



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

September 23, 2009

RE: **GEAUGA COUNTY
BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP
SIRNA & SON'S, INC. DBA MAINLINE PRODUCE
7307 AURORA ROAD**

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Vince Sirna, VP
Mainline Produce
7307 Aurora Road
Aurora, OH 44202

Dear Mr. Sirna:

On July 28, 2009, this office conducted a compliance evaluation inspection at the wastewater treatment plant serving Mainline Produce. According to our files, the original treatment plant was upgraded in 1993. The basis of design of the plant was 35 employees at 20 gallons per day per employee, for a total of 700 gpd. The plant consists of a 2000 gallon grease trap, 500 gallon trash trap, 1500 gpd extended aeration plant with clarifier, dosing chamber, 117 square foot surface sand filter, and chlorination/dechlorination tank. The system discharges to a wetland tributary to Pond Brook.

During the inspection, the wastewater treatment plant blowers were running, and the aeration tank was receiving air. But, the mixed liquor in the tank was completely septic, indicating that no treatment is taking place. The surface sand filters were not draining due to being flooded and clogged with raw sewage and solids.

On August 28, 2009, this office finally spoke with your certified operator, Steve Howe of AKE Laboratory, Inc. to determine why the treatment plant was not operating properly. According to Mr. Howe, there had been a hole in one of the diffuser downpipes and a bad motor on one blower. Supposedly, the sand filters had been cleaned. According to Mr. Howe, the plant was running properly after maintenance had been performed. On September 14, 2009, this office conducted a follow-up inspection at the treatment plant, only to find it in the same septic condition as before.

Upon review of your Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) from September 2006 to September 2009, the following effluent violations were noted:

Reporting Period	Sta.	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
Dec. 2006	001	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	5.4	12/22/2006
March 2007	001	Nitrogen, Ammonia	30D Conc	3.0	26.5	3/1/2007
March 2007	001	CBOD 5 day	30D Conc	10	11.5	3/1/2007
March 2007	001	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	4.7	3/2/2007
March 2007	001	Nitrogen, Ammonia	7D Conc	4.5	26.5	3/8/2007
June 2007	001	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	5.5	6/29/2007
August 2007	001	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	5.6	8/3/2007
August 2008	001	Nitrogen, Ammonia	30D Conc	1.0	1.34	8/1/2008

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August 2008	001	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	3.4	8/8/2008
June 2009	001	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	3.8	6/26/2009
August 2009	001	Dissolved Oxygen	1D Conc	6.0	5.7	8/14/2009

Please be advised that a discharge of inadequately treated wastewater is a violation of Chapter 6111 of the Ohio Revised Code. In addition, an inadequately treated discharge could pose health concerns.

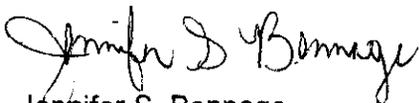
In order to avoid escalated enforcement action from this office, it is directed you immediately hire a certified wastewater operator to determine why no treatment is occurring at the treatment plant. It is strongly recommended that the exact gallons per day of influent entering the plant be determined. Also, the strength of the influent shall be tested. Possibly, the plant is undersized due to hydraulics and/or organics.

A report must be submitted to this office by November 1, 2009, detailing the results of the findings and recommendations to prevent future effluent violation. The report shall also include the type of operations currently taking place at Mainline Produce (number of employees, number of visitors, type of foods prepared on-site etc.). After the report is received by this office, please contact me to schedule a follow-up inspection with you and your technical wastewater operator.

Furthremore, please note that Part II of your NPDES permit requires that your wastewater treatment plant be under the supervision of a Class I State certified operator. According to Ohio Administrative Code 3745-7-02, the minimum staffing requirement for a Class I operator is 3 days per week for a minimum of 1.5 hours per week.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact this office at (330) 963-1151.

Sincerely,



Jennifer S. Bennage
Environmental Engineer
Division of Surface Water

JSB:cl

cc: Geauga County Health Department

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City	Aurora, OH 44202
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