



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

May 2, 2008

Re: Washington County
City of Belpre
Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI)
Correspondence (PWW)

Mayor and Council
City of Belpre
P.O. Box 160
Belpre, Ohio 45714

Dear Mayor and Council:

On April 7, 2008, a Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) was conducted at the City of Belpre's wastewater treatment plant. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the City's compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. Present for the inspection were Mike Betz and Howard Watkins representing the City of Belpre and Stephen Wells representing Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, Southeast District Office. No wastewater samples were collected as part of the inspection. A copy of my inspection report is attached.

As a result of my inspection, I have the following comments:

1. One of the secondary clarifiers was out of service. The weirs on the clarifier were being leveled to help prevent short-circuiting of the clarifier. The other clarifier had just been repaired to level the weir heights. Please inform this office when the secondary clarifier is put back into operation.
2. The upgrades at the treatment plant have been completed. The upgrades included a new grit removal system, upgrade of anaerobic digester and new lab. The plant staff is currently working through these systems to address any problems.
3. The upgraded anaerobic digester had problems with the mixer and heater during start-up. These problems have caused the anaerobic digester to turn septic. The temperature and pH of the digester is increasing. The anaerobic digester turning septic has caused odor problems.

With the supernatant from the digester typically being drained to the sand filter beds to avoid problems in the aeration tanks, this has caused odor complaints to be reported to the City. Belpre is adding hydrogen peroxide to the supernatant to help with the odor problems. Please inform this office when the operation of the anaerobic digester returns to normal.

4. The sand in the sludge drying beds needs to be replaced. The supernatant discharged to the beds is slowly filtering back to the head of the plant. Due to the sand beds being slow to filter, Belpre operated the sludge press and discharged supernatant to the aeration tanks. This has caused odors in the sludge press building and upset the aeration tanks causing some problems with the operations of the treatment plant. Please inform this office when the sand for the filter beds will be replaced.
5. The discharge from the facility appeared murky with some visible solids. This is believed to have been caused due to the draining of the secondary clarifier.
6. The plant is planning on replacing the wiring for the mechanical bar screen. The wiring according to plant staff is starting to show signs of corrosion. Please inform this office when this work will be completed.
7. Howard Watkins is retiring on April 30, 2008. Howard has been professional in dealing with the Ohio EPA during his career. Please inform this office on Howard's replacement.

The Ohio EPA strongly encourages pollution prevention as the preferred approach for waste management. The first priority of pollution prevention is to eliminate the generation of wastes and pollutants at the source (source reduction). For those wastes or pollutants that are generated, the second priority is to recycle or reuse them in an environmentally sound manner. You can benefit economically, help preserve the environment, and improve your public image by implementing pollution prevention programs. For more information about pollution prevention, including fact sheets or U.S. EPA's "Facility Pollution Prevention Guide" (EPA/600/R-92.008), please contact the Ohio EPA Pollution Prevention Section at (614) 644-3469.

In conclusion, the City of Belpre appeared to be in compliance with its NPDES Permit at the time of the inspection. However, Belpre needs to continue working on addressing the odor problems from the anaerobic digester until returns to normal operation.

City of Belpre
Page 3

Please respond to above comments in writing to this office within 20 receipt of this letter.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me (740) 380-5434.

Sincerely,



Stephen Wells
District Representative
Division of Surface Water

SW/dh

Enclosure

c: Mike Betz, City of Belpre
c: Howard Watkins, City of Belpre

NPDES
Compliance Inspection Report

A. NATIONAL DATA SYSTEM CODING

Permit No.	NPDES No.	Date	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
OPD00027*FD	OH0020621	April 7, 2008	C	S	1

B. FACILITY DATA

Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Entry Time	Permit Effective Date
City of Belpre Wastewater Treatment Plant 1400 Blennerhasset Avenue Belpre, Ohio 45714	12:30 p.m.	August 1, 2003
	Exit Time	Permit Expiration Date
	2:15 p.m.	January 31, 2008

Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representative(s)	Phone Number(s)
Howard Watkins, Operator	(740) 423-9941
Mike Betz, Public Works Superintendent	(740) 423-6485
Name, Address and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number
Mayor and Council City of Belpre 715 Park Drive Belpre, Ohio 45714	(740) 423-7592

C. AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION

<u>S</u> Permit	<u>S</u> Flow Measurement	<u>N/A</u> Pretreatment
<u>S</u> Records/Reports	<u>N</u> Laboratory	<u>N/A</u> Compliance Schedules
<u>S</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	<u>S</u> Other
<u>S</u> Collection System		

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

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

See attached letter.



