



2GR0062220090916

SENECA PLANT #16

2GR00622 2009/09/16 HABLITZEL, LYNETTE BLOOMVILLE



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northwest District Office

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

Re: Seneca County
Gerken Materials Plant #16
Industrial
Storm Water

September 16, 2009

Mr. Brent Gerken
Gerken Materials, Inc.
P.O. Box 607
Napoleon, Ohio 43545

Dear Mr. Gerken:

On August 24, 2009, Walter Ariss and I inspected Gerken Materials Plant #16 at 4575 South County Road 49, Bloom Township. The purpose of our visit was to evaluate compliance of the site with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for storm water discharges associated with industrial activity, Facility ID No. 2GR00622. The facility is located on land owned by Hanson Aggregates. Photos were taken. No one was present onsite to provide information. As a result of the inspection, I have the following comments:

1. The facility is a hot mix asphalt plant. NPDES permit coverage was granted September 27, 2006. It is my understanding from our September 9, 2009, phone conversation that the plant has not run for the past 4 or 5 years. Gerken Materials does not have plans to operate the facility in the near future. As no one was present onsite to provide information, the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) was not available for review.
2. Manufacturing equipment (mixing drum, conveyers, asphalt silo, feed bins) is still located onsite. Exposure of industrial activities to storm water continues. Material storage (asphalt, aggregate stockpiles) remain onsite. Rills and gullies were observed on the ground east of the plant and on the aggregate stockpiles. However, this runoff appears to be contained by the asphalt milling stockpiles on the north end of the site. What appeared to be piles of lime were located between the asphalt and the stream on the north side of the site. A viscous tar-like material was present on the ground around the tank on the south side of the plant.



Please be aware that although the site is inactive, NPDES permit coverage must be maintained and the site's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan implemented until there are no longer any storm water discharges associated with industrial activity. This would include the removal of material stockpiles, spilled materials, and permanently stabilizing soils to prevent erosion.

The NPDES permit requires that the SWP3 describe and insure implementation of Best Management (BMPs) practices. These BMPs must address several different components of facility operations that are listed in the permit. BMP implementation issues were noted for the following facility operations:

3. Good Housekeeping - This item requires controls that result in the maintenance of a clean, orderly facility. Spill Prevention and Response Procedures - This item requires procedures for the cleaning up of spilled material. The spilled tar-like material remaining on the ground around the tank *is a violation of Parts IV. D.3.a. and c. of the permit.*
4. Inspections - The SWP3 shall identify qualified personnel to inspect designated equipment and areas and specify inspection frequency. Tracking or follow-up procedures shall be used. *See Part IV.D.3.d. of the permit.* Comprehensive Site Compliance Evaluation - The permit requires an annual site compliance evaluation. Such an evaluation involves visual inspections of all Potential Pollutant Sources, structural controls, sediment and erosion controls, and equipment needed to implement the SWP3 (spill response materials). If needed, the SWP3's description of potential pollutant sources or controls shall be revised within two (2) weeks of the inspection. The changes shall be implemented within 12 weeks. The inspection report must include the inspector's name, inspection date, observations, and resulting actions. The report shall be kept for three (3) years and signed in accordance with Attachment VI., Paragraph G. *See Attachment III., Paragraph D., 4. of the permit.* During our conversation you did not know who had been doing inspections at the facility. Gerken Materials is responsible for insuring these inspections are routinely carried out and documented. Please provide copies of those sections of the SWP3 regarding your inspection schedule and procedures, completed inspection logs for the past three (3) years, and documentation of the last annual Comprehensive Site Compliance Evaluation.

Mr. Brent Gerken
September 16, 2009
Page 3

Within 30 days of the date on this letter, please submit to this office **written notification** as to the actions taken or proposed to address the compliance issues noted in Items 3 and 4. Your response should include the dates, either actual or proposed, for the completion of the actions.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (419) 373-3009.

Sincerely,



Lynette M. Hablitzel, P.E.
Division of Surface Water
Storm Water Section

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