



Environmental  
Protection Agency

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

Re: Huron County  
City of Norwalk WWTP  
NPDES Permit-2PD00024

June 30, 2011

Mr. Josh Snyder  
Public Works Director  
City of Norwalk  
P. O. Box 30  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857

Dear Mr. Snyder:

On May 16, 2011, Andrew Gall conducted an NPDES permit compliance inspection of the wastewater treatment facilities serving the City of Norwalk. Mr. Bill Albrecht, Mr. Dave Ackerman and Mr. Tim Cox were present and provided information on plant operations and maintenance. The inspection included a tour of the facility and completion of the enclosed compliance inspection form. At the time of the visit, all of the treatment units were online, the plant appeared to be operating correctly and a clear final effluent was being discharged to Rattlesnake Creek. No samples were taken to verify compliance with NPDES permit limits.

At the time of the visit the plant staff was dealing with the red water that was in the EQ basin. The plant had received a load of wastewater from Norwalk Waste Materials that contained a very concentrated red dye which briefly turned the entire wastewater treatment plant red. After being discovered by the operators the red water was diverted into the EQ basin.

The plant staff used a combination of powdered activated carbon slurry and chlorine as treatment methods, but found that they could slowly bleed small amounts of the water into the plant for treatment. In a follow up inspection on June 13, 2011, it was noted that the red water in the EQ basin had all been treated.

Discharge monitoring reports are being submitted in a timely manner. A review of discharge monitoring reports since our last inspection indicates that there were effluent limit violations of Mercury in May and June 2010, as well as some loading violations during periods of high flows in the spring 2011. A copy of these violations is enclosed for your review.

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June 30, 2011  
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Our completed inspection report is enclosed for your review. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Andrew Gall at (419) 373-3003 or via email at [andrew.gall@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:andrew.gall@epa.state.oh.us)

Yours truly,



Elizabeth A. Wick, P.E.  
District Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

/llr

Enclosure

pc: Mr. Bill Albrecht, Superintendent, w/enclosure  
~~DSW-NWDO:File w/enclosure~~

Permit #: 2PD00024  
 NPDES #: OH0052604



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
 Northwest District Office

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

Section A: National Data System Coding					
Permit #	NPDES#	Month/Day/Year	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
2PD00024	OH0052604	5/16/2011	C	S	1

Section B: Facility Data		
Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Entry Time	Permit Effective Date
Norwalk WWTP 201 Plank Rd. Norwalk, OH 44857	12:30 PM	4/1/2011
	Exit Time	Permit Expiration Date
	2:30 PM	7/31/2015
Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representatives	Phone Number(s)	
Bill Albrecht, WWTP Superintendent Dave Ackerman, Assistant Superintendent Tim Cox, IPM Coordinator	(419) 663-6755	
Name, Address and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number	
Josh Snyder, Public Works Director City of Norwalk P.O. Box 30 Norwalk, OH 44857		

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection					
(S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated)					
S	Permit	S	Flow Measurement	N	Pretreatment
S	Records/Reports	N	Laboratory	S	Compliance Schedule
S	Operations & Maintenance	S	Effluent/Receiving Waters	S	Self-Monitoring Program
S	Facility Site Review	S	Sludge Storage/Disposal	S	Other
S	Collection System				

Section D: Summary of Findings (Attach additional sheets if necessary)			
Inspector		Reviewer	
<i>Andrew Y. Gall</i>	<i>6/28/2011</i>	<i>Elizabeth A. Wick</i>	<i>6/30/11</i>
Andrew Y. Gall Environmental Specialist Division of Surface Water Northwest District Office	Date	Elizabeth A. Wick, P.E. Water Quality Engineer Division of Surface Water Northwest District Office	Date

**Section G: Operation & Maintenance**

**Treatment Works:**

Treatment facility properly operated and maintained

- (a) Standby power available.....generator  or dual feed ..... Y
- (b) Adequate alarm system available for power or equipment failures.. Y
- (c) All treatment units in service other than backup units..... Y
- (d) Wastewater Treatment Works classification (OAC 3745-7)..... III
- (e) Operator of Record holds unexpired license of class required by permit..... Y  
 Class: III
- (f) Copy of certificate of Operator of Record displayed on-site..... Y
- (g) Minimum operator staffing requirements fulfilled (OAC 3745-7)... Y
- (h) Routine and preventative maintenance scheduled/performed... Y
- (i) Any major equipment breakdown since last inspection..... N
- (j) Operation and maintenance manual provided and maintained.... Y
- (k) Any plant bypasses since last inspection..... N
- (l) Regulatory agency notified of bypasses..... N/A  
 On MORs  and/or Spill Hotline (1-800-282-9378)
- (m) Any hydraulic and/or organic overloads since last inspection..... N

**Record Keeping:**

- (a) Log book provided..... Y
- (b) Format of log book (i.e. computer log, hard bound book)  

