



**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

Ted Strickland, Governor  
Lee Fisher, Lt. Governor  
Chris Keriesski, Director

September 10, 2010

**RE: CHAPARRAL CAMPGROUND  
MAHONING COUNTY  
GREEN TOWNSHIP  
NPDES PERMIT NO. 3PR00346**

Mr. Tim Armbruster, Owner  
Chaparral Family Campground  
10136 Middletown Road  
Salem, OH 44460

Dear Mr. Armbruster:

On August 3, 2010, this writer conducted a Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) of the wastewater treatment system for the Chaparral Family Campground. Following is a list of observations and discussions during the inspection.

- 1) The condition of the treatment system was satisfactory at the time of the inspection. The aeration tank had good color and mixing. The north sludge return had good color and the south return was much lighter. You indicated that this has been typical, and that even after brushing the sides of the south hopper, the return remained light in color
- 2) The clarifier was covered with duck weed; but, the effluent was clear. No scum or sludge was apparent near the effluent weir.

The scum pickup was below the surface of the water in the clarifier. You indicated that the scum return will be adjusted to enable the system to operate as intended. This will reduce the duck weed on the surface of the clarifier.

- 3) Dosing pump No. 1 was not operational at the time of the inspection. You indicated that the pump would be pulled to determine the cause.
- 4) Three of the sand filters had been cleaned and leveled. It was understood that the eastern two filters were the primary filters and that the northwest filter is being used as a backup. The northwest filter was in need of a distribution pipe and gravel around the splash plate.

The eastern two filters were in satisfactory condition at the time of the inspection. New distribution pipes were in place and the sand was free of excessive weed growth. It was understood that the filters are alternated ever few weeks. Wastewater was distributed evenly over the southeast filter when the dosing pumps were checked.

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A re-built distribution box was in place to direct wastewater to selected filters. All wastewater was directed to the southeast filter at the time of the inspection and no unintended leakage of wastewater was observed from the distribution box when the dosing pump was tested.

- 5) The southwest filter will be abandoned since the filter is no longer needed based on the flows experienced at the plant over the past six years. Average daily flow has averaged less than 10,000 gpd over the past six years. Per our discussions, the cost and effort to rebuild the filter is not necessary considering the daily flow volumes experienced at the camp ground. The three remaining filters are sufficient to properly treat the volume of wastewater generated daily. As a result, the NPDES Permit will reflect a reduced design daily flow in accordance with the reduced filter area of the system.

The original design of the treatment system shows that the sand filters are 27 x 27 feet. The total area of the three filters remaining in service will be 729 ft<sup>2</sup>. Ohio EPA guidance states that a maximum hydraulic load of 12 gpd/ft<sup>2</sup> of filter area is permitted. This equates to a revised average design flow of 26,000 gpd. This is slightly higher than when we talked about a design flow less than 25,000 gpd which was based on an estimated side wall length of 25 ft. for each filter. At a side wall length of 25 ft. for each filter, the revised design flow would have been 22,500 gpd.

- 6) Bob Gentile has been the operator of the treatment for over a year. Mr. Gentile is a Class IV operator which fulfills the requirement of the NPDES Permit and the December 7, 2010 Director's Final Findings and Orders (DFFOs). The new NPDES Permit will require the licensed operator to register with the Ohio EPA as the Operator of Record per Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-7.
- 7) The plant currently operates using one blower. The DFFOs required that a second blower be installed no later than June 30, 2010. During the inspection, you indicated that you were working to purchase a new blower for installation. A new blower must be installed as soon as possible in order to provide a backup to the one blower currently in use and in order to come into compliance with the DFFOs. Be advised that failure to install the new blower is a violation of the DFFOs and Ohio Revised Code (R.C.) 6111.07. It is recommended that if the blower has not already been installed, Chaparral Family Campground complete installation of the blower as soon as possible to avoid additional action by Ohio EPA.

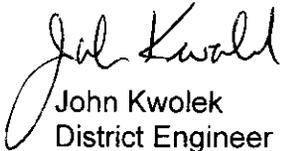
Finally, a compliance review was conducted for the period covering June 2009 through August 2010. Following is a list of limit violations reported during the review period.

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Reporting Period	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
August 2009	Nitrogen, Ammonia	30D Conc	1.0	4.21	8/1/2009
August 2009	Nitrogen, Ammonia	7D Conc	1.5	4.21	8/1/2009

You may contact this writer at (330) 963-1251 to discuss any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Respectfully,



John Kwolek  
District Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

JK:cl

cc. Joe Mansky, Mahoning County Health Department  
File: Semi-Public/Mahoning County/Green Twp./Chaparral Family Campground