Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

Re: Notice of Violation
Hardin County
Hardin Northern School
NPDES Permit

December 14, 2011

Mr. Brian Webb
Hardin Northern Local Schools
11589 State Route 81
Dola, Ohio 45835

Dear Mr. Webb:

On December 7, 2011, an inspection was conducted at the Hardin Northern Schools wastewater treatment plant. You were present and provided information on operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment system. There was no discharge to the unnamed tributary to Shallow Run during the inspection.

A review of the discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) from June 2011 to November 2011 shows that there have been numerous effluent limit violations. The specific instances of non-compliance are enclosed on a separate sheet. Further review of your self-monitoring reports for the previous six months, ending in November 2011, indicates that you are in significant non-compliance (SNC) with an effluent limit contained in your NPDES permit. The specific instance of SNC is enclosed on a separate sheet. In your violation response letters submitted in October and November, it was noted that the violations are believed to be from a lack of solids and bacteria growth to treat the waste. You have contacted the Ohio EPA Compliance Assistance Unit (CAU) and are in the process of making adjustments to improve the plant's treatment. Please continue to keep this office informed of the steps being taken to bring the facility back into compliance.

Our completed inspection report is enclosed. If you have any questions, please contact me at (419) 373-3053.

Sincerely,

Ryan Gierhart
Division of Surface Water

/jlm
Enclosures
pc: Hardin Northern School, Board of Education
ec: Inspection Tracking

Northwest District Office
347 North Dunbridge Road
Bowling Green, OH 43402-9398

419 | 352 8461
419 | 352 8468 (fax)
www.epa.ohio.gov

Set New Date

Permit No	Reporting Period	Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
2PT00043*BD	September 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	30D Conc	1.0	11.9	9/1/2011
2PT00043*BD	September 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	30D Qty	0.04	.06756	9/1/2011
2PT00043*BD	September 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Conc	1.5	11.9	9/8/2011
2PT00043*BD	September 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Qty	0.06	.06756	9/8/2011
2PT00043*BD	October 2011	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	12	26.3333	10/1/2011
2PT00043*BD	October 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	30D Conc	1.0	2.07	10/1/2011
2PT00043*BD	October 2011	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	30D Conc	10	13.9	10/1/2011
2PT00043*BD	October 2011	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	7D Conc	18	27.	10/8/2011
2PT00043*BD	October 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Conc	1.5	2.45	10/8/2011
2PT00043*BD	October 2011	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	7D Conc	18	26.	10/15/2011
2PT00043*BD	October 2011	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Conc	1.5	1.69	10/15/2011
2PT00043*BD	October 2011	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	7D Conc	15	20.6	10/15/2011
2PT00043*BD	October 2011	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	7D Conc	18	26.	10/22/2011

Get New Data

Get Detail for Selected Permit

Facilities in Significant Non-Compliance **

Period: Jun-11 Nov-11

County	Permit #	Facility Name	Major	Station Code	Param Code	Parameter Name	Max % Exceed	# Months Signif Exceed (1)**	# Months Exceed (2)**
Hardin	2PT00043	Hardin-Northern Schools		1	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1090	2	2

State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Northwest District Office

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report
Semi-Public Sewage Disposal Inspection Form

Section A: National Data System Coding					
Permit #	**NPDES#**	**Month/Day/Year**	**Inspection Type**	**Inspector**	**Facility Type**
2PT00043	OH0138487	12/07/2011	C	S	2

Section B: Facility Data		
Name and Location of Facility Inspected	**Entry Time**	**Permit Effective Date**
Hardin Northern Local Schools 11589 State Route 81 Dola, OH, 45835	9:00 am	January 1, 2009
	Exit Time	**Permit Expiration Date**
	10:00 am	December 31, 2013
Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representatives	**Phone Number(s)**	
Mr. Brian Webb	419-759-2331 ext 1218	
Name(s), Address and Title(s) of Operator of Record	**Phone Number(s)**	
Mr. Brian Webb, Head Custodian 11589 State Route 81 Dola, OH, 45835	419-759-2331 ext 1218	
Name, Address and Title of Responsible Official	**Phone Number**	
Hardin Northern Local Schools 11589 State Route 81 Dola, OH, 45835	419-759-2331	

Ohio EPA Inspector	Ohio EPA Reviewer
Ryan Gierhart 12-13-11	Thomas Poffenbarger 12/12/11
Ryan Gierhart Date Environmental Specialist II Division of Surface Water Northwest District Office	Tom Poffenbarger, P.E. Date Water Quality Engineer II/Unit Supervisor Division of Surface Water Northwest District Office

Average Daily Design Flow:	**10,000 Gallons/Day**
Plant Serves:	**School K-12**
Average Daily Flow: (Period of Review):	**1209 gpd (Jan 2011- Nov 2011)**
Method of flow monitoring:	**Pump hour meters**
Type of alarms for plant:	**High water alarm at sand filter dosing station**

Pretreatment

Type of Pretreatment: **Trash Trap**
Does the Trash Trap need pumped: **No**
Maintenance of pretreatment components is: **Good**

Comments/Status:

Trash trap is pumped 1/year, usually in August.

Secondary Treatment (Aeration)

Color of sludge: **Light Brown**
Quality of Sludge: **Thin**
Foam: **None present**
Odor: **No objectionable odor present**

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Aeration is taking place	☒	☐	Plant is septic	☐	☒
Blowers are operating	☒	☐	Blowers are on a timer	☒	☐
Skimmers are operating	☒	☐	Plant is flooded	☐	☒
Diffusers are operating	☒	☐	Grating is present	☒	☐
Sludge return is operating	☒	☐			

Maintenance of aerating equipment is...**Good**

Comments/Status:

Sludge return was light brown. Appeared to be very little biological activity in package plant. The aeration system runs every 2 hours for 30 minutes. Facility is looking into increasing time to return more sludge from clarifier to aeration tanks. The aeration tanks have been seeded by the City of Kenton's WWTP Sludge.

Secondary Treatment (Settling)

Clarity: **Clear**
Condition of Weir: **Clean**
Weir is level: **Yes**
Effluent in weir: **Other**

Clarifier walls need scraped: **Yes**

Overall maintenance of settling components is: **Good**

Comments/Status:

No effluent was observed going over the clarifier. Clarifier walls are scraped twice a week.

Tertiary Treatment

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Surface sand Filters: **Slow**	☒	☐	**None**	☐	☐
Distribution box operating	☒	☐	Beds alternated	☒	☐
Are filters ponding/flooding	☐	☒	Beds raked	☒	☐
Sand filters overgrown	☒	☐	Chlorination present	☐	☒
UV present	☐	☒	Dechlorination present	☐	☒

Overall maintenance of components is: **Good**

Comments/Status:

Some weeds were observed in the sand filters. The filters should remain cleaned. Sand filters alternated every 6 months unless solids build up earlier on the filters.

Sludge Handling/Storage Disposal

Hauler name: Bugners Septic
Disposal Site:
Sludge wasted from: Sludge holding tank
How often is sludge wasted: As needed
Sludge drying beds: **No** Sludge holding tank: **Yes**

Overall maintenance of components is: **Good**

Comments/Status:

Aerated sludge holding tank. Sludge is wasted from clarifier to holding tank when settleometer test shows 50% sludge

Plant Discharge

Discharge point is a: **Stream**
Name of discharge point: unnamed trib to Shallow Run
Discharge is visible: **No** Quality of Effluent: **Other**

Comments/Status:

There was no discharge from the system during the inspection. It appears that the plant is very under loaded and it is hard to maintain a biological growth for wastewater treatment.