2 hard bound log books being maintained, one for operator of record and one for Operation and Maintenance Activities
- (c) Log book(s) kept onsite (in an area protected from weather)..... Y
- (d) Log book contains the following:
  - I. Identification of treatment works..... Y
  - II. Date/times of arrival/departure for Operator of Record and any other operator required by OAC 3745-7..... Y
  - III. Daily record of operation and maintenance activities (including preventative maintenance, repairs and request for repairs)..... Y
  - IV. Laboratory results (unless documented on bench sheets)... Y
  - V. Identification of person making log entries..... Y
- (d) Has the operator of record submitted written notification to the permittee, Ohio EPA and (if applicable) any local environmental agencies when a collection system overflow, treatment plant bypass or effluent limit violation has occurred..... Y

**Section G: Operation & Maintenance (con't)**

**Collection System:**

- (a) Percent combined system: 30%
- (b) Any collection system overflows since last inspection..... Y  
(CSO  and/or SSO )
- (c) Regulatory agency notified of overflows (SSOs)..... N/A
- (d) CSO O&M plan provided and implemented..... Y
- (e) CSOs monitored and reported in accordance with permit..... Y
- (f) Portable pumps used to relieve system..... N
- (g) Lift station alarms provided and maintained..... Y
- (h) Are lift stations equipped with permanent standby power  
or equivalent..... Y
- (i) Is there an inflow/infiltration problem (separate sewer system),  
or were there any major repairs to collection system since  
last inspection..... N
- (j) Any complaints received since last inspection of basement flooding Y
- (k) Are any portions of the sewer system at or near capacity..... N

**Comments/Status:**

**Collection System:**

Public Works Director received calls regarding wet basements after storms.

**Section H: Sludge Management**

- (a) Sludge management plan (SMP)  
Submitted date: 2/5/1986 Approval #: 03-233 Not submitted  N/A
- (b) Sludge management plan current..... Y
- (c) Sludge adequately disposed..... Y  
(Method: Land Application by Mapleview Farms)
- (d) If sludge is incinerated, where is ash disposed of
- (e) Is sludge disposal contracted..... Y  
(Name: Mapleview Farms)
- (f) Has amount of sludge generated changed significantly since  
last inspection..... N
- (g) Adequate sludge storage provided at plant..... Y
- (h) Land application sites monitored and inspected per SMP..... Y
- (i) Records kept in accordance with State and Federal law..... Y
- (j) Any complaints received in last year regarding sludge..... N
- (k) Is sludge adequately processed (digestion, pathogen control)..... Y

**Comments/Status:**

**Section I: Self-Monitoring Program**

**Flow Measurement:**

- (a) Primary flow measuring device operated and maintained..... Y  
Type of device: Ultrasonic & Parshall flume  Ultrasonic & Weir  Weir   
Calculated from influent  Other  (Specify: )
  
- (b) Calibration frequency adequate ..... Y  
(Date of last calibration: Every 90 days, Checked against V-Notch Weir )
- (c) Secondary instruments operated and maintained..... Y
- (d) Flow measurement equipment adequate to handle full range  
of flows..... Y
- (e) Actual flow discharged is measured..... Y
- (f) Flow measuring equipment inspection frequency  
 Daily  Weekly  monthly  other

**Comments/Status:**

Effluent flow meter is checked for accuracy every 90 days against V-Notch weir.

**Section I: Self-Monitoring Program (con't)**

**Sampling:**

- (a) Sampling location(s) are as specified by permit..... Y
- (b) Parameters and sampling frequency agree with permit..... Y
- (c) Permittee uses required sampling method..... Y
- (d) Sample collection procedures are adequate..... Y
  - (i) Samples refrigerated during compositing..... Y
  - (ii) Proper preservation techniques used..... Y
  - (iii) Containers and sample holding times prior to analysis  
conform with 40 CFR 136.3..... Y
- (e) Monitoring records (i.e., flow, pH, DO) maintained for a minimum  
of three years including all original strip chart recordings  
(i.e, continuous monitoring instrumentation, calibration and  
maintenance records)..... Y
- (f) Adequate records maintained of sampling date, time, location, etc.. Y

**Laboratory:**

*General*

- (a) EPA approved analytical testing procedures used (40 CFR 136.3).. Y
- (b) If alternate analytical procedures are used, proper approval has been obtained..... N/A
- (c) Analyses being performed more frequently than required by permit. Y
- (d) If (c) is yes, are results in permittee's self-monitoring report..... Y
- (e) Commercial laboratory used..... Y  
 Parameters analyzed by commercial lab: Mercury, Metals, Organics, Oil and Grease, Sludge Dioxin, Toxicity

Lab name: Jones and Henry, Enviro-Science, BDAT

*Quality Control/Quality Assurance*

- (f) Quality assurance manual provided and maintained..... Y
- (g) Satisfactory calibration and maintenance of instruments/equipment. Y
- (h) Adequate records maintained..... Y
- (i) Results of latest USEPA quality assurance performance sampling program:  Satisfactory  Marginal  Unsatisfactory

Date: 9/2010

**Comments/Status:**

(g) pH and D.O. meter calibrated daily, Balances calibrated annually  
 ( I) Passed DMRQA