Stephen Wells, Inspector, Ohio EPA, Southeast District Office

5/2/08

Date



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

5/2/08

Date

E. PERMIT VERIFICATION

Inspection Observations Verify the Permit	Yes	No	N/A	N/E
a. Correct name and mailing address of permittee	X			
b. Correct name and location of receiving waters	X			
c. Product(s) and production rates conform with permit application (industries)			X	
d. Flows and loadings conform with NPDES permit			X	
e. Treatment processes are as described in permit application/briefing memo		X*		
f. New treatment process(es) added since last inspection	X			
g. Notification given to state of new, different, or increased discharges			X	
h. All discharges are permitted	X			
i. Number and location of discharge points are as described in permit	X			

Comments: *City has added grit removal as part of the completed upgrade of the treatment plant.

F. COMPLIANCE SCHEDULES/VIOLATIONS

	Yes	No	N/A	N/E
a. Any significant violations since the last inspection	X			
b. Permittee is taking actions to resolve violations	X			
c. Permittee has compliance schedule		X		
d. Compliance schedule contained in: _____			X	
e. Permittee is meeting compliance schedule			X	

Comments:

G. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Treatment Facility Properly Operated and Maintained	Yes	No	N/A	N/E
a. Standby power available: Generator <u>X</u> Dual Feed _____	X			
b. Adequate alarm system available for power or equipment failures		X*		
c. All treatment units in service other than backup units		X**		
d. Sufficient operating staff provided: # of shifts <u>2</u> Days/Week <u>7</u>	X			
e. Operator holds unexpired license of class required by permit Class: <u>IV</u>	X			
f. Routine and preventive maintenance schedule/performed on time	X			
g. Any major equipment breakdown since last inspection	X***			
h. Operation and maintenance manual provided and maintained	X			
i. Any plant bypasses since last inspection		X		
j. Regulatory agency notified of bypasses: _____ on MORS _____ 800 Number			X	
k. Any hydraulic and/or organic overloads experienced since last inspection		X		

Comments: *Alarms for anaerobic digester and water levels in building need to be installed.

**One of the secondary clarifiers out of service for repairs.

***Anaerobic digester mixing and heating were out of service after upgrades.

Collection System	Yes	No	N/A	N/E
a. Percent combined system: 0%			X	
b. Any collection system overflows since last inspection (CSO ___ SSO X)	X*			
c. Regulatory agency notified of overflow (SSOs)	X			
d. CSO O and M plan provided and implemented			X	
e. CSOs monitored and reported in accordance with permit			X	
f. Portable pumps used to relieve system		X		
g. Lift station alarm systems provided and maintained	X**			
h. Are lift stations equipped with permanent standby power or equivalent	X			
i. Is there an inflow/infiltration problem (separate sewer system), or were there any major repairs to collection system since last inspection	X			
j. Any complaints received since last inspection of basement flooding	X***			
k. Are any portions of the sewer system at or near capacity		X		

Comments: *Heavy rainfall caused flooding from Ohio River to enter lift station.

**O'Neal is not alarmed.

***Plugged sewer on Pupular Street.

H. SLUDGE MANAGEMENT

a. Sludge Management Plan (SMP): _____ Submitted Date
 _____ Approval Number
 _____ Not submitted
 X N/A

	Yes	No	N/A	N/E
b. Sludge Management Plan current	X			
c. Sludge adequately disposed (Method: Landfill)	X			
d. If sludge is incinerated, where is ash disposed of? _____				
e. Is sludge disposal contracted (Name: J&J Refuge/Ace Disposal)	X			
f. Has amount of sludge generated changed significantly since last inspection		X		
g. Adequate sludge storage provided at plant	X			
h. Land application sites monitored and inspected per SMP			X	
i. Records kept in accordance with state and federal law	X			
j. Any complaints received in last year regarding sludge	X*			
k. Is sludge adequately processed (digestion, dewatering, pathogen control)	X			

Comments: *Odor complaints from sludge, see attached letter.

