



**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

John R. Kasich, Governor

Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor

Scott J. Nally, Director

July 26, 2012

RE: CUYAHOGA COUNTY  
WESTLAKE  
INDUSTRIAL STORM WATER  
AMERICAN METALS CORP  
PERMIT NO: 3GR00726

Mr. Mike Radca  
Environmental Supervisor  
American Metals Corp  
1000 Crocker Road  
Westlake, OH 44145

Dear Mr. Radca:

On July 18, 2012, this writer conducted an inspection of your facility, located at 1000 Crocker Road, Westlake, Ohio to determine compliance with the Ohio EPA General Storm Water National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Industrial Activity. As a representative of American Metals Corporation, you were present during the inspection as well. Along with my observations from the inspection, I have provided comments concerning your permit below:

General

1. This site is the location of American Metals Corporation, a facility that manufactures metal ceiling grids for the commercial and residential building industry as described by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code 3446: Fabricated Metal Products, Except Machinery and Transportation Equipment, and Coating, Engraving, and Allied Services.
2. Storm drains on the property flow west into a ditch flowing along the south and west side of the grass area of the property. This ditch flows into a railroad ditch, north of the property, and eventually into Porter Creek to the west.
3. Along the north side of the USG Interiors building, storm water drains as sheet flow into the railroad ditch to the north.

Inspection Observations

1. Multiple metal recycling hoppers are located in the material storage area on the west end of the American Metals building. The hoppers are left uncovered and there are no signs of rust or oils in or around the hoppers. The hoppers are also inspected every week as part of routine facility inspections. The facility indicates that the metal is first cleaned, painted, and then dried in the American Metals building before the material is transferred to the USG Interiors building or to a recycling hopper. The Ohio EPA suggests that these hoppers be covered in case any pollutants are placed in a hopper by mistake, but we understand that the area is contained.
2. The pavement around the metal recycling hoppers slopes towards the center of that area, creating a pool of water whenever it rains. After a rainfall event, the water must be inspected for signs of any pollutants (smell, oil sheen, etc.). If the water is contaminated, it must be pumped out and properly disposed of offsite.
3. The waste compactor, next to the USG Interiors building, is connected to the inside of the building, not exposing the waste to storm water. Regularly inspect the compactor for any hydraulic oil leaks that may occur.

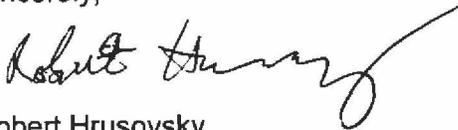
Permit

1. The Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) must be updated to meet the new requirements of the new General NPDES Permit #OH000005. The facility is required to conduct benchmark monitoring of each outfall due to your specific subsector AA1 in the NPDES permit as described by your SIC code. The facility's sector specific requirements can be found in Part 8 Subpart AA in the NPDES permit. The facility must also perform quarterly visual assessments of storm water discharges as required in Part 4.2 of the NPDES permit.

You are directed to provide me with a letter of response indicating the actions you will take to address the concerns and violations noted above. Please provide me with a letter of response no later than August 10, 2012.

If you should have any questions concerning this letter, feel free to contact me at (330) 963-1128 or by e-mail [robert.hrusovsky@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:robert.hrusovsky@epa.state.oh.us).

Sincerely,



Robert Hrusovsky  
Assistant to the District Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

RH/cs

cc: Robert Kelly, P.E., Director of Engineering, City of Westlake