

**Environmental
Protection Agency**

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

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December 9, 2010

RE: ALCO MANUFACTURING CORP.
PERMIT NO. 3IS00123
LORAIN COUNTY

Mr. Matthew J. Basinski
Alco Manufacturing Corp.
10584 Middle Avenue
Elyria, Ohio 44035

Dear Mr. Basinski:

On November 9, 2010, a follow-up inspection of the above referenced facility's wastewater treatment system was conducted. The facility was represented by you. The purpose of the inspection was to follow up on the underground repair work which was done on the corner of the settling tank. During the previous inspection on August 4, 2010, you indicated that mortar around a pipe which passes through the perimeter wall of the settling tank settled and solids/backfill from the exterior of the tank was entering into the tank. You further indicated that this caused solids to be discharged into the surface sand filter beds resulting in the beds becoming plugged and overflowing. This problem was corrected by excavating the immediate area and installing a rubber boot around the pipe which passes through the perimeter wall of the settling tank.

During the follow-up inspection, the following items were noted/discussed:

1. The ground at the corner of the settling tank where repair work was recently done was still sinking.
2. You indicated that additional digging would have to be done to investigate the problem.
3. One surface sand filter bed was overflowing. See Figure 1. This is the result of solids getting into the surface sand filter beds and plugging the filter media. The other bed was covered with a layer of sludge. You indicated that maintenance on both beds would be performed immediately.
4. The sludge/debris raked off of the surface of sand filter beds continues to be placed around the perimeter of the beds. See Figures 1 & 2. The practice of dumping this material along the side of the surface sand filter beds should cease. You indicated that a garbage can would be placed in the immediate area.
5. All sludge/debris should be properly disposed at a licensed solid waste landfill.

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6. The flow equalization tank was being aerated.
7. The blowers were running and the plant was receiving good aeration.
8. The contents of the aeration tank were light brown in color and no foam was present.
9. The sludge return line was functioning properly and returning almost clear water. The return line should be medium brown.
10. The skimmer return line was functioning properly and was returning clear water.
11. No scum build-up was present behind the baffle in the settling tank.
12. The weirs and the sidewalls in the settling tank were also free of solids/scum build-up.
13. The upflow fixed media clarifier was on line.
14. The discharge was not observed.

This office has recently reviewed your self-monitoring reports covering the period July 1, 2010 through October 31, 2010 for the referenced facility. **Our review indicates no limit or frequency violations of your NPDES permit.**

Please notify this office in writing, within 14 days receipt of this letter, the status of items 1-4.

Should you have any comments or questions concerning this letter, please feel free to call me at (330) 963-1143.

Respectfully,

Michael W. Stevens

Michael W. Stevens
Environmental Engineer
Division of Surface Water

MWS/mt



Figure 1



Figure 2