**Section J: Effluent/Receiving Water Observations**

Outfall Number	Oil sheen	Grease	Turbidity	Visible Foam	Visible Floating Solids	Color	Other
001	None	None	None	None	None	Slight	

**Comments/Status:**

**Section K: Multimedia Observations**

- (a) Are there indications of sloppy housekeeping or poor maintenance in work and storage areas or laboratories..... N
- (b) Do you notice staining or discoloration of soils, pavement or floors.. N
- (c) Do you notice distressed (unhealthy, discolored, dead) vegetation.. N
- (d) Do you see unidentified dark smoke or dust clouds coming from sources other than smokestacks..... N
- (e) Do you notice any unusual odors or strong chemical smells..... N
- (f) Do you see any open or unmarked drums, unsecured liquids, or damaged containment facilities..... N

If any of the above are observed, ask the following questions:

- (1) What is the cause of the condition?
- (2) Is the observed condition or source a waste product?
- (3) Where is the suspected contaminant normally disposed?
- (4) Is this disposal permitted?
- (5) How long has the condition existed and when did it begin?

**Comments/Status:**

F. GUIDE - VISUAL OBSERVATION - UNIT PROCESS

Form Approved  
OMB No. 158-R0035

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	Plant alarms set to call cell phone chain of plant employees
	Bypasses	Out	
	Stormwater Overflows	Out	
	Alternate Power Source	S	Generator runs entire plant, run/exercised weekly
	EQ Basin	Out	Expanded to 4 MG, ramp for clean out equipment installed
Preliminary	Maintenance of Collection Systems	S	
	Pump Station	In	11 Pump Stations, Back up power at larger lift stations, all stations have alarms
	Ventilation	S	
	Bar Screen	In	Andritz Aqua Screen Bar Screen
	Disposal of Screenings / Grit	S	Hauled by WWTP in a trailer to Erie County Landfill
	Grit Chamber	In	Air Cyclone Degritter System, 2 Air Compressors, 2 Grit Pumps
	Septage Receiving Station	In	2 Holding Tanks, 2 Vaughn Chopper Pumps, Sampling Station
	Ferric Feed System	In	Being added at headworks
Primary	Settling Tanks	In	2 New Primary Clarifiers
	Scum Removal	In	Scum collector station
	Sludge Removal	In	
	Effluent	S	
	Scum Pumping Station	In	
	Post Primary Splitter Box	Out	Directs flow to trickling filters or bypass when flows exceed 8.5MGD
Sludge Disposal	Digesters	In	3 Anaerobic, 2 of the digesters are offline
	Temperature and pH	S	
	Gas Production	S	Wasted in winter, used in summer to run heat exchanger
	Heating Equipment	In	One Heat Exchanger
	Sludge Pumps	In	2 Raw, 2 Transfer, Moyno Digester Mix Pumps
	Sludge Gravity Thickener	In	No Scum Floating on Top
	Sludge Holding Tank	In	Provides an estimated 1.5 years of storage
	Disposal of Sludge	S	Land Application by Mapleview Farms
Other	Flow Meter and Recorder	In	Flow Meter is calibrated against V-Notch Weir
	Records	S	
	Lab Controls	S	
	Chemical Treatment	In	
Secondary-Tertiary List items as required	Primary Trickling Filters	In	3 Domed, 1 Filter offline for bearing replacement and overall maintenance
	Secondary Trickling Filter	In	Uncovered, significant algae growth present
	Nitrification Tower	In	2 Pumps
	Final Clarifiers	In	5 - Concrete on tanks was rehabbed as part of the upgrades
	Rapid Sand Filters	In	6 Filters, 1 down for service
	Sand Filter Screw Pumps	In	Alternate between 2 pumps
Disinfection	Effluent	S	Clean, No Foam, No Odor
	Disinfection System	In	
	Effective Dosage	-	
	Contact Time	-	
	Contact Tank	S	
	Dechlorination	IN	

Get New Data

Permit No	Reporting Period	Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
2PD00024*PD	May 2010	001	61428	Chronic Toxicity, Pime	30D Conc	1.0	2.8	5/1/2010
2PD00024*PD	May 2010	001	50092	Mercury, Total (Low Le	30D Conc	6.8	7.03	5/1/2010
2PD00024*PD	May 2010	001	50092	Mercury, Total (Low Le	30D Qty	0.0000	.00011	5/1/2010
2PD00024*PD	June 2010	001	50092	Mercury, Total (Low Le	30D Conc	6.8	17.215	6/1/2010
2PD00024*PD	June 2010	001	50092	Mercury, Total (Low Le	30D Qty	0.0000	.00022	6/1/2010
2PD00024*PD	February 2011	001	00665	Phosphorus, Total (P)	7D Qty	20	24.7107	2/15/2011
2PD00024*PD	March 2011	001	50092	Mercury, Total (Low Le	30D Qty	0.0000	.0001	3/1/2011
2PD00024*QD	May 2011	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	30D Qty	265	267.966	5/1/2011
2PD00024*QD	May 2011	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	7D Qty	397	596.011	5/1/2011