



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

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

March 14, 2012

School Board
West Muskingum Local School District
4880 W. Pike
Zanesville, OH 43701

**Re: Hopewell Elementary School
NPDES Permit 4GS00015/ OHGS00091
Reconnaissance Inspection
Licking County
Notice of Violation**

To whom it may concern:

On March 7, 2012, a Reconnaissance Inspection was conducted at the Hopewell Elementary School wastewater treatment plant. Present for the inspection were Michael Wisecarver, Plant Operator of Wisecarver Environmental, Inc. and Mike Sapp and myself of the Ohio EPA, Central District Office, Division of Surface Water.

The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate compliance with the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit and to evaluate the operation and maintenance of the plant. The following items were discussed during the inspection:

- ❖ The equalization tank is used as an anoxic treatment tank and not mixed. Wastewater from this tank moves into the aeration tank via an overflow pipe. Primary sludge is pumped out of the equalization tank once per year, usually in the summer after school is dismissed for the year. There was a faint odor of hydrogen sulfide near the tank even though it was completely covered. Even though this is not a typical methodology for treatment, the WWTP was performing satisfactorily. If hydrogen sulfide odors become a problem, the facility should reconsider the current usage of the tank as a primary treatment tank.
- ❖ The aeration basin had good color and the sludge return lines were functioning properly. One blower was functional and turned on, while the 2nd blower was non-functional. The non-functional blower shall be repaired to functioning status or replaced, since it can act as an immediate backup if the other blower fails.
- ❖ One of the two available dosing pumps was non-functional and shall be repaired to functional status or replaced. The facility may want to consider placing an elapsed time meter on the dosing pumps to enable calculation of an accurate effluent flow instead of relying on water usage records which tend to be an inaccurate (but acceptable) measurement of effluent discharge. See the NPDES permit for a ranking of the 4 acceptable methods for measuring discharge flow.

- ❖ Both sand filter beds were clogged with sludge and shall be cleaned out and rehabilitated as necessary to make them fully functional again. This may involve the purchase of additional sand if the bed is completely clogged. Spent sand must be disposed of properly (bagged or directly loaded into a dumpster) and not dumped adjacent to the sand beds as observed during the inspection.
- ❖ Although the chlorine contact/dechlorination chamber is not in use during this season of the year, it was observed that the dechlorination equipment was missing from the tank. The facility shall ensure that this is repaired by the date specified below (prior to the need to begin disinfection on May 1, 2012).
- ❖ The facility shall install a sign marking the outfall from the WWTP. The sign must conform to the requirements listed in the NPDES permit. Please send Paul Vandermeer a photograph of the installed sign via e-mail by the deadline listed below.
- ❖ The operator was unable to present a logbook for the facility upon request. This is unacceptable. A logbook must be kept onsite in a protected area and indicate the facility location and name along with the times and dates the operator was present at the site and any notes on the work/maintenance performed at the plant. The operator shall begin using a logbook immediately and provide a scanned copy of the logbook entries (to date) to Paul Vandermeer by the date listed below.

Please respond in writing or by e-mail to each of the items listed above by April 13, 2012. If you have any questions or comments concerning the enclosed inspection report, please contact me at (614) 728-3854 or e-mail at paul.vandermeer@epa.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,



Paul L. Vandermeer
Environmental Specialist
Compliance and Enforcement Unit
Division of Surface Water
Central District Office

c: File Copy

ec: Paul Vandermeer

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

SECTION A: NATIONAL DATA SYSTEM CODING

Permit #	NPDES #	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
4GS00015	OHGS00091	RI	S	1
Inspection Date	Entry Time	Exit Time	Notice of Violation	Significant Non-Compliance
3/7/2012	11:00 AM	11:45 AM	Yes	No

SECTION B: FACILITY DATA

Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Permit Effective Date
Hopewell Elementary School 11100 W. Pike Hopewell, OH 43746	1/1/2010
	Permit Expiration Date
	12/31/2014
Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representatives	Phone Numbers
Michael Wisecarver, Operator (Wisecarver Environmental, Inc.)	(740) 787-2449
Name and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number
School Board, West Muskingum Local School District	(740) 453-1716

SECTION C: AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION

Key: S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated

M	NPDES Compliance	No violations of effluent limits. No operator logbook
U	Operations & Maintenance	See cover letter
S	Facility Site Review	
N	Collection System	
S	Flow Measurement	Dosing pump measurements are preferred over water usage records for recording effluent flow as they are much more accurate.
S	Receiving Waters	Receiving ditch looked OK. No discharge at the time.
S	Laboratory	MASI performs all analyses. Effluent samples are obtained from the end of the chlorine contact tank.

Comments:

Signatures

	3/14/12		3/14/12
Paul L. Vandermeer, Inspector Compliance & Enforcement Division of Surface Water Central District Office	Date	Mike Gallaway, Reviewer Section Manager Division of Surface Water Central District Office	Date

Compliance Data for Hopewell Elementary School between 3/1/2011 to 3/1/2012

Summary

Permit Effluent Limit Violations: 0
Permit Effluent Code Violations: 0
Permit Effluent Frequency Violations: 0
Compliance Schedule Violations: 0