

**Environmental
Protection Agency**

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

May 119, 2011

RE: THREE M ASSOCIATES – MULLET CABINET
OHIO EPA PERMIT 3PR00251
SALT CREEK TWP., HOLMES COUNTY
COMPLIANCE INSPECTION EVALUATION

Mr. Dean Mullet, Owner
Three M Associates, dba Mullet Cabinet
7488 State Route 241
Millersburg, OH 44654

Dear Mr. Mullet:

On May 9, 2011, a follow up site inspection was conducted at the above referenced facility at 7488 State Route 241, Salt Creek Township, Holmes County. The inspection was conducted by John Schmidt of this office and Kraig Bucklew of the Holmes County Health Department. Gideon Weaver represented Three M Associates 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. The last compliance inspections were conducted on May 11, 2010 and September 23, 2010.

The system consists of a trash trap, equalization basin, 3500 gpd extended aeration system with clarifier, lift station/dosing chamber, surface sand filtration, chlorine disinfection, dechlorination, and post-disinfection aeration. Sludge management consists of sludge removal from an aerated sludge holding tank when needed to another POTW. The facility discharges to an unnamed tributary to a roadside ditch along Township Road 618 that flows to an unnamed tributary of Martins Creek southwest of the facility. No backup power is provided to the facility, however the facility is provided with alarms.

Observations

The following observations were made during the inspection.

1. The design flow of the extended aeration plant is 3,500 gallons per day. The extended aeration plant operates continuously, with the sand filter operating on a float system in the dosing tank. The plant was not discharging at the time of the inspection.
2. Ohio EPA records reflect no operator of record for this facility. Conversation with Mr. Weaver indicates that Robert Earnsberger is the facility's operator of record. If Mr. Earnsberger is your operator of record, you and he must execute and submit an operator of record form as soon as possible. Ohio EPA's central office has begun to assess fines of up to \$1,000 for failure to maintain an operator of record.

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3. Log books and the operation and maintenance manual are maintained at the site and were available for inspection.
4. The overall condition of the treatment plant during this inspection was fair.
5. Collected trash was containerized for disposal at a solid waste landfill.
6. The content of the aeration tank had a no odor, chocolate brown color with good mixing. The blowers were running and the plant was receiving sufficient aeration. The plant color and aeration is an indicator of a properly operating aeration system. The blowers were cycled and found in operating condition. The alarms were tested and found in operating condition.
7. The final clarifier was found not in acceptable condition. The surface of the clarifier was full of sludge and grease (see attached pictures). The surface is supposed to be clear. Effluent channels and weirs were full of sludge and require cleaning (see attached pictures). Weirs should be cleaned weekly. The sludge return lines were operating properly at the time of the inspection. The skimmer was not operating at the time of the inspection.
8. The dosing tank pumps were cycled and found in operating condition. The alarms were tested and found in operating condition.
9. Surface sand filters were found in unacceptable condition. The north sand filter was full of water and floating sludge (see attached pictures). Filter media was scoured out at the dissipation structure for the north sand filter, suggesting that additional flow dissipation is required. The south filter bed was dry but contained a lot of sludge. If sludge is mixed into the filter media, the sand filter media will need to be replaced.
10. Sludge cleaned out from the sand beds were placed directly on the ground, which is unacceptable (see attached pictures). All sludge and vegetation cleaned from the sand beds must be containerized for disposal as a solid waste.
11. Chlorination and dechlorination systems were stocked with appropriate chemicals and operating at the time of the inspection. The tank is full of vegetation and other debris, and must be cleaned (see attached pictures).
12. The final discharge pipe at the roadside ditch along Township Road 618 tributary to Martins Creek southeast of the plant was observed as not discharging.
13. Robert Earnsberger and Gideon Weaver monitor the facility, and Robert Earnsberger performs the routine sampling and submission of the electronic discharge monitoring report (eDMR) through Ohio EPA's Web-based application.

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NPDES Permit Compliance Review

Three M Associates, Ltd operates the Mullet Cabinet WWTP under Permit 3PR00251*BD. A review of the electronic discharge self-monitoring reports (eDMRs) received by Ohio EPA for the period May 1, 2010 through April 1, 2011 indicates no apparent noncompliance of the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit.

Compliance Schedule

Ohio EPA notes the following regarding your compliance schedule:

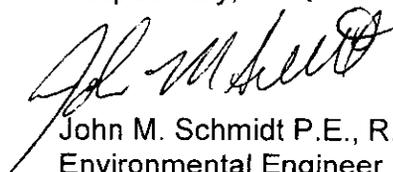
Permit Effective Date	Permit Expiration Date	Schedule Due Date	Completion Date	Event Code	Schedule Type	Schedule Milestone
01/01/2011	12/31/2015	07/01/2011		95999	Other	E Coli Status Report
01/01/2011	12/31/2015	07/01/2011		-----	Other	E Coli PTI if needed
01/01/2011	12/31/2015	01/01/2012		05699	Other	Achieve E Coli Limits

As the milestones have not yet passed, no information is required at this time.

Based on the above information, Three M Associates, Ltd is considered to be in substantial compliance with the terms and conditions of its NPDES permit for the Mullet Cabinet WWTP; however the above items must be addressed.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this inspection, 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: Kraig Bucklew, Holmes County Health Department
Robert Earnsberger

File: Semipublic/Holmes/Salt Creek Twp/Three M Assoc./Mullet Cabinet (3PR00251)



Final Clarifier with Sludge at Surface and Effluent Weirs full of Sludge and Debris



Sludge from Sand Filters Dumped on the Ground



North Sand Filter full of Sludge and Not Draining Properly



South Sand Filter with Sludge Accumulation



Chlorine Contact Tank Requiring Cleaning