



**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

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

Re: **Notice of Violation**  
Van Wert County  
Van Wert City Elementary School  
Construction  
Storm Water

July 3, 2012

Mr. Ken Amstutz  
Van Wert City Schools Board of Education  
205 West Crawford Street  
Van Wert, Ohio 45891

Mr. Josh Huffman  
Charles Construction Services, Inc.  
811 East Bigelow Avenue  
Findlay, Ohio 45840

Mr. Kevin A. Straub  
Richard L. Bowen & Associates, Inc.  
211 Lost Creek Boulevard, Suite B  
Lima, Ohio 45804

Dear Messrs. Amstutz, Huffman, and Straub:

On June 18, 2012, Bernard Weik, Tyler Leggett, and I inspected the site of Van Wert City Elementary School at 10992 State Route 118, Van Wert (photos taken). The purpose of our inspection was to evaluate compliance of the site with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for storm water discharges associated with construction activity, Facility ID No. 2GC02900\*AG. The inspection was conducted under the provisions of Ohio's water pollution control statutes, Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Chapter 6111. Mr. Larry Geren, Project Superintendent, Richard L. Bowen & Associates, Inc., was present to provide some information on the project.

As a result of the inspection, I have the following comments:

1. At the time of the inspection, exterior construction was complete. Catch basins had been installed, but a final course of asphalt was not yet in place.
2. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) indicated that the catch basins flow to a detention pond in the southwest corner of the site. The detention pond overflows into the high school's existing detention pond, which is then pumped and travels by gravity flow offsite.
3. The project superintendent from Charles Construction Services, Inc. handles the inspection logs, but was not onsite at the time to provide access to the logs.

*Permit Requires:* Inspections must be conducted weekly and within 24 hours of a 0.5" rainfall. Inspections must include: disturbed areas, material storage areas, all sediment and erosion control measures, discharge locations, and all vehicle access points. Records must include: inspector name and qualifications, inspection date, observations, a certification that the facility is in compliance with the SWP3 and the permit, and identify any incidents of non-compliance. The record and certification must be signed in accordance with Part V.G. of the permit.

4. Silt fence had been installed along the perimeter of the site, but had fallen in many places. Also, the joints of the fence were overlapping. The stakes at the joints should be wrapped around one another and entrenched.

*Permit Requires:* All control practices shall be maintained and repaired as needed to assure continued performance of their intended function. *This is a violation of Part III.G.2.h. of the permit.* The fencing must be repaired or replaced.

5. Storm drain inlet protection had been installed.
6. A stone construction entrance was in place and there was little to no tracking into the street.
7. A large majority of the site had been seeded and mulched, including the pond banks. An area at the northwest corner of the building had not been stabilized and the weathered soil indicated the time frame for stabilization may have been exceeded. There were also soil stockpiles east of the construction trailers that had not been stabilized. Mr. Geren indicated that the soil stockpiles were to be removed and taken offsite within a few days.

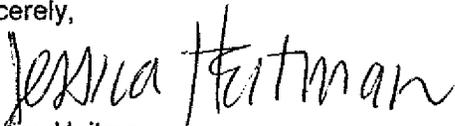
*Permit Requires:* Portions of the site that will be inactive for more than 21 days must have temporary stabilization initiated within the first seven. Temporary stabilization is required prior to the onset of winter for ground that will be idle over winter. Permanent stabilization is required within seven days on any portion of the site that has reached final grade or will be idle for longer than one year. Soil stabilization practices shall be initiated within two days on inactive, barren areas within 50 feet of a stream. Permanent seeding and mulching is required before construction activity is completed throughout the entire site. If seasonal conditions prohibit the establishment of vegetative cover, other means, such as mulching and matting, must still be used and maintained until more permanent methods can be implemented. *Failure to do so is a violation of Part III.G.2.b.i. of the permit.*

8. I observed torn inlet protection in the east parking lot, and sediment build-up on the inlet protection at the southwest corner of the school.
9. The north inlet to the detention pond had a stone apron, but there was evidence of erosion around the edges of the apron. I recommend making the channel U-shaped, using a geotextile and more stone if needed.

Within 10 days of the date on this letter, please submit to this office **written notification** as to the reasons for the above mentioned comments as well as the actions taken or proposed to prevent any future violations. Your response should include the dates, either actual or proposed, for the completion of the actions.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (419) 373-3025.

Sincerely,



Jessica Heitman  
Division of Surface Water  
Storm Water Program

/jlm

cc: Larry Geren, Richard L. Bowen & Associates, Inc., Project Superintendent  
Tracking