



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Northeast District Office

2110 East Aurora Rd.  
Twinsburg, Ohio 44087

TELE: (330) 963-1200 FAX: (330) 487-0769  
www.epa.state.oh.us

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

February 4, 2010

RE: TRUMBULL COUNTY  
SOUTHINGTON TOWNSHIP  
HALFWAY RESTAURANT  
NPDES PERMIT NO. OH0128473  
OHIO EPA PERMIT NO. 3PR00227

Mrs. Iwona Kulacz  
Halfway Restaurant  
4401 Route 422  
Southington, Ohio 44470

Dear Mrs. Kulacz:

On February 1, 2010, an inspection was conducted by the undersigned of the sanitary wastewater treatment plant serving Halfway Restaurant. The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate the actions being taken to address the ongoing NPDES permit noncompliance issues. The existing permit, which expired on October 31, 2004, has not been renewed by Ohio EPA due to these issues.

**Inspection Findings/Compliance Status:**

The 250 gpd treatment system consists of a trash trap, sequencing batch reactor (SBR) treatment plant, dual-unit surface sand filter, and chlorination/dechlorination contact tank. The system discharges to an unnamed tributary of the Grand River.

At the time of the inspection, the following observations and comments were noted and discussed with you:

- The operation of the treatment system appeared to be marginal. The light color of the SBR is indicative of an apparent washout condition (see note below).
- The south sand filter was covered with a thick layer of solids. This situation appeared to have been caused by either a hydraulic overload or problem associated with the decant cycle on the controller.
- Some floating sludge was evident in the chlorination/dechlorination tank.
- You indicated that Anthony Crum, Class I Operator, had been hired to oversee the technical operation of the treatment system. However, you did not have a written contract (or ORC Form) as required by Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-7, just a verbal agreement. Upon speaking with Mr. Crum, he indicated that the required information would be submitted to Ohio EPA.

Mrs. Iwona Kulacz  
 Halfway Restaurant  
 February 4, 2010  
 Page 2



A review of Agency records indicate that monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) were not submitted for October – December 2009. DMRs that were received since March 2008 continue to indicate violations of the terms and conditions of the NPDES permit. Specifically, the review noted the following violations of the numeric effluent limitations contained in the permit:

| Reporting Period | Station | Parameter               | Limit Type | Limit | Reported Value | Violation Date |
|------------------|---------|-------------------------|------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| March 2008       | 001     | Dissolved Oxygen        | 1D Conc    | 6.0   | 4.8            | 3/20/2008      |
| June 2008        | 001     | Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3) | 30D Conc   | 1.0   | 1.87           | 6/1/2008       |
| June 2008        | 001     | Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3) | 7D Conc    | 1.5   | 1.87           | 6/1/2008       |
| June 2008        | 001     | Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3) | 30D Qty    | 0.001 | .00113         | 6/1/2008       |
| June 2008        | 001     | Dissolved Oxygen        | 1D Conc    | 6.0   | 3.1            | 6/4/2008       |
| August 2008      | 001     | CBOD 5 day              | 30D Conc   | 10    | 15.            | 8/1/2008       |
| August 2008      | 001     | CBOD 5 day              | 30D Qty    | 0.01  | .01016         | 8/1/2008       |
| August 2008      | 001     | Dissolved Oxygen        | 1D Conc    | 6.0   | 5.6            | 8/1/2008       |
| March 2009       | 001     | CBOD 5 day              | 7D Conc    | 15    | 24.            | 3/22/2009      |

| Reporting Period | Station           | Parameter               | Limit Type | Limit | Reported Value | Violation Date |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| March 2009       | 001               | CBOD 5 day              | 7D Qty     | 0.014 | .01481         | 3/22/2009      |
| June 2009        | 001               | Total Suspended Solids  | 30D Conc   | 12    | 62.            | 6/1/2009       |
| June 2009        | 001               | Total Suspended Solids  | 30D Qty    | 0.01  | .03872         | 6/1/2009       |
| June 2009        | 001               | Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3) | 30D Conc   | 1.0   | 29.8           | 6/1/2009       |
| June 2009        | 001               | Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3) | 30D Qty    | 0.001 | .01861         | 6/1/2009       |
| June 2009        | 001               | Total Suspended Solids  | 7D Conc    | 18    | 62.            | 6/15/2009      |
| June 2009        | 001               | Total Suspended Solids  | 7D Qty     | 0.02  | .03872         | 6/15/2009      |
| June 2009        | 001               | Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3) | 7D Conc    | 1.5   | 29.8           | 6/15/2009      |
| June 2009        | 001               | Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3) | 7D Qty     | 0.002 | .01861         | 6/15/2009      |
| August 2009      | 001               | Total Suspended Solids  | 30D Conc   | 12    | 26.            | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | Total Suspended Solids  | 7D Conc    | 18    | 26.            | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | Total Suspended Solids  | 30D Qty    | 0.01  | .01791         | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3) | 30D Conc   | 1.0   | 25.4           | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3) | 7D Conc    | 1.5   | 25.4           | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3) | 30D Qty    | 0.001 | .0175          | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3) | 7D Qty     | 0.002 | .0175          | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | Fecal Coliform          | 30D Conc   | 1000  | 2800.          | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | Fecal Coliform          | 7D Conc    | 2000  | 2800.          | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | CBOD 5 day              | 30D Conc   | 10    | 21.            | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | CBOD 5 day              | 7D Conc    | 15    | 21.            | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | CBOD 5 day              | 30D Qty    | 0.01  | .01447         | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | CBOD 5 day              | 7D Qty     | 0.014 | .01447         | 8/1/2009       |
| August 2009      | 001               | Dissolved Oxygen        | 1D Conc    | 6.0   | 2.5            | 8/5/2009       |
| October 2009     | No DMRs Submitted |                         |            |       |                |                |
| November 2009    | No DMRs Submitted |                         |            |       |                |                |
| December 2009    | No DMRs Submitted |                         |            |       |                |                |

The above analytical data continues to indicate that the existing treatment system is perhaps incapable of meeting the applicable permit limitations. Hence, the system may need to be replaced with a conventional treatment system.

**Summary/Conclusion:**

Please be advised that failure to meet the above requirements will result in the immediate referral of this matter to Ohio EPA's Legal Section for appropriate enforcement actions in accordance with Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Chapter 6111. Such actions can result in the imposition of fines of up to \$10,000 per day per violation. It is recommended that you fully review the terms and conditions of the NPDES permit, preferably with the assistance of a professional engineer, operator, and legal counsel. If there are requirements that you do not understand, it is strongly recommended that you contact this office for additional guidance.

Mrs. Iwona Kulacz  
Halfway Restaurant  
February 4, 2010  
Page 4

During our conversation, I informed you that this matter had been discussed with the Trumbull County Health Department. Hence, you should anticipate receiving correspondence from the Health Department regarding the renewal status of the Food Service License for the establishment

Should you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact this office.

Respectfully,



Ermelindo Gomes  
Environmental Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

EG/mt

cc: Trumbull County Health Dept.