



**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

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

March 5, 2012

James Welsh, Superintendent  
Ashville WWTP  
200 East Station Street  
Ashville, OH 43103

**Re: Ashville WWTP  
NPDES Permit 4PC00005/ OH0020877  
Compliance Evaluation Inspection  
Pickaway County  
Notice of Violation**

Dear Mr. Welsh:

On February 17, 2012, a Compliance Evaluation Inspection was conducted at the Ashville WWTP. Present for the inspection were Tom Bouts, Operator, Ashville WWTP Jeffrey Kerr, URS Corporation, and John, Owen, Sheree Gossett-Johnson, 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. These major findings were noted during the inspection:

- The WWTP has been in significant non-compliance for an extended period of time. As per the 2/17/2012 meeting with WWTP personnel and Village elected officials, a facility planning document outlining needed improvements to the collection system and WWTP along with a schedule of implementation of these improvements shall be submitted to this office by May 30, 2012. After review of your facility plan and implementation schedule, Director's Findings and Orders will be pursued by this office without a financial penalty. Should the facility plan not be forthcoming by May 30, 2012, Ohio EPA will be forced to take escalated enforcement action including monetary penalty for significant non-compliance with the NPDES permit.
- The Village is currently out of compliance with the existing NPDES permit compliance schedule regarding elimination of 2 SSOs (Sanitary Sewer Overflows). One of the SSOs in question has been plugged with concrete and eliminated, although this was not completed within the timeframe of the NPDES permit compliance schedule. The second SSO is in an area of the collection system with limited access. This SSO was to have been eliminated by July 1, 2010. The Village is currently over 1.5 years overdue for elimination of this SSO. The Village must submit an approvable Permit to Install for the installation of access points to the sewer within 60 days of the receipt of this letter with the goal of eliminating the remaining SSO by September 1, 2012. If this SSO has not been eliminated by the above deadline, Ohio EPA will be forced to take escalated enforcement action including monetary penalties for failure to follow the NPDES permit compliance schedule.

- Hydraulic overloading of the WWTP is a common occurrence during rain events, primarily due to inflow. Flows during rain events commonly exceed 3 times the design flow of the plant (see attachment). Minor efforts have been ongoing to find and eliminate cross connections with storm sewers using funds generated from the stormwater utility set up by the Village. The facility plan shall outline a major effort to eliminate inflow and infiltration to the sanitary sewer system.
- Facilities planning efforts must address the lack of sludge storage and management within the current WWTP. This should include providing controls for sludge return between the clarifier and oxidation ditch.
- The WWTP operator shall forward a copy of the operations maintenance manual to this office by March 16, 2012.
- The Village must take composite samples that are flow proportionate. Currently, the Village grabs samples at two-hour intervals, but these samples are not flow proportionate. The Village shall confirm with this office that composite samples are indeed flow proportioned by March 9, 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](mailto:paul.vandermeer@epa.ohio.gov).

Sincerely,



Paul L. Vandermeer  
Environmental Specialist  
Field Operations Unit  
Division of Surface Water  
Central District Office

ec: Paul Vandermeer

Tom Bouts, Operator, Asheville WWTP