

**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

John Kasich, Governor  
Robert Taft, Lt. Governor  
Tommy Franke, Director

October 13, 2010

RE: BERLIN POTW  
NPDES PERMIT NO. 3PG00147  
FFY 2011 CEI

Mr. Chris Young, P.E., P.S.  
Holmes County Sanitary Engineer  
P.O. Box 29  
Millersburg, OH 44654

Mr. Young,

On October 1, 2010, this writer met with you, Scott Watson and Kevin Dean to conduct a Compliance Evaluation Inspection of the Berlin POTW. The intent of the inspection was to evaluate operations and maintenance of the system. The compliance record was also reviewed to assess compliance with the NPDES Permit.

Observations:

Following are observations made during the inspection.

1. The treatment plant was in satisfactory condition at the time of the inspection. It appeared well operated and well maintained.
2. The aeration tanks had good color with very little foam on the surface. The eastern tank appeared to receive more aeration and mixing than the western tank at the time of the inspection. It was understood that the diffusers in the western aeration tank are in need of cleaning or replacement, and that the necessary maintenance will be completed this month.
3. The clarifiers were discharging a clear effluent at the time of the inspection. Very little scum was apparent on the surface of the clarifiers. The small amount that was present was easily controlled and removed by the scum system. The return sludge from the clarifier to the aeration tank was a medium brown color indicating a healthy population of microbes necessary for treatment.
4. The sand filters appeared to be operational at the time of the inspection. The effluent being discharged to Doughty Creek was clear. No visual difference in appearance was observed upstream and downstream of the effluent pipe.
5. The only concern noted during the inspection that requires immediate attention is a grate on the flow splitter tank. The grate is seriously corroded and presents a safety concern. This was discussed during the inspection and it was agreed that the grate will be replaced.

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Compliance Review:

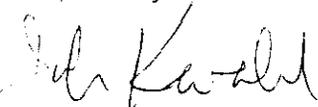
A review of the monthly compliance reports was conducted as part of this inspection to assess compliance with the NPDES Permit. The period of review was September 2009 through August 2010. Following is a list of violations identified during the review period.

Reporting Period	Station	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
Dec. 2009	001	Copper, Total Recovera	30D Conc	32	38.	12/1/2009
March 2010	001	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	12	32.625	3/1/2010
March 2010	001	Total Suspended Solids	30D Qty	13.6	30.6457	3/1/2010
March 2010	001	Total Suspended Solids	7D Conc	18	109.5	3/8/2010
March 2010	001	Total Suspended Solids	7D Qty	20.4	107.643	3/8/2010
March 2010	001	CBOD 5 day	7D Conc	15	18.	3/8/2010
March 2010	001	CBOD 5 day	7D Qty	17	17.5832	3/8/2010
April 2010	001	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	30D Conc	1.5	1.69338	4/1/2010
April 2010	001	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Conc	2.3	3.22	4/8/2010
May 2010	001	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	30D Conc	1.5	2.46375	5/1/2010
May 2010	001	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Conc	2.3	3.36	5/1/2010
May 2010	001	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Conc	2.3	2.635	5/22/2010
June 2010	001	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	12	12.5	6/1/2010
June 2010	001	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Conc	2.3	5.175	6/1/2010
June 2010	001	Total Suspended Solids	7D Conc	18	19.5	6/8/2010
August 2010	001	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	12	18.5	8/1/2010
August 2010	001	Total Suspended Solids	7D Conc	18	30.	8/8/2010

The violations were discussed during the inspection. It is understood that the majority of the violations were due to mechanical problems. The individual problems were discussed, and it was the opinion of this writer that the County took timely actions to correct the problems. The only violations not discussed were those identified in August 2010. Please provide a response to this inspection report indicating the cause of the August 2010 violations. The response should be provided no later than October 29, 2010.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact this office at (330) 963-1251 or at [john.kwolek@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:john.kwolek@epa.state.oh.us).

Respectfully,



John Kwolek  
District Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

JK/mt

cc: Kevin Dean, Dean's Backflow Services