



Environmental
Protection Agency

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

Re: Erie County
Huron Basin WWTP
Mittawanga-Ruggles WWTP
NPDES Permit

April 12, 2011

Mr. Jack Meyers, PE
Sanitary Engineer
Erie County Department of Environmental Services
P. O. Box 469
Huron, Ohio 44839

Dear Mr. Meyers:

On March 31, 2011, NPDES permit compliance inspections were made at Huron Basin and Mittawanga-Ruggles wastewater treatment plants, in conjunction with the NPDES permit renewals. Mr. Chris McCarron, Superintendent, was present and provided information on plant operations. The inspections consisted of an interview utilizing a compliance checklist reviewing major areas of facility operations, and a walkthrough of the plants. In general, both operation and maintenance remain good, and a clear final effluent was observed being discharged from both plants. Our comments and recommendations are as follows:

Huron Basin

- 1) The NPDES permit expired on January 31, 2011. We received the renewal application and in the near future you will be receiving a "draft" copy of the NPDES permit renewal. You should review it carefully, as there is a 30-day comment period to respond to any permit conditions. No major changes are anticipated, however, annual bioassay testing will be included to satisfy federal requirements, as well as a requirement to develop a storm water pollution prevention plan. Your mercury variance will be renewed with ongoing reduction efforts, and Mr. McCarron has requested the upstream sampling station be moved to Sprowl Road for safer access to the river.
- 2) Discharge monitoring reports are being received in a timely manner and indicate full compliance with final effluent limits since our last inspection. Plant operations remain consistent; however, staffing levels are becoming a concern. The regular sewer cleaning schedule has been discontinued, and 6 water in basement (WIB) events were reported in Huron in 2010, and 22 thus far in 2011 and it's possible sewer obstructions may have played a role. We intend to include a requirement in the renewal to reestablish the regular sewer cleaning program. Mr. McCarron indicated that any prolonged staff outage may result in a disruption of normal daily operational activities. The flow meter was overdue for calibration. On a positive note, all 26 lift stations are to be outfitted with "real time" online monitoring capabilities this year.

Mr. Jack Meyers, PE
April 12, 2011
Page Two

- 3) A new comprehensive lab questionnaire was used to evaluate specific Standard Method criteria for tests and equipment. All areas were rated "acceptable". Once again, Mr. Bob Sennish and Ms. Kelly Decker received the highest rating in the latest 2010 USEPA laboratory quality assurance analysis program DMRQA #30.

Mittawanga-Ruggles

- 1) The NPDES permit expires September 30, 2011, and Mr. McCarron stated that the renewal application will soon be submitted. This past winter we met to discuss alternatives to address the broken force main final outfall, which failed near the shoreline. We agreed to allow outfall 002, which is currently permitted as a raw bypass to Cranberry Creek, to act as the final outfall. The renewal will indicate outfall 002 as the final outfall and include all current 001 limitations.
- 2) Discharge monitoring reports are being received in a timely manner and two minor violations were reported since our last inspection. I was also informed of plans to tap in the Beulah Beach Camp this year. This is a 30,000 gpd plant and apparently there is sufficient daily capacity available. I remain concerned over excessive wet weather flow, as past I/I removal efforts have not been as successful as anticipated.

Please find enclosed our completed inspection reports. If you have any questions, or if any of the above is incorrect, please call me at (419) 373-3020 or email rick.zuzik@epa.state.oh.us.

Sincerely,



~~Richard A. Zuzik, MSE~~
Division of Surface Water

/cs

Enclosure

pc: Chris McCarron, Superintendent
DSW, NWDO File

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE INSPECTION
0.025 to 1.0 MGD

Facility Name Mittawonga - Ruggles WWTP Application No. OH 0053961
 Facility Address 4224 E. Cleveland Rd Ohio Permit No. 2PH00011
 City Erie County Erie Date 3-31-11 Time 11:30
 Name and Address of Owner Erie County DES Township Berlin
 Phone (419) 443-7303
 Person Contacted Chris McCarron, Supt Phone _____
 Flow: Design 150,000 GPD Present 90,000 GPD (metered) - estimated)
 Trib. Pop. 330 (actual ~~estimated~~) Weather at time of inspection 50°
 OEPA Personnel Rick Zuzik District NW

