



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northwest District Office

347 North Dunbridge Road
Bowling Green, OH 43402-9398

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

Re: Richland County
Village of Plymouth WWTP
NPDES Permit

November 10, 2009

Mr. Bill Sexton, Administrator
Village of Plymouth
48 West Broadway
Plymouth, Ohio 44865

Dear Mr. Sexton,

On October 29, 2009, an inspection was made of the Village of Plymouth wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Mr. Wayne Baker, operator of the lagoons, was present during the inspection. A visual inspection was made of the effluent structure and discharge at the river. The eastern lagoon had been drained and all flow was moving through the western lagoon only. The effluent appeared fairly clear. No effluent samples were collected during the inspection.

Mr. Baker indicated that the eastern lagoon had been drained around the beginning of October in preparation for the removal of sludge from the bottom of the lagoon. This was accomplished by removing all of the boards in the discharge structure. A small amount of water was flowing out of this lagoon which Mr. Baker indicated was rain water from the past few days. Until the lagoon is cleaned, one or two of the boards should be placed back into the effluent structure. This will help prevent solids from washing out into the stream during rain events.

A review of the discharge monitoring reports submitted to our office for November 2008, through September 2009, revealed numerous **violations** of the limits contained in your National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The Village is currently progressing with construction of a new WWTP which should help prevent violations from occurring.

During the inspection we discussed the Willow Drive combined sewer area. In your most recent NPDES permit renewal application, the Village indicated that the entire sewer system is 100% separate. This does not appear to be the case. Please provide our office with a written description of the combined sewer area.

Mr. Bill Sexton, Administrator
November 10, 2009
Page 2

The description should include the number of homes on the combined sewers, the number of catch basins tributary to the combined sewers, and how this combined system ties into the rest of the Village sewers. This description shall be submitted within 30 days from the receipt of this letter.

We also investigated a known sanitary sewer overflow that occurs from a manhole cover off of Lofland Street. Our office has received complaints of this manhole overflowing during rain events. The village will need to investigate the cause of these overflows. The sanitary line in this area should be investigated with a camera for possible line obstructions. The line may also need to be jetted and cleaned. Please complete this investigation and report the results to our office within 30 days of receipt of this letter. The manhole should be monitored during rain events, and any overflows reported under the outfall 300 table on your DMR.

If you have any questions please call me at 419-373-3070.

Sincerely,



Walter Ariss
Environmental Specialist II
Division of Surface Water

/llr

pc: (DSW-NWDO -)
Keith Hebble, Mayor, Village of Plymouth