



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southeast District Office

2195 Front Street
Logan, Ohio 43138

TELE: (740) 385-8501 FAX: (740) 385-6490
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Ted Strickland, Governor
Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor
Chris Korleski, Director

April 24, 2008

Re: Adams County
Village of Seaman
Compliance Evaluation Inspection
Ohio EPA Permit No. OPB00098*FD
Correspondence (PWW)

Mayor and Council
Village of Seaman
17806 State Route 247
P.O. Box 248
Seaman, Ohio 45679

Dear Mayor and Council:

On Wednesday, April 9, 2008, Tim Campbell and I conducted a compliance evaluation inspection at the Seaman Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). Mayor Wheeler and Rick Hardin represented the Village of Seaman and assisted us during the inspection. The purpose of the inspection was to determine if the treatment plant was meeting the terms and conditions set forth in its NPDES permit.

The following were concerns that arose during the inspection.

1. During the inspection, the trickling filter recycle/return sludge processes were discussed and we recommended the following changes.
 - **Trickling Filter Recycle** - At the time of the inspection, Rick was drawing recycle flow from the secondary clarifiers and returning the flow to the head works of the plant. Rick was using this process as the secondary clarifier sludge blanket control method. This configuration does not provide adequate sludge removal from the bottom of the secondary clarifiers, and when the recycle rates are increased, this setup can result in the hydraulic overloading of the primary clarifier.

We recommended that Rick move the recycle flow return from the head works to just downstream of the primary clarifier and prior to the trickling filter. Rick indicated that this could be easily accomplished by rerouting the flow via existing piping and valves.

- **Return Sludge** - Rick stated that roughly once a month he would use the return sludge process to draw sludge from the secondary clarifiers and return the flow to the digester.

We recommended that Rick begin drawing return sludge from the bottom of the secondary clarifiers more frequently (likely daily, but possibly more frequently). This will minimize the sludge age in the secondary clarifiers. Rick can route the return sludge either to the digester or back to the primary clarifier for co-settling.

2. Prior to the inspection, this office received a complaint about sewage overflowing the collection system near some homes upstream of the Oak Street Lift Station. Rick stated the overflows were the result of the Oak Street Lift Station losing power and backing up. The failure of the Oak Street Lift Station and subsequent overflows were also reported to this office by Rick, per the NPDES Permit. We understand that this area is also going to be included in an Inflow/Infiltration (I/I) investigation planned for this summer. Rick is hopeful the I/I work planned for this summer will alleviate some of the demand on the Oak Street Lift Station. In the meantime, every effort must be made to maintain the collection system to prevent sewage overflows.
3. During the inspection, we discussed some concerns we had with the reported effluent data. Consistently, the reported data indicates a measurable concentration of CBOD and no detectable concentration of ammonia for the same sampling events. Typically, in waste water treatment, if there is a measurable CBOD concentration, there has to be a measurable concentration of ammonia also present. As the Village of Seaman uses an outside laboratory for both CBOD and ammonia sampling, we recommend the village investigate the discrepancies in the reported effluent data with the contracted laboratory.
4. During the inspection, we discussed the upcoming NPDES Permit renewal with Rick and the Mayor. In particular, we discussed the I/I issues the village has in the collection system and the negative impacts those I/I problems have on the WWTP. We explained that the renewed NPDES Permit would contain a compliance schedule to eliminate sanitary sewer overflow (such as the one described in Item 2 above) and effluent limit violations attributed to I/I. Specifically the schedule will require the village to complete outstanding repair/rehabilitation work on the collection system and conduct a study to determine the most feasible way to regain compliance. The study will most likely result in a large capital project at the WWTP. The Ohio EPA will continue to work closely with village officials to any questions and respond to comments throughout this process.

Village of Seaman
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A copy of our inspection form is enclosed with this letter. Please submit, to this office, a written response to the aforementioned comments within thirty (30) days of receipt. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (740) 380-5226.

Sincerely,



Patrick Hudnall
District Representative
Division of Surface Water

PH/dh

Enclosure

c: Rick Hardin, Plant Operator

NPDES
Compliance Inspection Report

A. NATIONAL DATA SYSTEM CODING

Permit No.	NPDES No.	Date	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
0PB00098	OH0027341	April 9, 2008	C	S	1

B. FACILITY DATA

Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Entry Time	Permit Effective Date
Seaman WWTP 20 Locust Street Seaman, Ohio 45679	10:15	August 1, 2003
	Exit Time	Permit Expiration Date
	12:15	July 31, 2008

Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representative(s)	Phone Number(s)
Rick Hardin, Operator Dave Wheeler, Mayor	937-386-2980
Name, Address and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number
Village of Seaman PO Box 248 Seaman, Ohio 45679	937-386-2980

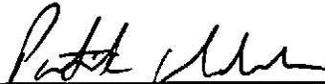
C. AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION

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

(S = Satisfactory; M = Marginal; U = Unsatisfactory; N = Not Evaluated)

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

See attached inspection letter


Patrick Hudnall, Inspector, Ohio EPA, Southeast District Office

4/24/08
Date


Timothy M Campbell, Reviewer, Ohio EPA, Southeast District Office

4/24/08
Date