



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northeast District Office

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

December 7, 2009

RE: WAYNE COUNTY  
CITY OF WOOSTER  
NPDES# 3PD00013

**NOTICE OF VIOLATION**

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

Mayor Robert Breneman  
City of Wooster  
1020 Old Columbus Road  
Wooster, Ohio 44691-4618

Dear Mayor Breneman:

A summary of the City of Wooster's wastewater treatment plant discharge violations for outfall 001 for the month of October 2009 are shown below:

Reporting Period	Station	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
October 2009	001	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	7.0	6.	10/2/2009
October 2009	001	pH, Minimum	1D Conc	6.5	6.4	10/23/2009
October 2009	001	pH, Minimum	1D Conc	6.5	6.4	10/24/2009

Our office is in receipt of the City's November 24, 2009 letter addressing the above noted violations. The letter indicated that, although wet weather events for the month of October were less severe, full time compliance will remain problematic following heavy rain events until improvements are completed.

It is understood during wet weather events, the plant is operated in contact stabilization mode. The poor sludge settleability that occurs in the final clarifiers results in solids bulking during the heavy rain events can attribute to DO and pH violations.

The Dissolved Oxygen violations occurred during a wet weather event when a mode change was made to the wastewater treatment plant to accommodate the increased flows. The mode change was an operational change to minimize solids bulking. The excursion lasted four hours and was not a Permitted High Flow Caused Excursion (PHFCE).

The pH minimum values both occurred during a wet weather event when the plant was operated in contact stabilization mode. It is understood pH is suppressed during this mode of operation. The City continues to look into this cause but it is most likely related to the continuation of nitrification without the de-nitrification while operating in contact stabilization mode.

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The City continues to feed polymer at the headworks of the wastewater treatment plant. The polymer addition has increased the DAF unit efficiency and it appears the primary clarifier efficiency. The City continues feeding a second polymer at the secondary clarifier distribution chamber. It is understood this polymer feed combination has provided assistance with the organic overload and poor sludge settling issues.

The PTI for the City's biotower project has been reviewed with revisions requested. It is anticipated the PTI will be forwarded to Columbus once the revisions are received. If the City and its representatives have questions regarding the PTI application, please contact Ms. Donna Kniss of this office at (330) 963-1285.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact this office at (330) 963-1299.

Respectfully,



Laura A. Weber, P.E.  
Environmental Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

LAW/mt

pc: Mr. Jim Borton, Utilities Manager  
Mr. Lee Troyer, Pretreatment Coordinator  
Wayne County Health Dept.

ec: Rich Blasick, P.E., Ohio EPA, DSW, NEDO  
Virginia Wilson, P.E., Ohio EPA, DSW, NEDO  
Larry Reeder, Ohio EPA, DSW Enforcement, CO  
Bill Fischbein, Ohio EPA, Legal, CO  
Dennis Deniro, Ohio EPA, DEFA, CO

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