

**Environmental
Protection Agency**

Ohio Department of
Environmental Protection
1975 Linden Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43260
614.644.6300
www.epa.ohio.gov
Governor
Lt. Governor
Director

August 18, 2011

RE: MEDINA COUNTY
LITCHFIELD TOWNSHIP
LITCHFIELD PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE
(FORMERLY LITCHFIELD ELEMENTARY)
(9339 BROOKER STREET)
NPDES NO. 3PT00099

Ms. Renee Miller
Litchfield Preschool & Child Care Center
9339 Brooker Street
Litchfield, OH 44253

Dear Ms. Miller:

On July 25, 2011, an inspection was conducted on the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) serving the Litchfield Preschool and Child Care Center, located at 9339 Brooker Street, Litchfield Township, Medina County. The WWTP inspection was conducted after the meeting and discussion we had, regarding your preschool and child care business being conducted in the former elementary school building.

The purpose of the inspection was twofold: 1) To evaluate the WWTP's suitability for use with a food service license you are seeking from the Medina County Health Department (MCHD); and 2) To evaluate the operation and maintenance condition of the WWTP, and its compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to discharge which is held by the owner of the sewage system (Buckeye Local School District).

As discussed in our meeting, there are approximately 35 to 40 children utilizing the daycare, and 9 staff members. It is your desire to obtain a food service license from the Medina County Health Department, which will allow you to reheat food provided by the Buckeye Local Schools.

According to a July 14, 2011, correspondence from the Health Department, a Risk Level 4 food service license is required to reheat food on the premises. The July 14th MCHD correspondence also indicated that, before they would grant a food service license approval, one of the conditions was that the existing sewage system serving the building was usable in conjunction with a food service operation.

The existing sewage system serving the building consists of the following:

- 1) Trash Trap..... 1500 gallon
- 2) Aerated Flow Equalization Tank..... 4900 gallon
- 3) Extended Aeration Tank.....8600 gpd
- 4) Dosing Tank w/ Dual Submersible Pumps.....740 gallon
- 5) Surface Sand Filter.....730 ft²
- 6) Disinfection Tank w/ Tablet Chlorine/Dechlor..... 952 gallon
- 7) Aerated Sludge Holding Tank.....1000 gallon

At the time of the July 25th inspection, the following observations were made:

- 1) The trash trap was in use and contents were typical.
- 2) The flow equalization tank was being aerated, and contents were a watery grayish brown color.
- 3) The electrical control box was opened, and the blower motor switches were checked. Blower Motors No. 1 and 2, which provide air for the aeration tank, were in the OFF position, and would not operate when put in the ON mode. Blower Motor No. 3 was operating in the ON position, providing air for the Flow EQ tank.
- 4) The aeration tank blower motors were not operating, and contents of the aeration tank were dark gray. Blower Motor No. 1 was missing a belt. The return sludge line was not operating, due to air not being provided to the system.
- 5) The settling tank contained clear water, and had no discharge. The settling tank effluent trough was clean and dry.
- 6) The pumps in the pump station were set in the AUTO mode, and when tested in the manual mode, were operational. The high level alarm/light did not operate when manually tested.
- 7) The surface sand filters were totally overgrown with vegetation. When manually dosed with the pumps, the west cell was being used.
- 8) The chlorination / dechlorination units were in the contact tank. The chlorine tablet unit lid was tilted, but still on the unit. The dechlorination tablet unit lid was off, lying in the tank. There were no tablets in either of the units, and there was no visible sign of recent discharge.
- 9) The sludge holding tank was full of what appeared to be rainwater, and was not being aerated.

It is noted that with proper startup, and with continued operation and maintenance practices, the existing sewage system has sufficient hydraulic capacity for the proposed food service operation at the preschool / day care.

HOWEVER, a SWIMS computer search of the operating data for the wastewater treatment plant (submittal as required by the NPDES permit to be reported to Ohio EPA) was conducted prior to the inspection. The electronic Discharge Monitoring Report (eDMR) data search covered the period of October 1, 2008, through July 1, 2011. **Results of the search found no data has been submitted to the Ohio EPA since June 1, 2009.**

A file search for the property also found the current NPDES permit expired on December 31, 2006, and a renewal application was to have been submitted to Ohio EPA by June 30, 2006. **To date, no NPDES permit renewal application has been submitted to this office.**

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On March 7, 2007, a letter was sent from Rich Blasick, Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water Unit Supervisor, to the Buckeye Local School District. The letter informed the School Board of the expired permit status, and requested they submit a renewal application. No such application was received.

On June 15, 2009, a final notice letter was sent from Bill Skowronski, Northeast Office District Chief, to the Buckeye Board of Education. The letter informed the School Board of their failure to submit an NPDES permit renewal application, and requested a meeting to discuss the matter and submit the renewal application. The file for the property contains no information regarding the requested meeting, nor does it contain the requested renewal application.

Due to the fact that an effective NPDES permit is required for a discharge of wastewater to waters of the State, and because of the School Board's failure to submit a completed NPDES permit renewal application and / or monthly operating data, the Buckeye Local School Board is subject to enforcement action by the Ohio EPA.

Because the existing sewage system is not being properly operated and maintained, and because of the expired NPDES permit to discharge and lack of monthly operating data submittal, this office cannot recommend use of the sewage system for the proposed preschool / daycare food service. Upon satisfactorily meeting these requirements, a favorable recommendation may be given for use of the sewage system.

It is suggested you work with the School Board to initiate the actions necessary to fulfill their NPDES permit requirements.

A certified mail copy of this correspondence is being sent to the School Board. An enforcement referral against the owner of the NPDES permit will be prepared and sent to our legal section in Columbus, if a corrective course of action is not taken within 14 days of the receipt of this letter.

If there are questions or comments regarding the contents of this letter, please contact this office.

Respectfully,



Charles E. Allen
Environmental Engineer
Division of Surface Water

CEA/mt

cc: Steve Mazak, Medina County Health Department
CERTIFIED MAIL: Mr. Glen Reisner, Dir. Business Affairs, Buckeye Local School District

File: SP/Medina/LitchfieldTwp/LitchfieldElementary

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GLEN REISNER
 BUCKEY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
 3024 COLUMBIA ROAD
 MEDIN AOH 44256

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