



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northwest District Office

347 North Dunbridge Road  
Bowling Green, OH 43402-9398

TELE: (419) 352-8461 FAX: (419) 352-8468  
www.epa.state.oh.us

Ted Strickland, Governor  
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor  
Chris Korleski, Director

Re: Ottawa County  
Brush Wellman, Inc.  
NPDES Permit

September 30, 2009

Mr. Troy Kajfasz, P.E., Environmental Services  
Brush Wellman, Inc.  
14710 West Portage River South Road  
Elmore, Ohio 43416-9502

Dear Mr. Kajfasz:

On August 13, 2009, an NPDES permit compliance inspection was made at Brush Wellman. NPDES permit compliance was reviewed and we toured the outfalls. My comments are as follows:

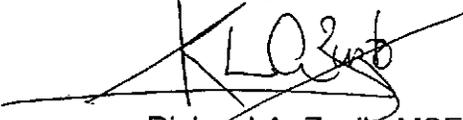
- 1) All permitted outfalls were reviewed; however, since minimum flow required to discharge into the Portage River was unavailable, all treated wastewater was being retained on site. Storage capacity was estimated at approximately 70 days. We both agreed that the next inspection should be conducted in the Spring when flow in the river is sufficient, and discharges can be observed.
- 2) NPDES monthly discharge monitoring reports are being received and four violations have been reported thus far this year. Two pH violations from stormwater outfall 009 were attributed to excessive algae growth in the retention pond. Two daily maximum concentration copper violations were reported, one from stormwater Outfall 005, when rain storm occurred and flow was bypassed during maintenance of the lift station which normally pumps to the IWT, and one from Outfall 011, the industrial treatment plant, which was attributed to bypassed flow during the polishing filters maintenance process. This procedure is being reevaluated to prevent future excursions. Daily Copper loading limits were not violated in either event.
- 3) Construction of the new beryllium Pebble Plant is proceeding and is projected to be completed by the end of the year, with start up estimated by mid 2010. The NPDES permit was recently modified to include pollutant notification levels once the plant begins discharging. If monitoring indicates that the minimum notification levels are being exceeded on a frequent basis, a permit modification needs to be submitted and either monitoring or effluent limitations will be incorporated for those parameters exceeded. Please refer to Part II, Item N. of the NPDES permit for details.

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- 4) A Permit to Install (PTI) is being prepared to submit detail plans for a more efficient plate clarifier at the industrial waste treatment plant. We agree to process the PTI in a timely manner.

If you have any questions, or any of the above is in error, please call me at (419) 373-3020 or email at [rick.zuzik@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:rick.zuzik@epa.state.oh.us)

Sincerely,



Richard A. Zuzik, MSE  
Division of Surface Water

/csi

pc: DSW, NWDO file