



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northeast District Office

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

January 22, 2008

RE: WAYNE COUNTY
HYPONEX CORP
NPDES 3IN00166

Mr. Lewis Morris, Jr., Office Manager
Hyponex Corp.
3875 S. Elyria Road
Shreve, OH 44676

Dear Mr. Morris:

On January 14, 2008, this writer and Clarissa Gereby of this office, conducted an inspection of the of the sewage treatment plant serving your facility. The inspection was conducted to review operations at the facility as a follow up to recent violations of your NPDES permit.

At the time of the inspection, all treatment units were in service and the effluent being produced appeared to be clear. The mixed liquor in the aeration tank was a light brown color and the return sludge line was returning a light brown sludge. One blower was operating at the time of the inspection and the air circulation within the tanks appeared to be fair. The clarifier skimmer was slightly submerged with some solids buildup around the surface. As a reminder, there should only be 1/8-inch of fluid above the skimmer.

The alarm system for the dosing pumps was checked and found to be satisfactory. The sand filters were flooded and the filter media appeared to be completely saturated with areas of flooding. The filters must be dewatered and the media must be checked to ensure it meets all Ohio EPA standards. As a reminder, Ohio EPA requirements for filter sand are that it has a uniformity coefficient not greater than 3 and an effective size between 0.4-1.0 mm.

The facility compliance record from the period of January 1, 2005, through January 1, 2008, revealed the following violations for outfall 602:

Date of Violation	Parameter	Permit Limit	Limit Type	Reported Value
October 1, 2005	Total Susp. Solids	.10	30 Day Qty.	.10901
October 1, 2005	Total Susp. Solids	.068	1 Day Qty.	.10901
July 1, 2006	Fecal Coliform	1000/100ml.	30 Day Conc.	1500/100ml
March 1, 2007	Total Susp. Solids	12	30 Day Conc.	40.8
March 22, 2007	Total Susp. Solids	18	1 Day Conc.	40.8
April 1, 2007	Total Susp. Solids	.10	30 Day Qty.	.1726
April 26, 2007	Total Susp. Solids	.068	1 Day Qty.	.1726
May 1, 2007	Nitrogen Ammonia	2.0	30 Day Conc.	2.035
May 3, 2007	Nitrogen Ammonia	3.0	1 Day Conc.	3.44

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July 1, 2007	Fecal Coliform	1000/100ml	30 Day Conc.	1500/100ml
July 1, 2007	Total Susp. Solids	12	30 Day Conc.	15.8
July 26, 2007	Total Susp. Solids	18	30 Day Conc.	21.2
October 1, 2007	Total Susp. Solids	.10	30 Day Qty.	.17986
October 11, 2007	Total Susp. Solids	.068	1Day Qty.	.17986

The May 2007 and July 2007 violations were followed up with correspondence to our office. It appears the total suspended solids violations were due to dust getting into the chlorine contact tank and the nitrogen violations were a result of inefficient air circulation within the aeration tanks. This office is aware that the problems with the aerators have been fixed. The violations that have accrued during 2007 placed your facility on our Agency significant noncompliance list. Any further violations accrued by your facility may be cause for enforcement action to be taken against your facility.

During our inspection, we discovered what appeared to be a peat mine located north of Wilderness Road. Upon inquiry with nearby neighbors, it was discovered that the peat mining was being completed by Hyponex. After reviewing our records of peat mining areas for Hyponex, this area was not shown on any of the maps. Since our office does not regulate peat mining activities, this site is being referred to Jean Siedel of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Philadelphia Office. Ms. Siedel can be reached at (330) 364-6177

Should you have any comments or questions 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

cc: Ken Eng, Wayne County Health Dept.
Robert Kastner, P.E., Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District
Jean Siedel, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District

ec: Rich Blasick, P.E., Ohio EPA, DSW, NEDO
Clarissa Gereby, Ohio EPA, DSIWM, NEDO

File: Industrial/Hyponex/Permit Compliance