



Environmental
Protection Agency

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

June 17, 2011

RE: GRANDMA ALPINE ALPHA RESTAURANT
OHIO EPA PERMIT 3PR00207
PAINT TOWNSHIP, HOLMES COUNTY
COMPLIANCE EVALUATION INSPECTION

Ms. Ann DeHass, Owner
Grandma Alpine Alpha Restaurant
Alpine Homestead Restaurant
1504 U.S. Route 62
Wilmot, OH 44689

Dear Ms. DeHass:

On June 15, 2011, a site inspection was conducted at the above referenced facility at 1504 U.S. Route 62, Paint Township, Holmes County. The inspection was conducted by John Schmidt of this office. Jack Starner represented Grandma Alpine Alpha Restaurant 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 inspection was conducted on November 5, 2008.

The system consists of a trash trap, flow equalization, 15,000 gpd extended aeration system with clarifier, lift station/dosing chamber, surface sand filtration, chlorine disinfection and dechlorination. Sludge management consists of sludge removal from the aerated sludge holding tank when needed to another POTW. The facility discharges to the Middle fork of Sugar Creek east and south of the facility. No backup power is provided to the facility and the facility is provided with alarms.

Observations

The following observations were made during the inspection.

1. The Grandma Alpine Alpha Restaurant has been closed since at least mid-November 2009, and has not been open since.
2. The design flow of the extended aeration plant is 15,000 gallons per day, although the plant has been receiving no flow for at least 18 months. Power is still provided to the facility, but the individual pumps and blowers were shut down for the inspection. The extended aeration is currently not operating and currently not receiving any flow. The plant was not discharging at the time of the inspection.

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3. Ohio EPA records indicate the operators of record for this facility are Jason VanSickle and Chad Curry of Dean's Backflow Service.
4. Log books and the operation and maintenance manual are not maintained at the site and were not available for inspection. Mr. Starner indicated he would inquire about this with Dean's Backflow Service and ensure that logs will be available.
5. The overall mechanical condition of the treatment plant during this inspection appears satisfactory, considering its current state. The facility had weeds and grass approximately 3 feet high. Mr. Starner indicated that he will commence mowing the facility this week.
6. The flow equalization tank contained water to keep the tank from floating. The pumps were cycled and found operable. The alarm was tested and found nonfunctional. The source of the malfunctioning alarm should be investigated and repaired.
7. Collected trash appears containerized for disposal at a solid waste landfill.
8. The content of the aeration tank had liquid to keep the tanks from floating. The blowers were cycled and found in operating condition. The alarms were tested and found in operating condition.
9. The surface of the clarifier was clear. Effluent channels and weirs were reasonably clean. The sludge return lines were cycled and found operating properly at the time of the inspection. The skimmer was activated and found in operable condition at the time of the inspection.
10. The surface sand filter dosing pumps were cycled and found in operating condition. The alarms were tested and found in operating condition.
11. Surface sand filters need attention. A significant accumulation of vegetation in the sand filters that requires removal. Vegetative growth can be minimized by keeping surrounding grass mowed. When the dosing pumps were activated, the wastewater percolates freely through the sand indicating that the beds are not clogged.
12. The chlorination system was examined and found not stocked with the appropriate chemicals. The contents were turbid, and the tank needs to be cleaned of vegetation and leaves.

13. The final outfall to the Middle Fork of Sugar Creek was observed as not discharging.
14. When the plant was operating prior to November 2008, samples were collected by Dean's Backflow Service. No data has been collected other than to report "no flow". The facility reported no flow for the months of December 2008 through April 2011.
15. Ohio EPA notes that sludge has not been removed from this facility since November 17, 2008.
16. When the plant was operating, Cosh Laboratories provided the sample bottles and preservatives and performed laboratory analysis of collected samples. Samples have not been required to be collected since the current operators assumed their duties.
17. Dean's Backflow Service currently submits analytical data to Ohio EPA.

NPDES Permit Compliance Review

Grandma Alpine Alpha Restaurant operates the Alpine Alpha restaurant wastewater plant under Permit 3PR00207*CD. A review of the electronic discharge self-monitoring reports (eDMRs) received by Ohio EPA for the period October 1, 2008 through May 1, 2011 indicates apparent noncompliance of the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit as identified below:

Limit Violations

<u>Station</u>	<u>Reporting Code</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Limit Type</u>	<u>Limit</u>	<u>Reported Value</u>	<u>Violation Date</u>
001	00665	Phosphorus, Total (P)	30D Conc	1.0	4.87	10/1/2008
001	00665	Phosphorus, Total (P)	30D Conc	1.0	3.52	11/1/2008

Ohio EPA notes that the previous NPDES permit contained a compliance schedule for upgrades to the wastewater treatment facility to address phosphorus violations. To-date no submittals have been made by Grandma Alpine Alpha Restaurant to address the compliance schedule. It should be noted that if and when operations resume at this facility that the discharge will be evaluated for phosphorus and that if needed a permit-to-install (PTI) application submitted to address required plant improvements to ensure that the plant will comply with its phosphorus effluent limits.

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Reporting Violations

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

If you feel some of Ohio EPA's reporting records are in error, you may wish to reenter this information through the eDMR system or mail your data to Ohio EPA DSW central office and request that the data be entered on your behalf. Ohio EPA's eDMR support staff may also be available to assist you in this matter. Emailing questions to James.Roberts@epa.state.oh.us is the quickest way to get a response if you have a specific question with the eDMR program or how to make corrections to what is reported in the eDMR program.

Compliance Schedule

The following compliance schedule milestones are noted for the reporting period reviewed:

Permit Effective Date	Permit Expiration Date	Schedule Due Date	Completion Date	Event Code	Schedule Type	Schedule Milestone
2/1/2011	1/31/2016	See Note	No record	-----	Construction	Evaluate P and E Coli
2/1/2011	1/31/2016	See Note	No record	-----	Construction	Submit and Obtain PTI
2/1/2011	1/31/2016	See Note	No record	-----	Construction	Complete Construction

The current compliance schedule requires Grandma Alpine Alpha Restaurant to evaluate the plant to meet the final effluent limits for E Coli and Phosphorus no later than three months prior to restarting the wastewater treatment plant, submit and obtain a PTI if improvements are needed, and construct the improvements prior to restarting the plant. As the milestones have not yet passed, no response is needed at this time. Grandma Alpine Alpha should provide Ohio EPA with a written response on its intent to restart this facility.

Other NPDES Permit Violations

Ohio EPA notes the following additional violations of your NPDES permit:

1. Annual Sludge Report - Ohio EPA notes that Part II, Item H of your NPDES permit requires you to submit a report no later than January 31st summarizing the sewage sludge disposal, use, storage, or treatment activities during the previous calendar year. Ohio EPA's files reflect that Horse-n-Harness Pub has not submitted this report since 2008. Please submit the report as prescribed by your NPDES permit.

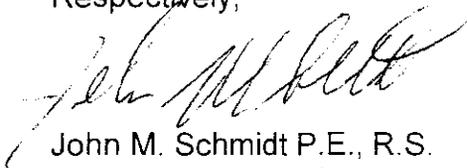
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Based on the above information, Grandma Alpine Alpha Restaurant is considered to be in significant compliance with the terms and conditions of its NPDES permit for its Wilmot Alpine Alpha Restaurant facility. The above items must be addressed.

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 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
Kevin Dean, Dean's Backflow Service

File: Semipublic/Holmes/Paint Twp/Grandma Alpine Alpha Restaurant (3PR00207)