



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southeast District Office

2195 Front Street
Logan, Ohio 43138

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

April 10, 2009

Re: Jefferson County
Sterling Mining Corporation
0IL00135*DD
Notice of Violation
Correspondence (IWW)

Mr. Gary Schaefer
Sterling Mining Corporation
P.O. Box 217
North Lima, Ohio 44452

Dear Mr. Schaefer:

Based on review of records since October 1, 2008, Sterling Mining Corporation South Mine was found to have reported the following limit violation:

Reporting Period	Station	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
October 2008	004	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	35	40.6666	10/1/2008

0IL00135*DD requires the Owner to report noncompliance as directed by Part III.12.E which shall contain information listed in Part III.12.B and Part III.12.C. Please review the requirements for reported non-compliance and provide the appropriate correspondence with any future violations. For the above violation, we spoke during an inspection on October 29, 2008 that this outfall was subject to the dewatering of the new Shean Hill Mine which was experiencing suspended clays during the startup.

On a separate note, the NPDES modification request for 0IL00136*DD is currently being processed. I have submitted my review of the modification to the district's permit supervisor Bruce Goff.

You may call me at (740) 380-5272 if you have any questions regarding this letter or any other concerns with Ohio EPA regulations.

Sincerely,

Aaron Pennington
District Representative
Division of Surface Water

AP/dh