



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northeast District Office

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Twinsburg, Ohio 44087

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

September 21, 2007

RE: HIRAM WWTP  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
PERMIT NO. 3PB00020

Mayor and Council  
Village of Hiram  
P.O. Box 65  
Hiram, OH 44234

Dear Mayor and Council:

On August 22, 2007, an inspection of the above referenced facility was conducted to obtain and review information for drafting a renewal of the facility's NPDES wastewater permit. The facility was represented by Mr. Robert Simon, Assistant Superintendent. The purpose of the inspection was to: (1) evaluate the facility's compliance status with respect to the terms and conditions of the above-referenced National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and (2) determine required additional actions to be undertaken as part of the permit renewal process.

During the inspection, the following items were noted:

1. The plant design of the wastewater treatment system is 0.20 MGD
2. Currently the plant has been averaging 0.12 MGD with a maximum of 0.40 MGD since January 2006.
3. Mr. Ken Young, Superintendent, will be filing for disability in the near future.
4. The Village has hired Mr. Matt Kohn, Class II Operator, part time to assist the Village until the wastewater treatment plant can be permanently staffed.
5. Mr. Robert Simon is responsible for collecting the samples and reporting the results to Ohio EPA's Surface Water Information Management System.
6. The influent chamber was vacuumed out in early August.
7. The wastewater treatment collection system has three lift stations. The third was put in service June 2007.
8. The weirs in one clarifier are scheduled to be replaced.
9. Dalton Sludge hauls sludge for the Village

This office has recently reviewed your self-monitoring reports covering the period April 1, 2003, through August 31, 2007, for the referenced facility. Our review indicates violations of the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit. The specific instances of noncompliance are as follows:

**Limit Violations**

Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
001	00400	pH	1D Conc	6.5	6.49	10/22/2004
001	01119	Copper, Total Recovers	30D Conc	26.5	32.	6/1/2006
001	01119	Copper, Total Recovers	30D Conc	26.5	27.	12/1/2006

**Frequency Violations**

Violation Date	Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Sample Frequency	Expected	Reported
1/22/2004	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	2/Week	2	1
1/22/2004	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	2/Week	2	1
1/22/2004	601	00530	Total Suspended Solids	2/Week	2	1
1/22/2004	601	80082	CBOD 5 day	2/Week	2	1
11/1/2005	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	1/Week	1	0
11/1/2005	001	00556	Oil and Grease, Freon	1/Quarter	1	0
11/1/2005	001	01074	Nickel, Total Recovers	2/Year	1	0
11/1/2005	001	01094	Zinc, Total Recoverabl	2/Year	1	0
11/1/2005	001	01113	Cadmium, Total Recover	2/Year	1	0
11/1/2005	001	01114	Lead, Total Recoverabl	2/Year	1	0
11/1/2005	001	01118	Chromium, Total Recove	2/Year	1	0
11/1/2005	001	01119	Copper, Total Recovers	2/Year	1	0
11/1/2005	001	01220	Chromium, Dissolved He	2/Year	1	0
11/1/2005	001	00900	Hardness, Total (CaCO3	2/Year	1	0
11/1/2005	001	00998	Beryllium, Total Recov	2/Year	1	0
11/1/2005	001	01079	Silver, Total Recovers	2/Year	1	0
11/1/2005	001	71900	Mercury, Total (Hg)	2/Year	1	0
11/8/2005	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	1/Week	1	0
11/15/2005	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	1/Week	1	0
11/22/2005	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	2/Week	2	1
11/22/2005	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	1/Week	1	0
11/22/2005	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	2/Week	2	1
11/22/2005	601	00530	Total Suspended Solids	2/Week	2	1
11/22/2005	601	80082	CBOD 5 day	2/Week	2	1
6/1/2006	001	50092	Mercury, Total (Low Level)	2/Year	1	0
12/1/2006	001	50092	Mercury, Total (Low Level)	2/Year	1	0
6/1/2007	001	50092	Mercury, Total (Low Level)	2/Year	1	0

Please be advised that such instances of noncompliance may be cause for enforcement actions pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 6111.

The facility's renewal NPDES is currently being drafted and will be Public Noticed in the near future. At this time, you will have a 30-day period to evaluate this permit and comment in writing any concerns you may have.

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In addition to the wastewater treatment plant inspection, a complaint from Mr. Mike Wilkinson, Farm Manager from Alford Couch Organic Farm was investigated. Mr. Simon was present during the investigation at the Alford Couch Organic Farm. Mr. Wilkinson alleged that there were several breaks in the discharge line on the Alford farm and that something toxic in the water caused a fish kill.

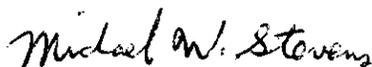
The breaks in the discharge line were observed. Also, wrappers and condoms were observed at one of the breaks in the discharge line. Mr. Wilkinson's main concern was the alleged toxicity in the water and the wrappers and condoms being deposited on the farm property. Mr. Simon informed Mr. Wilkinson that the metering chamber is cleaned daily and a screen was placed in the chamber exit to collect any wrappers or refuse which may make its way through the system. Mr. Simon also indicated that the Village is investigating relocating the discharge point immediately outside of the fenced in wastewater treatment plant. This should allow the Village to more readily monitor the effluent and receiving stream.

The Agency has no objections to relocating the discharge point. However, it should be noted that a permit-to-install application is required to be submitted along with an Antidegradation Addendum form prior to relocating the discharge point.

**Please inform this office in writing, within 21 days receipt of this letter, the reasons for the above referenced violations as well as the anticipated completion date for item 8. The letter should also include the Village of Hiram's intention on relocating the wastewater treatment plants discharge point.**

Should you have any comments or questions concerning this letter, please feel free to call me at (330) 963-1143.

Respectfully,



Michael W. Stevens  
Environmental Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

MWS/mt

cc: Robert A. Wood, Village Administrator  
Robert Simon, Assistant Superintendent