



Environmental  
Protection Agency

John R. Kasich, Governor  
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor  
Scott J. Nally, Director

February 13, 2012

**Re:** Meigs County  
Yellowbush Mine  
Reconnaissance Inspection  
NPDES Permit 01L00145\*AD  
Correspondence (IWW)

Mr. Drexel Short  
Gatling Ohio, LLC  
P.O. Box 960  
New Haven, WV 25265

Dear Mr. Short:

On January 25, 2012, Aaron Wolfe and I conducted a reconnaissance inspection at the Gatling, Ohio, LLC, Yellowbush Mine and Preparation Plant Facility. Greg Fowler accompanied us during the inspection. The inspection was to investigate the reddish color in Yellowbush Creek south of the facility and to determine compliance with the terms and conditions of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Number 01L00145\*BD. Results of the inspection are summarized below.

The reddish color did not appear to be from the mining operations at this time. However, the soils in the area tend to be reddish in color. In addition, Yellowbush Creek upstream of the facility is reddish in color during periods of high rainfall. In January 2012 the reddish color appeared to be coming from the backwaters of the Ohio River.

Part III (3) of the permit states: "All wastewater treatment works shall be operated in a manner consistent with the following: A) At all times, the permittee shall maintain in good working order and operate as efficiently as possible all treatment or control facilities or systems installed or used by the permittee necessary to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which are installed by a permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with conditions of the permit; B) The permittee shall effectively monitor the operation and efficiency of treatment and control facilities and the quantity and quality of the treated discharge."

**At the time of the inspection, I observed a mound of coal refuse in pond 004 at the inlet structure. In addition, I observed coal refuse in Yellowbush Creek at the outlet of pond 004. This treatment pond was built to handle storm water runoff**

**from the coal refuse pile and not for containment of coal refuse. It will be necessary to clean the ponds to ensure adequate capacity in the treatment unit for storm water run-off.**

Ohio Revised Code 6111.04 part C states "No person to whom a permit has been issued shall place or discharge, or cause to be placed or discharged, in any waters of the state any sewage, sludge, sludge materials, industrial waste, or other wastes in excess of the permissive discharges specified under an existing permit without first receiving a permit from the director to do so."

**At the time of the inspection, the southern side of the coal refuse pile was falling into the unnamed tributary Jennie Watts Run by pond 005A (Outfall 012). The refuse pile needs to be adjusted to eliminate the discharge of coal refuse into waters of the state.**

At the time of the inspection, it appeared equipment was being removed from the underground mining portal. There were buckets of uncovered oil being stored outside and evidence that hydraulic fluid had leaked onto the ground. Failure to properly store these items can cause soil and water contamination. I recommend you cover the oil buckets and store them in an area not exposed to precipitation. Tarps can be used to cover equipment that is susceptible to leaking hydraulic fluids.

Enclosed is a copy of the inspection report. If you have any questions, please contact me at (740) 380-5266.

Sincerely,



Cynthia Yandrich  
District Representative  
Division of Surface Water

CY/dh

Enclosure

# NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

## A. NATIONAL DATA SYSTEM CODING

Permit No.	NPDES No.	Date	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
OIL00145*AD	OH0135313	January 25, 2012	R	S	2

## B. FACILITY DATA

Name & Location of Facility Inspected	Entry Time	Permit Effective Date
Yellowbush Mine Gatling Ohio, LLC P.O. Box 960 New Haven, WV 25265	1:00 p.m.	December 1, 2012
	Exit Time	Permit Expiration Date
	3:00 p.m.	December 31, 2013

Name(s) & Title(s) of On-Site Representative(s)	Phone Number(s)
Greg Fowler, Consultant	(304) 593-0072
Name, Address, & Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number
Mr. Drexel Short Gatling Ohio, LLC P.O. Box 960 New Haven, WV 25265	(304) 882-1300

## 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/A</u> Laboratory	<u>S</u> Compliance Schedules
<u>M</u> Operations & Maintenance	<u>M</u> Effluent/Receiving Waters	<u>S</u> Self-Monitoring Program
<u>M</u> Facility Site Review	<u>N/A</u> Sludge Storage/Disposal	<u>    </u> Other
<u>N/A</u> Collection System		

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

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

The site has multiple outflows, please see letter for details.

  
 Cynthia Yandrich, Inspector, Ohio EPA, Southeast District Office

2-13-12  
 Date

  
 Jennifer M. Witte, Reviewer, Ohio EPA, Southeast District Office

2/14/12  
 Date