I. SELF-MONITORING PROGRAM

Part 1 - Flow Measurement		Yes	No	N/A	N/E
a.	Primary flow measuring device properly operated & maintained. Type of device: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ultrasonic & parshall flume _____ calculated from influent _____ weir _____ Other _____ ultrasonic & weir _____ Specify: _____				
b.	Calibration frequency adequate (date of last calibration: <u>March 9, 2008</u>)	X			
c.	Secondary instruments (totalizers, recorders etc.) properly operated and maintained	X			
d.	Flow measurement equipment adequate to handle expected ranges of flows	X			
e.	Actual flow discharged is measured	X			
f.	Flow measuring equipment inspection frequency: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Daily _____ Weekly _____ Monthly _____ Other				

Comments:

Part 2 - Sampling		Yes	No	N/A	N/E
a.	Sampling location(s) are as specified by permit	X			
b.	Parameters and sampling frequency agree with permit	X			
c.	Permittee uses required sampling method	X			
d.	Sample collection procedures are adequate	X			
i.	Samples refrigerated during compositing	X			
ii.	Proper preservation techniques used				X
	Conform with 40 CFR 136.3				X
e.	Monitoring records (e.g., flow, pH, D.O., etc.) maintained for a minimum of three years including all original strip chart recordings (e.g., continuous monitoring instrumentation, calibration, and maintenance records)	X			
f.	Adequate records maintained of sampling date, time, exact location, etc.	X			

Comments:

Part 3, Laboratory - General		Yes	No	N/A	N/E
a.	EPA approved analytical testing procedures used (40 CFR 136.3)				X
b.	If alternate analytical procedures are used, proper approval has been obtained			X	
c.	Analyses being performed more frequently than required by permit		X		
d.	If (c) is yes, are results reported in permittee's self-monitoring report			X	
e.	Commercial laboratory used 1. Parameters analyzed by commercial lab: <u>Oil & Grease, Ammonia, Nitrogen, Metals, TKN and Cyanide</u> 2. Lab name: <u>REIC Labs, Beaver, WV</u>	X			

Comments:

Part 3, Laboratory - Quality Control/Quality Assurance		Yes	No	N/A	N/E
f.	Quality assurance manual provided and maintained				X
g.	Satisfactory calibration and maintenance of instruments and equipment				X
h.	Adequate records maintained				X
i.	Results of latest U.S. EPA quality assurance performance sampling program: Date: _____ Satisfactory _____ Marginal _____ Unsatisfactory				

Comments:

J. EFFLUENT/RECEIVING WATER OBSERVATIONS

Outfall #	Oil Sheen	Grease	Turbidity	Visible Foam	Visible Float Solids	Color	Other
001	None	None	Slight	None	Some	Murky	

Comments:

K. MULTIMEDIA OBSERVATIONS

	Yes	No	N/A	N/E
a. Are there indications of sloppy housekeeping or poor maintenance in work and storage areas or laboratories		X		
b. Do you notice staining or discoloration of soils, pavement, or floors		X		
c. Do you notice distressed (unhealthy, discolored, dead) vegetation		X		
d. Do you see unidentified dark smoke or dustclouds coming from sources		X		
e. Do you notice any unusual odors or strong chemical smells		X		
f. Do you see any open or unmarked drums, unsecured liquids, or damaged containment facilities		X		

If any of the above are observed, ask the following questions:

1. What is the cause of the conditions?
2. Is the observed condition or source a waste product?
3. Where is the suspected contaminant normally disposed?
4. Is this disposal permitted?
5. How long has the condition existed and when did it begin?

Comments: