



Environmental
Protection Agency

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

February 18, 2011

RE: LAKE COUNTY
MADISON WWTP
PREPERMIT INSPECTION
NPDES PERMIT NO. OH0036790
OEPA PERMIT NO. 3PK00032

Mr. Robert Shelby, Director of Wastewater Operations
Lake County Department of Utilities
Administration Center
105 Main Street
P.O. Box 490
Painesville, Ohio 44077

Dear Mr. Shelby:

On February 16, 2011, this writer conducted a pre-permit inspection of the Lake County Madison Wastewater Treatment Plant. The inspection was prompted by the anticipated renewal of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Mr. Thomas Hanes, Plant Superintendent, represented the County during the inspection.

At the time of inspection, the effluent contained sludge solids in the first pass of the chlorine contact chamber, prior to discharging to waters of the state. The solids must be removed. Be advised that Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code 3745-1-04, all waters shall be free from sludge, floating debris, oil and scum, color and odor producing materials, substances that are harmful to human, animal or aquatic life, and nutrients in concentrations that may cause algal blooms.

During the inspection, apparent around the secondary treatment units, was evidence of cement crumbling associated with the corrosive nature of hydrogen sulfide found in sanitary sewage. According to Mr. Hanes, over the past 30 years hydrogen sulfide has also compromised the electrical switchgear original to the plant. The County should take action to address these issues.

A review of the Monthly Operating Reports covering the period of February 2009 through January 2011 revealed no effluent limitation violations.

Part II, Item X (1) (g) of the existing NPDES permit requires the submittal of an annual Pollutant Minimization Plan report to meet the general mercury variance requirements. The annual report is due by February 15th of each year. To date, this office has not received the required reports. Failure to submit these reports in a timely manner may result in revocation of the general mercury variance and a water quality based mercury effluent limitation of 1.3 ng/l. If the annual reports have been submitted to the DSW Central Office, please provide this office with copies.

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On January 15, 2011 and January 27, 2011, this district office received the Sanitary Sewer Overflow Annual Report for 2010 and the Sewage Sludge Disposal Annual Report for 2010, respectively.

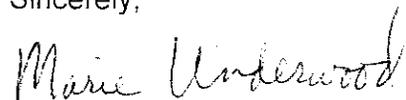
issued 12/2/10 → It is the intent of the County to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) for a Storm Water General NPDES permit for the Madison WWTP.

MU The director of Ohio EPA has granted a one year extension of the expiration date for the Permit to Install (PTI No. 710425) to expand the Lake County Madison WWTP to 5.0 MGD. The PTI will now expire September 17, 2012. Failure to initiate construction prior to the expiration date will result in the need to submit a new PTI application, PTI application fee and detailed design plans.

The renewal permit will be drafted in the near future. It is anticipated that a schedule of compliance with the updated plant expansion action dates will be included in the permit. When the permit is public noticed, please review it carefully. A 30-day comment period will be provided. Any questions or comments concerning the draft permit must be submitted in writing.

Should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (330) 963-1183.

Sincerely,



Marie Underwood, P.E.
Environmental Engineer
Division of Surface Water

MU/mt

cc: Thomas Hanes, Superintendent