



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

John R. Kasich, Governor

Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor

Scott J. Nally, Director

February 16, 2012

RE: TRUMBULL COUNTY
FOWLER TOWNSHIP
CURRIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
WWTP INSPECTION
NPDES PERMIT NO. 3PT00084

Mr. Lew Lowrey, Superintendent
Matthews Local Schools
Currie Elementary
4429 Warren-Sharon Road
Vienna, OH 44473

Dear Mr. Lowrey:

On February 9, 2012, a Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) was conducted on the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) serving the Currie Elementary School. The school is located at 3306 Ridge Road, Cortland. Present during the inspection were Mr. Joel Polonus, representing the school system, and Ms. Brianne Ciccone and this writer, of the Ohio EPA.

The purpose of the visit was to evaluate the WWTP operation and maintenance, as well as the facility's compliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit effluent limits and conditions, prior to renewal of the facility's NPDES permit to discharge. The last inspection conducted on the Currie Elementary School WWTP was on October 20, 2010.

At the time of the February 9th inspection, the following observations were made:

- 1) Contents of the trash trap were typical. Mr. Polonus indicated the trash trap is pumped yearly, toward the end of summer and prior to school opening up in the fall, by Duke Sanitary.
- 2) The flow equalization chamber was in use, and its contents were well aerated and turbid gray in color.
- 3) The extended aeration tank was well aerated, and its contents were medium brown. The return activated sludge (RAS) line was returning clear water from the settling tank. There was no foam present in the aeration tank, or odor present in the immediate vicinity.

One of three blower motors for the aeration tank was in use, with the remaining two being in standby mode. However, it was noted that one of the standby motors was missing a drive belt, which should be replaced.

Also, the air pressure relief valves on the air lines coming from the blowers were seized up and not operational, and need to be checked for proper operation.

- 4) Contents of the settling tank were slightly turbid, and the skimmer was operating properly. The settling tank effluent trough was clean and free of solids, and the effluent was free of suspended solids.
- 5) Both of the dosing station pumps were set in the 'AUTO' mode, and were operational when manually tested. The high level alarm was also operational when manually tested.

Daily WWTP flows are reported using totalizer readings from pumps located in the dosing station.

- 6) The east cell of the surface sand filters was in use at the time of the inspection, and contained some solids, dead leaves, and a mossy growth. The west cell was not in use, and also contained dried solids, dead leaves, and a major growth of moss. Sand in both of the filter cells needs to be cleaned, and should be kept free of all solids and vegetative growth.
- 7) Effluent disinfection is typically accomplished by tablet chlorination and dechlorination units located in the contact tank. The tablet chlorination / dechlorination units were not in use, as disinfection is not required from November 1st through April 30th.

The chlorination and dechlorination units are both two tube units. The chlorination unit was missing one tube with cap, and the dechlorination unit contained both of the tubes and caps. All tubes and caps need to be in place by May 1st.

- 8) Effluent from the WWTP was clear and visually free of solids, and being post-aerated prior to being discharged.
- 9) The aerated sludge holding tank was full and was not being aerated.

A review of the electronic Discharge Monitoring Reports (eDMR's) submitted to the Ohio EPA for the Currie Elementary School WWTP, for the period of October 1, 2010 through February 1, 2012, found the following effluent numeric violations for the facility:

**MATTHEWS LOCAL SCHOOLS
 CURRIE ELEMENTARY
 FINAL EFFLUENT NUMERIC VIOLATIONS
 NPDES PERMIT NO. 3PT00084
 (OCT. 1, 2010 THROUGH FEB. 1, 2012)**

Reporting Period	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
March 2011	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	12	27.	3/1/2011
March 2011	Total Suspended Solids	7D Conc	18	27.	3/8/2011

** No reporting frequency or code violations.

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Mr. Polonus indicated that required samples are collected and analyzed by Valley Environmental.

Matthews Local Schools should continue with all efforts that will enable the Currie Elementary School WWTP to consistently meet its NPDES Permit limits. Items indicated as needing to be maintained or repaired should be addressed as soon as possible. Please submit correspondence to this office when the repairs are completed.

If there are any questions or comments regarding the contents of this letter, please contact this office.

Respectfully,



Charles E. Allen
Environmental Engineer
Division of Surface Water

CEA/cs

cc: Trumbull County Health Dept.