



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northeast District Office

2110 East Aurora Rd.
Twinsburg, Ohio 44087

TELE: (330) 963-1200 FAX: (330) 487-0769
www.epa.state.oh.us

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

February 19, 2009

RE: COLUMBIANA COUNTY
UNITED LOCAL SCHOOLS
NPDES PERMIT NO. 3PT00066
UNITED LOCAL SCHOOLS WWTP
8143 STATE ROUTE 9

Mr. Glenn Willis, Superintendent
United Local School District
8143 State Route 9
Hanoverton, OH 44423

Dear Mr. Willis:

On February 10, 2009, this writer conducted an inspection of United Local Schools Wastewater Treatment Plant, located at 8143 State Route 9. The purpose of the inspection was to review the water pollution control facilities and evaluate compliance with the facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The following was observed at the time of the inspection:

- 1) The facility appeared well maintained and well operated. The maintenance supervisor is currently providing a high degree of oversight. A review of the Discharge Monitoring Reports from October 2007 through December 2008 data revealed only three violations of the NPDES permit effluent discharge criteria.
- 2) At the time of the inspection, all treatment processes appeared satisfactory. The aeration tanks had good color, and the clarifiers appeared to be producing a satisfactory effluent with some minor pin floc. Your operator should evaluate the recirculation of flow from the flow equalization tank. It appeared all the flow was discharging to the plant rather than a portion recycling as designed. The effluent appeared satisfactory as it discharged to an unnamed tributary of the Sandy Creek.
- 3) The Agency's last correspondence recommended the installation of a sludge holding tank for operational purposes. Sludge handling facilities are required on all plants with a design flow exceeding 10,000 gpd. The design flow of this facility is 30,000 gpd and does not include an aerated sludge holding tank. An aerated sludge holding tank will allow for frequent removal of sludge from the system without having to schedule an outside contractor. It also provides a method to dewater the sludge which results in less material for disposal, therefore, reduced costs. The school should have begun planning for having an aerated sludge holding tank installed at some point in the near future. A facility of this size would require a 6,000-gallon holding tank.

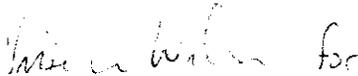
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- 4) The northern filter bed had some minor ponding due to the cold weather. The waste solids cleaned from the filter bed must be placed in a dumpster for the landfill.

Please respond in writing by March 20, 2009, with the projected date of the installation of the sludge holding tank.

Should you have any comments or concerns regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me at (330) 963-1193.

Respectfully,



Joseph E. Trocchio, P.E.
Environmental Engineer
Division of Surface Water

JET/mt

cc: David Starcher, United Schools Building and Grounds Supervisor
Don Harrison, Operator

File: Semipublic/Columbiana Count/Hanover Township/United Local WWTP