No.	Color
0	None		Clear		None		Colorless
1	Mild						
2	Moderate		Light Solids		Musty		Grey
3	Serious						
4	Extreme		Heavy Solids		Septic		Black

3. a. Plant has \_\_\_\_\_ excellent \_\_\_\_\_ good \_\_\_\_\_ fair  poor operation  
 b. Plant has \_\_\_\_\_ excellent  good \_\_\_\_\_ fair \_\_\_\_\_ poor maintenance  
 c. Sand filters have \_\_\_\_\_ excellent  good \_\_\_\_\_ fair \_\_\_\_\_ poor maintenance

d. Not operating at expected efficiency due to:

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ hydraulic overload  
 (2) \_\_\_\_\_ organic/ solids overload  
 (3)  personnel inefficiency  
 (4) \_\_\_\_\_ equipment failure  
 (5) \_\_\_\_\_ wastes  
 (6) \_\_\_\_\_

Disinfection: (Required May 1 thru Oct.31.)	
IN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OUT _____
_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chlorination Tablets
_____	_____ Dechlorination Tablets
_____	_____ U.V.

Yes No

4.  Compliance with NPDES Permit

Periodic Violations Y N Parameters: \_\_\_\_\_

Chronic Violations  \_\_\_\_\_ DO, NH<sub>3</sub>, TSS, CBOD

5.  Adequate plant safety

6.  Operation and Maintenance Service

Name Chris - Tech

Frequency of Visits 1 P

Facility Name: Colara Inc

Process	# Units	Unit	If Needed - Description and Comments
Preliminary	8	Trash Trap	Pumping Frequency: ?
		Grease Trap	Pumping Frequency:
		Bar Screen	
		Comminutor	
		Flow Equalization	
Aeration Equipment	8	Plant Timer <u>Y</u> <del>N</del> Motor/ Blower Unit <u>running</u>	Cycle Time:
Secondary Treatment	8	Aeration Tank	Color: <u>black</u> Adequate Aeration: Y <del>N</del>
Final Settling	8	Clarifier	<u>color is black, oily sheen on surface</u>
	8	Sludge Return	In <del>X</del> Out <u>clear</u>
	8	Surface Skimmer	In <del>X</del> Out <u>needs adjusted to just below surface</u>
		Fixed Media Clarifier	
Tertiary Treatment	8	Surface Sand Filter	<u>Filters both look good</u>
		Polishing Pond	
		Other	
Disinfection	8	Chlorine Tube Feeder	<u>okay</u>
	8	Dechlorination Tube Feeder	<u>no tablets</u>
		Ultraviolet (UV)	
Flow Metering?		Elapsed Pump Time	
		Recorder (continuous total)	
Pumps		Raw Wastewater (type)	
	8	Sand Filter Effluent Dosing	<u>okay</u>
Sludge Handling		Aerated Storage Tank	
		Sludge Drying Bed	
Sludge Disposal		Municipal POTW	
		Landfill	
		Land Application	
Advanced Treatment		Post Aeration	
		Spray Irrigation	
		Other	

NPDES permit limit violations January 2007 through June 2007

Permit No.	Reporting Period	Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
2PR00140*BD	February 2007	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	12.0	192.	2/1/2007
2PR00140*BD	February 2007	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	30D Conc	10	60.	2/1/2007
2PR00140*BD	February 2007	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	1D Conc	18.0	192.	2/19/2007
2PR00140*BD	February 2007	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	1D Conc	15	60.	2/19/2007
2PR00140*BD	February 2007	001	00300	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	3.	2/19/2007
2PR00140*BD	March 2007	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	12.0	67.	3/1/2007
2PR00140*BD	March 2007	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Conc	3.0	18.	3/1/2007
2PR00140*BD	March 2007	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	30D Conc	10	12.6	3/1/2007
2PR00140*BD	March 2007	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	1D Conc	18.0	67.	3/6/2007
2PR00140*BD	March 2007	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	4.5	18.	3/6/2007
2PR00140*BD	March 2007	001	00300	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	4.	3/6/2007
2PR00140*BD	April 2007	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Conc	3.0	16.2	4/1/2007
2PR00140*BD	April 2007	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	30D Conc	10	24.	4/1/2007
2PR00140*BD	April 2007	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	4.5	16.2	4/3/2007
2PR00140*BD	April 2007	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	1D Conc	15	24.	4/3/2007
2PR00140*BD	April 2007	001	00300	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	2.	4/3/2007
2PR00140*BD	May 2007	001	50060	Chlorine, Total Residu	1D Conc	0.019	.2	5/7/2007
2PR00140*BD	May 2007	001	00300	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	4.	5/7/2007
2PR00140*BD	June 2007	001	00300	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	1.	6/19/2007