

**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

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

May 16, 2011

RE: PUBLIC WASTEWATER  
MEANDER WWTP  
NPDES PERMIT NO. 3PK00011  
2011 CEI

Board of Mahoning County Commissioners  
21 West Boardman Street  
Youngstown, OH 44503

Gentlemen:

On May 2, 2011, this writer conducted an unannounced Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) of the Meander Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The intent of the inspection was to determine the condition of the treatment plant and to review the compliance record since the previous inspection.

Observations

Following are observations made during this inspection.

1. Mr. DeNiro stated that the PSA system was inspected in January 2011. The outside instrumentation of the system will be inspected in May 2011. It is critical that the PSA system be inspected and routine maintenance be performed annually to ensure that it will operate properly. The oxygen supplied by the PSA system to the oxygenation tanks is critical for compliance with the NPDES Permit.
2. The influent sampler was not operational at the time of the inspection. Mr. DeNiro indicated that the sampler will be operational by the end of May, 2011. In the interim, the city is collecting multiple grab samples of the influent.
3. Both treatment stages and clarifiers were on-line. All mixers in the both stages were operational. A pin floc was apparent in effluent from both clarifiers. Effluent from the polishing clarifier was clear.
4. Construction of the new grit removal system was completed at the time of this inspection completion. Mr. DeNiro indicated that no problems with the new system have been identified.
5. The sand filters were offline at the time of the inspection. It was understood that the filters were offline because of the high flows due to extensive rain events this spring. Be advised that unless the filters are not operable or under repair, they must be online at all times. This is especially true during high flow events when turbidity in wastewater can increase without tertiary treatment.
6. It is the understanding of this writer that the treatment plant still has no back-up power that will enable the plant to operate during power outages. This was discussed in the inspection report for 2010. As part of the report, this office requested that the county

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provide a response indicating the actions that would be taken and a schedule for completing installation of the secondary power source. The response was never provided to this office.

The county must address the absence of a backup power source at the Meander POTW. This office again requests that the county provide a response indicating actions that will be taken to install standby power and a schedule for completing the installation. The response should be provided no later than May 31, 2011.

### Compliance Review

A review of the compliance record for the Meander WWTP was made for the months covering January 2010 through April 2011. Following is a list of permit limit violations identified for the review period.

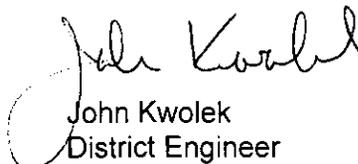
Reporting Period	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Units	Violation Date
September 2010	Copper, Total Recov.	1-Day Conc.	26	31.5	ug/l	9/1/2010
September 2010	Copper, Total Recov.	30-Day Conc.	16	31.5	ug/l	9/1/2010
September 2010	Copper, Total Recov.	30-Day Load	0.24	.33801	ug/l	9/1/2010
December 2010	Copper, Total Recov.	30-Day Load	0.24	.24761	ug/l	12/1/2010

### Response Requested

As stated in Item 6 above, please provide a response to this inspection report indicating the type of back-up power to be installed at the Meander POTW and a schedule for completing the activities. The requested response to this report should be provided no later than May 31, 2011.

You may contact this writer at (330) 963-1251 or at [john.kwolek@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:john.kwolek@epa.state.oh.us) to discuss any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Respectfully,

  
John Kwolek  
District Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

JK/mt

cc: Mr. Bob Lyden, Acting County Sanitary Engineer  
Joe DeNiro, Superintendent, Meander POTW

File: Public/Mahoning County/Meander WWTP/Permit and Compliance