

**Environmental
Protection Agency**

Governor
Lt. Governor
Director

August 30, 2011

RE: GEAUGA COUNTY
NEWBURY TWP.
RICCA PLAZA
11394 KINSMAN ROAD
PER-PERMIT/
COMPLIANCE EVALUATION INSPECTION
OHIO EPA NO. 3PR00296

Mr. Ronald P. Ricca
Ricca Plaza
11400 Music Street
Newbury, OH 44065

Dear Mr. Ricca:

On August 23, 2011, a Pre-Permit/Compliance Evaluation Inspection was conducted at the wastewater treatment plant serving Ricca Plaza. According to an August 2010 letter sent by you to this office, it's understood the plaza houses Shell's Dog Design, Habits, 4 Seasons Diner, TLC Auto Care, and a Laundromat.

According to our files, a Permit to Install (PTI) was issued by Ohio EPA on March 20, 1991 for an upgrade to the 6000 gallon extended aeration plant serving the plaza. That upgrade consisted of a 500 gallon trash trap and a 500 gallon grease trap in the restaurant outlet line. All flow from the shopping center was to be diverted to a 1000 gallon flow equalization tank, used to minimize hydraulic overloading of the system, caused by peak periods of Laundromat use. A flow control box routes excess flow to the flow equalization tank, and all other flow to the existing 6000 gallon extended aeration plant. The existing dosing chamber was equipped with dual submersible pumps. Also installed were a 486 square foot surface sand filter, 1000 gallon aeration sludge holding tank, and a 470 gallon chlorine contact tank. Point of discharge is to a storm drain which flows to a tributary of the Chagrin River.

During the recent inspection, the flow equalization tank contained lots of white foam. The mixed liquor in the extended aeration tank was dark in color and contained some dark foam, signifying that it's time to waste solids from the tank. One side of the surface sand filter contained lots of black solids which need to be removed and placed in a watertight container prior to being properly disposed with the remainder of the site's trash (which ultimately ends up in a solid waste landfill). Both sides of the sand filter had black dry solids raked to the corners; these solids shall also be properly disposed. The disinfection tank contained some white foam. The sludge holding tank was not being aerated probably due to a leak in the air line; leaking air was blowing the grass and making a hissing sound. The air line shall be repaired as soon as possible.

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Review of the Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) from August 2010 to August 2011 revealed the following numeric effluent violations:

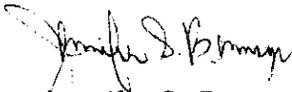
Reporting Period	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
June 2011	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Conc	3.0	4.21	6/1/2011
June 2011	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Qty	0.03	.03064	6/1/2011
June 2011	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	4.5	4.51	6/2/2011
June 2011	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	4.5	6.69	6/21/2011

The Public Notice of the draft renewal NPDES permit will be published in the local newspaper. Once Central Office sends you the draft permit, please read it carefully. Two changes in the renewal permit concern E. coli and the WWTP classification.

A change in the State's Water Quality Standards is replacing the fecal coliform effluent limitation with an E. coli effluent limitation. Please note that your renewal permit's interim effluent table contains the fecal coliform limitation, but also includes E. coli monitoring. The final effluent table includes an E. coli effluent limitation instead of fecal coliform limitation. The Schedule of Compliance in your permit directs you to submit to this office, twelve months after the effective date of the permit, a brief status report on the ability of your existing treatment works to meet the final effluent limit for E. coli.

Also, please note that Part II of your NPDES permit requires that this treatment plant be under the supervision of at least a Class A State certified operator, rather than the last permit's required Class I. According to Ohio Administrative Code 3745-7-04, the minimum staffing requirement for a Class A operator is 2 days per week for a minimum of one hour per week. If you have any comments or questions, please contact this office at (330) 963-1151

Sincerely,



Jennifer S. Bennage
Environmental Engineer
Division of Surface Water

JSB/mt

cc: Geauga County Health Department