



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

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

January 28, 2011

RE: HARTSGROVE BP CONVENIENCE STORE
AND CIRCLE CREEK RESTAURANT
NPDES PERMIT NO. 3PR00214
HARTSGROVE TWP., ASHTABULA CO.
COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION INSPECTION

Mr. David Nye, Owner
Hartsgrove BP Convenience Store
5599 Hambden-Andover Road (U.S. Route 6)
Rome, OH 44085

Dear Mr. Nye:

On January 27, 2011, a site inspection was conducted at the above referenced facility at 5599 Hambden-Andover Road (U.S. Route 6), Hartsgrove Township, Ashtabula County. The inspection was conducted by John Schmidt of this office, and Mr. Scott Hinkle represented Hartsgrove General Store (Hartsgrove). 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. The last compliance inspection was conducted on January 27, 2010.

The system consists of an influent pump station, trash trap/grease trap, flow equalization tank, extended aeration tanks, clarifiers, dosing tank, membrane biological filter, chlorine disinfection, and dechlorination. Sludge management of sludge removal from the sludge tanks to another WWTP. 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 503 gallons per day. The extended aeration plant operates continuously.
2. The majority of the flow tributary to this waste water treatment facility originates from the Circle Creek Restaurant, which is currently closed for the season.
3. The plant is operated by Mr. Scott Hinkle and yourself. You indicated by phone that you are in the process of obtaining your Class A operator's license. Either you are Mr. Hinkle who performs routine onsite analyses of pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, and conductivity and submits this data to the electronic

discharge monitoring system (eDMR). Microbac Laboratories performs remaining off-site analysis, and submits the eDMR data to the on behalf of Hartsgrove BP Convenience Store.

4. The overall condition of the treatment plant during the inspection was satisfactory with the plant well maintained. Trash is removed from the influent pump station trash trap periodically and disposed off-site in a sanitary landfill.
5. The influent pump station and equalization basin pumps were cycled and found in operating condition. The aeration blowers were cycled and found in operating condition. The alarms were cycled and found NOT in operating condition. This should be repaired as soon as possible.
6. Trash trap contents were typical.
7. The content of the aeration tank could not be examined due to the covers being locked and onsite keys not available and the locks frozen when inspector's keys were inserted. The aeration tanks sounded as if they are receiving sufficient air and did not have an objectionable odor.
8. The content of the clarifiers could not be examined due to the covers being locked and onsite keys not available and the locks frozen when inspector's keys were inserted. Ohio EPA notes that you indicated that excess scum from the 2010 inspection was removed from the system on April 27, 2010.
9. The dosing pumps were cycled and found in operating condition. Alarms associated with these pumps were cycled and found in operating condition.
10. The membrane biological filter was examined and found in operating condition. The system was examined and found to contain some foaming on the surface, occupying about 30% of each tank surface. From discussion with Mr. Hinkle, the operators of the adjacent Circle Creek Restaurant are in the process of cleaning the restaurant in preparation of opening the restaurant for the 2011 season. Other sources of foaming could include over aeration, organic underloading, or excessive use of surfactants (cleaners), sanitizers, or detergents by institution staff. Sources should be investigated and materials with low phosphates should be substituted.
11. The Chlorination and dechlorination tanks were not in operation and therefore not inspected, due to the time of year. Disinfection and dechlorination is required for this facility between May and October.

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12. The final effluent discharge to the unnamed tributary to Hoskins Creek north of the wastewater plant was observed to reasonably clear. The effluent was an acceptable visual quality.

NPDES Permit Compliance Review

Hartsgrove operates the Hartsgrove BP convenience Store WWTP under Permit No. 3PR00214*DD. A review of the electronic discharge self-monitoring reports (eDMRs) received by Ohio EPA for the period January 1, 2010 through January 1, 2011 indicates apparent noncompliance of the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit as noted below:

Limit Violations

No limit violations were noted for the reporting period reviewed.

Reporting Violations

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

Compliance Schedule Violations

No compliance schedule violations were noted for the reporting period reviewed. There is no compliance schedule in your existing NPDES permit.

Other Violations

The following additional violations are noted in a review of Ohio EPA files and your NPDES permit:

1. Operator of Record Designation - Pursuant to Part II, Item A of your NPDES permit, the wastewater treatment works must be under the supervision of a Class A State Certified Operator as required by OAC 3745-7-02. Part II, Item B requires you to designate an operator of record and notify Ohio EPA of the designated operator of record. An examination of Ohio EPA's records indicates that no operator of record is designated for this facility. In our telephone conversation, you indicated that you are in the process of securing your Class A wastewater operator's license. Until you have obtained your license, you must contract with a licensed operator to operate your plant. A list of contract operators may be found at http://epa.ohio.gov/portals/28/documents/opcert/contract_operator_list.pdf, or you may inquire with other entities who have package wastewater plants. I have attached an operator of record form which must be completed and returned to Ohio EPA.

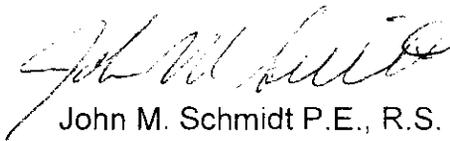
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Based on the above information, Hartsgrove BP Convenience Store is considered to be in substantial compliance with the terms and conditions of its NPDES permit for its Hartsgrove WWTP facility; however the above items must be addressed.

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

File: SP/Ashtabula Co./Hartsgrove Twp/Hartsgrove BP Convenience Store