



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](http://www.epa.state.oh.us)

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

December 4, 2007

**Re: Washington County  
Village of Lowell  
Compliance Evaluation Inspection  
Correspondence (PWW)**

Mayor and Council  
Village of Lowell  
P.O. Box 337  
Lowell, Ohio 45744

Dear Mayor and Council:

On November 13, 2007, a Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) was conducted at the Village of Lowell's wastewater treatment plant. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the Village's compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. Present for the inspection were Craig Barker representing the Village and Stephen Wells and Rex Haggy representing Ohio EPA, 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. The Village has been working on inflow/infiltration into the collection system using smoke testing. According to Mr. Barker, I/I reduction work has helped at the wastewater treatment plant. The Village needs to continue working on I/I removal. Please update this office on the I/I work that has been done and the work that is planned for the future.
2. In reviewing the Monthly Operating Reports (MORs), the Village has violated its NPDES Permit effluent limitations for fecal coliform during May, June, July August and September, 2007. The main reason given in the notification of these violations was high flows due to I/I in the collection system. As mentioned above, the Village needs to continue working on the removal of I/I to help prevent NPDES Permit effluent violations.
3. The removal of solids from the treatment plant has been helped by the installation of the sludge drying beds. However, one of the fecal violations was caused due to the sludge wasting tank being full. The Village may need to consider additional sludge handling options in the future to address this issue.

4. The Ohio EPA has started a new reporting system for Monthly Operating Reports, e-DMR to eventually replace SWIMware. Please see the following web for more information on e-DMR reporting program:

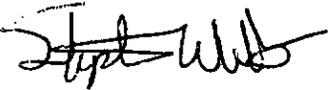
*<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/swims/eDMR/eDMR.html>*

In conclusion, the Village of Lowell appeared to be in compliance with its NPDES Permit at the time of inspection. However, the Village needs to continue working on the elimination of I/I to help prevent the fecal coliform violations from occurring again in the future.

Please respond to the above Comments #1 and 3 in writing to this office within 20 days of receipt of this letter.

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

Sincerely,



Stephen Wells  
District Representative  
Division of Surface Water

SW/dh

Enclosure

c: Craig Barker, Village of Lowell

**NPDES**  
Compliance Inspection Report

**A. NATIONAL DATA SYSTEM CODING**

Permit No.	NPDES No.	Date	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
OPD00022*GD	OH0020311	November 13, 2007	C	S	1

**B. FACILITY DATA**

Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Entry Time	Permit Effective Date
Village of Lowell Wastewater Treatment Plant 308 Walnut Street Lowell, Ohio 45744	10:15 a.m.	October 1, 2007
	Exit Time	Permit Expiration Date
	11:15 a.m.	September 30, 2012

Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representative(s)	Phone Number(s)
Craig Barker, Wastewater Operator	(740) 896-3086
Name, Address and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number
Mayor and Council P.O. Box 337 Lowell, Ohio 45744	(740) 896-2419

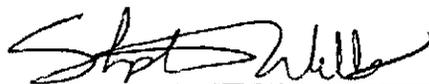
**C. AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION**

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

12/4/07  
Date



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

12/4/07  
Date