



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northeast District Office

2110 East Aurora Rd.
Twinsburg, Ohio 44087

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File
Ind
Middlefield
Rothenbuhler & Son
Geauga
Middlefield
Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor
Chris Korleski, Director
PK

July 18, 2007

RE: Geauga County
Middlefield Township
Middlefield Cheese/Hans Rothenbuhler & Son
NPDES Permit Renewal Inspection (3IH00025)

Gary Schoenfeld, Plant Superintendent
Middlefield Cheese/Hans Rothenbuhler & Son
15815 Nauvoo Road
Middlefield, Ohio 44062

Dear Mr. Schoenfeld:

On June 6, June 21 and July 18, 2007, I inspected the Middlefield Cheese wastewater treatment plant to determine Middlefield Cheese compliance status relative to your current discharge permit to aid in drafting the renewal permit.

A review of submitted data for January 2006 to June 2007, shows eight violations of permitted levels of ammonia in January 2006, and two violations of CBOD in January 2007. A summary report is attached. These violations suggest that improved performance is needed during winter months, particularly January.

On June 21, 2007, I observed a 12-inch storm sewer discharging a good flow of clear liquid that was apparently warm enough to give off visible water vapor on an 85-degree day. The pipe extends from the east bank of a ditch running to the north just before the ditch flows under a fence. Please respond in writing as to the nature of this pipe and the circumstances leading to discharge of the hot water. Identify corrective actions.

The study presented by your firm related to temperature and total dissolved solids (TDS) shows that your effluent requires attention relative to these parameters to achieve water quality standards. Submitted monthly report data also shows that these two parameters could commonly violate water quality standards. For these reasons, the new permit will require monitoring these parameters immediately, and modification of your treatment processes to achieve water quality standards and new permit limits after 24 months of the new permit period.

Please contact me directly at (330) 963-1260 to discuss any comments or questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Douglas Hiestand
Environmental Engineer
Division of Surface Water

DH:bo

cc: Middlefield Township Trustees

LIMIT VIOLATIONS
MIDDLEFIELD CHEESE

1/1/06 - 6/1/07

Permit No	Reporting Period	Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
3IH00025*CD	January 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	8.0	14.	1/3/2006
3IH00025*CD	January 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Qty	7.27	9.25894	1/3/2006
3IH00025*CD	January 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	8.0	18.	1/4/2006
3IH00025*CD	January 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Qty	7.27	12.5713	1/4/2006
3IH00025*CD	January 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	8.0	52.6	1/10/2006
3IH00025*CD	January 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Qty	7.27	16.3015	1/10/2006
3IH00025*CD	January 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	8.0	50.8	1/11/2006
3IH00025*CD	January 2006	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Qty	7.27	41.9589	1/11/2006
3IH00025*CD	January 2007	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	1D Conc	22.8	30.	1/9/2007
3IH00025*CD	January 2007	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	1D Qty	20.70	21.1963	1/9/2007