

**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

**Governor  
Lt. Governor  
Director**

October 27, 2011

RE: OHIO AMERICAN WATER COMPANY  
NPDES PERMIT NO. 3IV00010  
ASHTABULA CITY, ASHTABULA COUNTY  
COMPLIANCE EVALUATION INSPECTION

Mr. William Dingledine, Operations Superintendent  
Mr. Thomas Schwing, Operations Manager  
Ohio American Water Company, Ashtabula District  
1330 West First Street  
Ashtabula, OH 44004

Dear Mr. Dingledine and Mr. Schwing:

On October 20, 2011, a site inspection was conducted at the above referenced facility at 1330 East First Street, Ashtabula City, Ashtabula County. The inspection was conducted by John Schmidt of this office. Michael Perriguet and Rose Hunyady represented the Ohio American Water Company (OAWC). 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 and in conjunction with the renewal of said permit. The last compliance inspection was conducted on October 8, 2010. Note that this letter supersedes a letter dated October 21, 2011.

Water treatment consists of a 24-inch raw water intake and a 30-inch raw water intake from Lake Erie, a dosing station where polymer, alum, and chlorine is pump pit and clear well, sand filtration, chlorination and fluoridation. The facility essentially operates as two plants side-by-side, with the 24-inch intake serving the old plant (1908) and the 30-inch intake serving the new plant (1953). Sand filters are backwashed with chlorinated water. Wastewater consists of tank backwash. The wastewater treatment system consists of piping wash water to a sludge lagoon for setting prior to discharge to Lake Erie. Sludge management includes manual removal of accumulated sludge in the lagoons for land application in Pennsylvania. The facility discharges to a man-made channel to Lake Erie adjacent to the north side of the facility. Backup power is provided to the wastewater treatment processes.

**Observations**

Following are observations and notations made during the inspection:

1. The design flow of treatment process is 370,000 gallons per day, although the plant was not in backwash mode at the time of the inspection.
2. Plant improvements were under construction pursuant to a permit-to-install (PTI) issued by Ohio EPA's Division of Drinking and Ground Water.
3. Log books are maintained at the facility and were available for inspection.
4. The overall condition of the treatment plant during this inspection was satisfactory.
5. The discharge volume is calculated and estimated by the number of filter washes.
6. Alum, polymer, chlorine, and fluoride are added to the raw water. After treatment, the backwash water is discharged to the sludge lagoon. Two separate lines exist which discharge to the sludge lagoon.
7. The composite sampler for total suspended solids is collected as a 24-hour time proportional grab sample. Samples are maintained at the proper temperature.
8. The final discharge from the lagoon to Lake Erie was observed to be of a satisfactory visual quality. Water flows through a combination of a series of twin 20-inch diameter pipes and open channels to Lake Erie. During the inspection we discussed the location of the outfall signage which will be required by your NPDES permit renewal.
9. Samples are collected by OAWC personnel. OAWC personnel perform on-site analysis of pH and total suspended solids. Trihalomethane samples are collected by OAWC personnel and are analyzed at OAWC's Bellville, Illinois laboratories. OAWC personnel submit the data to Ohio EPA's electronic discharge monitoring report (e-DMR) system.
10. No sludge was removed from the facility since the last inspection. Sludge is typically removed from the lagoon and allowed to dewater on-site for several months. All dewatering areas are sloped to drain towards the headworks of the lagoon. Sludge is hauled to Pennsylvania and land applied under approvals issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (Pennsylvania DEP).

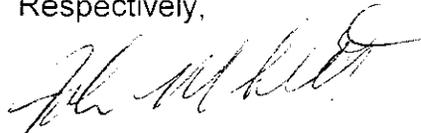
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**NPDES Permit Compliance Review**

A review of the electronic discharge self-monitoring reports (eDMRs) received by Ohio EPA for the period September 1, 2010, through September 1, 2011, indicates no apparent noncompliance of the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit.

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/cs

Cc: Michael Perriguey, Ohio American Water Co

File: Industrial P/C – Ohio American Water Company Ashtabula District