STORET I.D. No. 39 _____

NOTATIONS BY EVALUATOR							
1. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS DEFICIENCIES							
CHECK EACH OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN TERMS OF THEIR ESTIMATED ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PLANT							
ITEM	MAJOR	MINOR	NONE	ITEM	MAJOR	MINOR	NONE
STAFF COMPLEMENT			✓	OVERLOADS (type)			
PERSONNEL TRAINING			✓	HYDRAULIC			
OPERATOR BUDGET			✓	PERIODIC	✓		
LABORATORY CONTROL			✓	CONTINUOUS			
INSTRUMENTATION			✓	ORGANIC			✓
INDUSTRIAL WASTE			✓	PERIODIC			
PLANT OBSOLESCENCE			✓	CONTINUOUS			
EQUIPMENT FAILURE:			✓	OVERLOAD CAUSES:			
TREATMENT PROCESSES			✓	INFILTRATION		✓	
SLUDGE HANDLING AND PROCESSING			✓	COMBINED SEWERS			
			✓	INDUSTRIAL GROWTH			
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE			✓	RAPID POPULATION GROWTH			
SPARE PARTS INVENTORY			✓	INCREASED SERVICE AREA			
POWER FAILURE			✓	OTHER:			
				OTHER:			

2. PLANT PERSONNEL INVENTORY							
PERSONNEL CLASSIFICATION (a.)	EMPLOYMENT (b.)			(c.) CERTIFICATION		TRAINING REQUIRED NEXT 12 MONTHS	
				VOLUNTARY		ACTUAL NO. CERTIFIED	(d.)
	ACTUAL MANHOURS PER WEEK	NUMBER	NUMBER BUDGETED	NO. RECOMMENDED	NO. RECOMMENDED OR REQUIRED BY STATE		NEW HIRES
1. MANAGEMENT SUPERVISOR	2	1					
2. OPERATOR	1.5	1					
3. LABORATORY	.5						
4. MAINTENANCE	2.5						
5. OTHER PLANT WORKERS	-						
6. OTHER OFFICE WORKERS	-						
7. TOTAL	20	2					

3. PURPOSE OF INSPECTION				4. GENERAL RATING			
<input type="checkbox"/> GRANT COMPLIANCE <input type="checkbox"/> FOLLOW-UP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PERMIT COMPLIANCE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:				ACCEPTABLE		✓	
				CONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE			
				UNACCEPTABLE			
EVALUATION PERFORMED BY		TITLE		ORGANIZATION		DATE	
Rick Zuzik		ES II		OEPA, NWDO		3-31-11	
INFORMATION FURNISHED BY		TITLE		ORGANIZATION		DATE	
Chris McCarron		Supt.		Erie Co. DES		3-31-11	

GUIDE - VISUAL OBSERVATION - UNIT PROCESS

RATING CODES: S = Satisfactory; U = Unsatisfactory; M = Marginal; IN = In Operation; OUT = Out of Operation.

CONDITION OR APPEARANCE		RATING	COMMENTS
GENERAL	GROUNDS	S	
	BUILDINGS	S	
	POTABLE WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION	S	
	SAFETY FEATURES	S	
	BYPASSES	OUT	- Will be used for final outfall due to broken force main near beach
	STORMWATER OVERFLOWS	-	
PRELIMINARY	MAINTENANCE OF COLLECTION SYSTEMS	S	intermittent I/I
	PUMP STATION	IN	I
	VENTILATION	S	
	BAR SCREEN	OUT	Bypass
	DISPOSAL OF SCREENINGS	S	
	COMMINUTOR	IN	
	GRIT CHAMBER	-	
PRIMARY	DISPOSAL OF GRIT	-	
	SETTLING TANKS	/	
	SCUM REMOVAL	/	
	SLUDGE REMOVAL	/	
SLUDGE DISPOSAL	EFFLUENT	/	
	DIGESTERS	IN	aerated
	TEMPERATURE AND PH	-	
	GAS PRODUCTION	-	
	HEATING EQUIPMENT	-	
	SLUDGE PUMPS	IN	
	DRYING BEDS	-	
	VACUUM FILTER	-	
OTHER	INCINERATION	-	
	DISPOSAL OF SLUDGE	S	Transferred to Huron Basin
	FLOW METER AND RECORDER	IN	Ultrasonic
SECONDARY-TERTIARY (LIST ITEMS AS REQUIRED)	RECORDS	S	
	LAB CONTROLS	S	Huron Basin
CHLORINE	CONTACT STABILIZATION	IN	3 tanks, (2 re-aeration, 1 contact)
	FINAL SETTLING	S	Clear
	EFFLUENT PUMPS	OUT	force main broken near beach, will discharge to Cranberry Creek
CHLORINE	EFFLUENT	S	Clear
	CHLORINATORS	OUT	
	EFFECTIVE DOSAGE	OUT	
	CONTACT TIME	NA	
	CONTACT TANK	IN	
	Post Aeration	IN	

ANNUAL BUDGET FOR MAINTAINING AND OPERATING PLANT

SALARIES & WAGES	ELECTRICITY	CHEMICALS	MAINTENANCE	STAFFING & TRAINING	OTHER	TOTAL