



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southeast District Office

2195 Front Street
Logan, Ohio 43138

TELE: (740) 385-8501 FAX: (740) 385-6490
www.epa.state.oh.us

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

November 17, 2010

Re: Pretreatment
Compliance Inspection
Tastee Apple, Inc.
Permit No. ODP00025
Village of Newcomerstown

Mr. Jerry Herbert, Vice President of Manufacturing
Tastee Apple, Inc.
60810 County Road 9
Newcomerstown, Ohio 43832

Dear Mr. Herbert:

On October 5, 2010, Ohio EPA conducted an inspection at Tastee Apple, Inc. The inspection was conducted to evaluate the facility's compliance with federal and state pretreatment regulations and its Indirect Discharge Permit (IDP). You represented Tastee Apple during the inspection.

Based on the inspection and a review of monitoring reports submitted between July 2009 and June 2010, Tastee Apple appeared to be in substantial compliance with state and federal pretreatment regulations.

General Facility Description:

Tastee Apple produces apple cider, several caramel apple products, and chocolate apples. Caramel apples are only produced during the fall. Chocolate apples may be produced at various times during the year, with production greatest in December. Heaviest cider production is in the fall and early winter. Cider production may occur sporadically during the spring and summer months. Average daily flow during the 2009 caramel apple season was roughly 6300 gpd on production days.

Main Building:

The cider line processes include deleafing, washing, rinsing, apple pressing, clarification, pasteurizing, chilling, and jugging. Wastewater is generated from apple washing, rinsing, cleaning in place (CIP) of cider making equipment, and floor cleaning.

Waste waters from the cider lines are discharged to Outfall 001 after pretreatment using the equipment described in the section labeled pretreatment.

Carmel Building:

The caramel apple building processes consist of apple cleaning and deleafing, coating with caramel, nuts, coconut, chocolate and/or colored sprinkles, and packaging. Wastewater is generated from apple wash and deleaf and cleanup of equipment and process areas. Waste waters from the caramel and chocolate apple lines are routed to a 1000 gallon oil/water separator before discharge to Outfall 002.

Pretreatment:

Cider production wastewaters, including clean in place and apple pit water, are routed through a rotary screen then pumped to the 10,000 gallon equalization tank of the biological treatment system.

Based a recommendation by Ohio EPA, Tastee Apple is bypassing the aeration tanks and clarifier this season on a trial basis. All main building process waters combine at the 1500 gallon pH adjustment tank. After neutralization the wastewater flows to the Number 2 Grease Interceptor, then discharges to the Newcomerstown sanitary sewer.

Tastee Apple is regulated as a noncategorical significant industrial user by Ohio EPA.

Effluent Limit Exceedances:

Tastee Apple reported the following exceedances of its IDP limits between July 2009 and June 2010:

Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
002	00402	pH, Minimum	1D Conc	5.5	4.4	10/8/2009
002	00402	pH, Minimum	1D Conc	5.5	4.31	10/15/2009
002	00402	pH, Minimum	1D Conc	5.5	3.88	10/22/2009
002	00550	Oil and Grease, Total	1D Conc	100	149	10/29/2009
002	00402	pH, Minimum	1D Conc	5.5	5.43	11/20/2009

Comments:

1. All the exceedances reported during the past year occurred at the outfall from the caramel apple building (002). The suspected cause of the pH violations was low flows resulting in septic conditions in the grease interceptor. The suspected cause of the oil and grease violation was the grease interceptor needed pumping. Tastee Apple should ensure that the grease interceptor is inspected regularly and pumped as needed.
2. Tastee Apple's sampler has reached the end of its life expectancy. The door does not close tightly, the refrigeration unit does not work, and the unit is corroding. A new refrigerated sampler is strongly recommended to ensure the

sample remains at the proper temperature throughout collection of the composite samples.

3. I reviewed the available sampling results for the main building discharge (001) during the inspection. The preliminary testing showed no noticeable increase in BOD5 concentrations, while total suspended solids appeared to show a slight decrease, without the use of the aeration and clarification units of the treatment system. A review of data from the entire production season is needed before any conclusions can be reached regarding the treatment system. As of the inspection date, the Village of Newcomerstown WWTP had not experienced any adverse affects from the changes to the treatment system's operation.
4. Utilizing the available equalization capabilities of the treatment system would likely provide benefits for the Newcomerstown WWTP. It appears that minimal staffing and maintenance would be required to provide equalization using the existing tank layout. Please contact Ohio EPA prior to the 2011 production season to discuss options for equalization.

Please respond to this letter in writing within 30 days of receipt. You may contact me at (740) 380-5423 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Fred J. Snell
Pretreatment Coordinator
Division of Surface Water

FJS/dh

Enclosure

c: Tom Sauerbrey, Utilities Director, Village of Newcomerstown
c: Pretreatment Unit, DSW, CO

PRETREATMENT Compliance Inspection Report

A. NATIONAL DATA SYSTEM CODING

Permit No.	NPDES No.	Date	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
0DP00025*CP	OH0026689	October 5, 2010	6	S	2

B. FACILITY DATA

Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Entry Time	Permit Effective Date
	1:30 pm	June 1, 2007
Tastee Apple, Incorporated 60810 County Road 9 Newcomerstown, Ohio 43832	Exit Time	Permit Expiration Date
	3:30 pm	May 31, 2012

Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representative(s)	Phone Number(s)
Jerry Herbert, Vice President of Manufacturing	(740) 498-8316 Ext. 214
Name, Address and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number
Greg Hackenbracht, CEO	(740) 498-8316

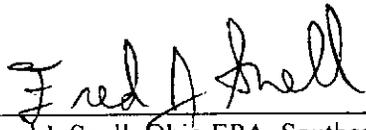
C. AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION

S = Satisfactory
 M = Marginal
 U = Unsatisfactory
 N = Not Evaluated

S	Permit	S	Flow Measurement	S	Pretreatment
S	Records/Reports	S	Laboratory	NA	Compliance Schedules
M	Operations & Maintenance	S	Effluent/Receiving Waters	S	Self-Monitoring Program
S	Facility Site Review	S	Sludge Storage/Disposal		Other
S	Collection System				

D. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS/COMMENTS (attach additional sheets if necessary)

See attached letter.



 Fred J. Snell, Ohio EPA, Southeast District Office

11/16/10

 Date



 Tim Campbell, Ohio EPA, Southeast District Office

11/16/10

 Date