

**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

Gov. John Kasich, Governor  
Lt. Governor  
Director

November 4, 2010

RE: HARTSGROVE GENERAL STORE  
NPDES PERMIT NO. 3PR00270  
HARTSGROVE TOWNSHIP, ASHTABULA  
COMPLIANCE EVALUATION INSPECTION

Ms. Kathleen Grace Reed, Owner  
Hartsgrove General Store  
5647 U.S. Route 6  
Hartsgrove, OH 44085

Dear Ms. Reed:

On November 3, 2010, a site inspection was conducted at the above referenced facility at 5647 U.S. Route 6, Hartsgrove Township, Ashtabula County. The inspection was conducted by John Schmidt of this office. The store was closed, and nobody was available from Hartsgrove General Store during the inspection. The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate the facility's compliance status with respect to the terms and conditions of the facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit in conjunction with the renewal of said permit. The last compliance inspection was conducted on July 28, 2009.

The collection system consists of a gravity system from the general store and restaurant. The treatment system consists of a trash trap, extended aeration plant with clarification, dosing tank, surface sand filtration, and chlorine disinfection and dechlorination. Sludge management of sludge removal from the aerated sludge holding tank when needed to another POTW. The facility discharges to an unnamed tributary to Hoskins Creek to the north of the facility. No backup power is provided to the facility, but the facility is provided with alarms.

**Observations**

Following are observations made during the inspection.

1. The design flow of the extended aeration plant is 1,000 gallons per day. The plant's blower was operating at the time of the inspection.
2. The plant is operated by Dustin Lewis and Marlene Knopsnider of Lewis Wastewater Management and Clean Streams, Inc. on behalf of Hartsgrove General Store. Lewis Wastewater management/Clean Streams collects samples, performs laboratory analyses, and electronically submits the data to the electronic discharge monitoring report (eDMR) system.
3. The trash trap and excess sludge from the aeration system is removed annually and hauled to another WWTP.
4. The controls for the plant are contained within a control box that is secured with screws instead of latches, therefore the blowers or pumps could not be cycled to ascertain if they are in operable condition (see attached pictures).

5. From the accumulation of leaves and debris on the tanks, it is apparent that the necessary inspections of the plant components has not been taking place (see attached pictures).
6. The content of the aeration tank had a dark brown color and had good mixing. Sludge returns were a lighter brown color with minimal foaming; suggesting that the clarifier walls need scraped to direct sludge to the return sludge pump.
7. The surface of the clarifier contained a significant accumulation of scum and grease (see attached pictures). Effluent channels could use a more frequent cleaning.
8. The dosing tank pumps were not able to be cycled due to inaccessible controls.
9. Rapid sand filters need to be raked, have vegetation and leaves removed, and raked even (see attached pictures). The splash pads were observed in deteriorated condition and should be either repaired or replaced. The effluent discharged to the sand filter during the inspection was clear and free of color and turbidity.
10. The chlorination and dechlorination tanks were not examined due to the conclusion of the disinfection season. It is noted that the disinfection season concluded on October 31.
11. The final outfall 001 was observed as discharging an effluent of satisfactory visual quality.

#### **NPDES Permit Compliance Review**

The Hartsgrove General Store WWTP operates under NPDES permit 3PR00270\*BD. A review of the electronic discharge self-monitoring reports (eDMRs) received by Ohio EPA for the period July 1, 2009 through November 1, 2010 indicates the following apparent noncompliance of the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit.

#### **Effluent Limit Violations**

The following effluent limit violations were noted for the time period reviewed:

Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	30D Conc	1.0	21.84	8/1/2010
001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Conc	1.5	21.84	8/1/2010
001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	30D Qty	0.004	.02329	8/1/2010
001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Qty	0.006	.02329	8/1/2010

A written explanation as to why these exceedences occurred must be provided, along with measures to ensure that they are not repeated. If you feel some of Ohio EPA's reporting records are in error, you may wish to reenter this information through the eDMR system. Typically, only the current month or two are available for corrections, and Ohio EPA's eDMR support staff may also be available to assist you making revisions to older reports. Emailing questions to

Ms. Kathleen Grace Reed  
Hartsgrove General Store  
November 4, 2010  
Page 3

[James.Roberts@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:James.Roberts@epa.state.oh.us) is the quickest way to get a response if you have a specific question with the eDMR program or how to make corrections to what is reported in the eDMR program.

Reporting Violations

No reporting code or frequency violations were reported for the time period reviewed.

Compliance Schedule Violations

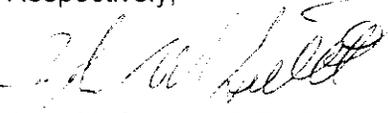
No compliance schedule violations were noted for the time period reviewed.

Based upon the inspection findings and the overall compliance record of the facility, the Hartsgrove General Store is in marginal compliance with the terms and conditions of its NPDES permit. The above items must be addressed.

Please inform this office, in writing, within 30 days of the date of this letter as to the actions we discussed that have been or will be taken to correct the above noncompliance or explanations if you believe the noncompliance issues noted are in error. Your response to this letter should include the dates that the actions have been or will be completed. Please be advised that past or present issues of noncompliance can continue as subjects of future enforcement actions by Ohio EPA.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this notification, please feel free to contact me at (330) 963-1175.

Respectively,

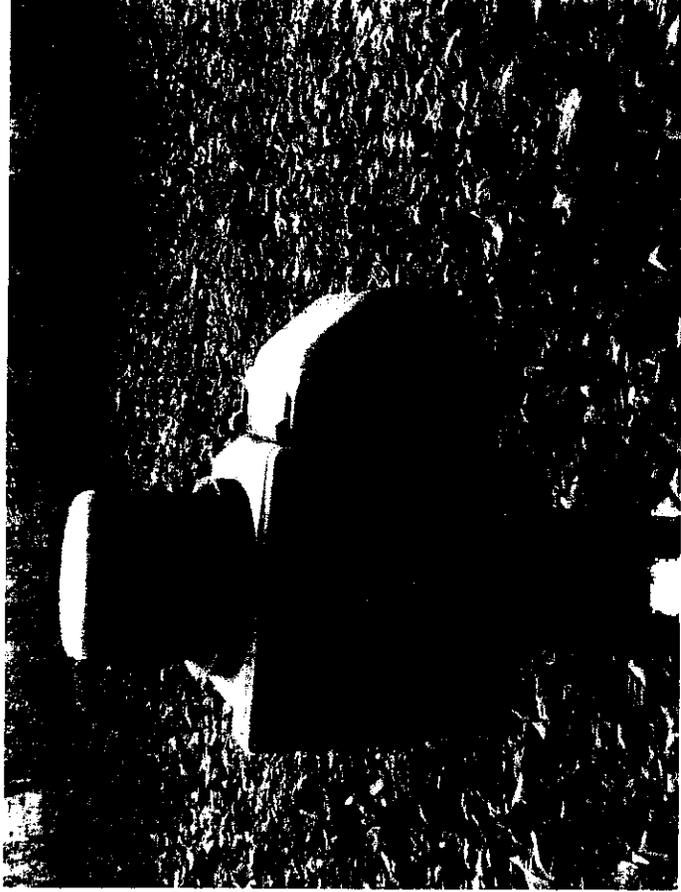


John M. Schmidt P.E., R.S.  
Environmental Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

JMS/mt

pc: Dustin Lewis, Lewis Wastewater Management

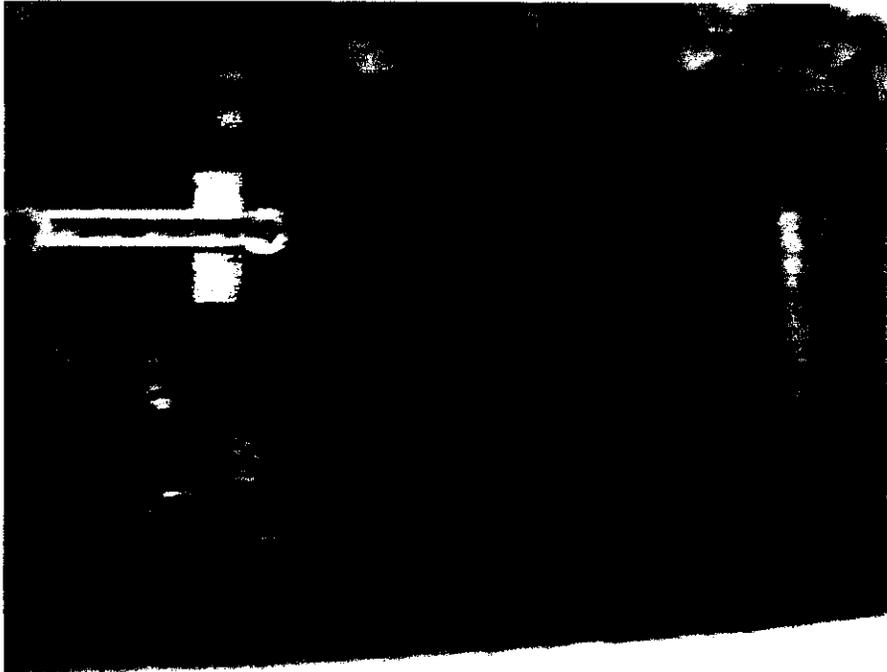
File: SP/Ashtabula/Hartsgrove Township./Hartsgrove General Store



Control Panel for Dosing Pumps and Blowers (?)



Tanks with Accumulated Debris



**Final Clarifier with Grease/Scum and Effluent Weir**



**Sand Filters**