



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

October 29, 2012

Steven Smith
Manager of Water Reclamation
Canal Winchester WWTP
36 South High Street
Canal Winchester, OH 43110

**Re: Canal Winchester WWTP
NPDES Permit 4PB00012/ OH0024333
Reconnaissance Inspection
Franklin County**

Dear Mr. Smith:

On October 4, 2012, a Reconnaissance Inspection was conducted at the Canal Winchester WWTP. Present for the inspection were you, the operator of record, and Caitlin Ruza and myself of the Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water.

The purpose of the inspection was to determine the cause of an upset to the Schreiber units as well as what was done to abate the situation.

Findings:

1. The sludge began rapidly setting in late July. This caused problems in returning the sludge back to the aeration portion of the treatment unit and also caused rapid settling within the aeration tank itself.
2. The facility sought assistance from the Schreiber Corporation, various engineering firms, as well as the Ohio EPA Compliance Assistance Unit.
3. In the first three weeks of September 2012, ammonia, TSS, and fecal coliform limits were significantly exceeded. You determined that the sludge was not being recirculated properly.
4. September 2012 was the first month with reported effluent violations since April 2010.

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5. Water was sprayed via a scourge pipe to the outermost part of the clarifier scraper to improve the gathering of the settled sludge to the sludge withdrawal pipe. This week you have discontinued using the scourge pipe but treatment appears to be adequate.
6. The blowers for the aeration tank are also on more consistently to prevent settling within the aeration tank. This appears to have addressed inadequate treatment although the sludge continues to settle rapidly.

Conclusion:

- Determining the cause of the rapidly settling sludge is a laudable goal. However, Canal Winchester is defined as a Major NPDES facility which places it in higher scrutiny than smaller facilities. If there is another significant violation within the next 5 months due to the rapidly settling sludge, we will need to discuss your idea of re-seeding the plant in more depth. At this time, however, it appears that you have discovered a solution to produce adequate treatment.

I appreciate your proactiveness in addressing the situation and for providing me with updates and notification of the issue. If you have any questions or comments concerning this report, please contact me at (614) 644-3846 or e-mail at cole.miller@epa.state.oh.us.

Sincerely,



Cole Miller
Environmental Specialist II
Compliance and Enforcement Unit
Division of Surface Water
Central District Office

ec: Cole Miller

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

SECTION A: NATIONAL DATA SYSTEM CODING

Permit #	NPDES #	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
4PB00012	OH0024333	RI	S	1
Inspection Date	Entry Time	Exit Time	Notice of Violation	Significant Non-Compliance
10/4/2012	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	No	No

SECTION B: FACILITY DATA

Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Permit Effective Date
Canal Winchester WWTP	10/1/2008
	Permit Expiration Date
	6/30/2013
Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representatives	Phone Numbers
Steven Smith	
Name and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number
Steven Smith, Manager of Water Reclamation	(614) 837-2254

SECTION C: AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION

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

S*	NPDES Compliance	Facility has largely been compliant.
S	Operations & Maintenance	
S	Facility Site Review	
N	Collection System	
N	Flow Measurement	
S	Receiving Waters	
N	Laboratory	

Comments:

Signatures

 10/25/12	 10/25/12
Cole Miller, Inspector Compliance & Enforcement Division of Surface Water Central District Office	Erin Sherer, Reviewer Compliance & Enforcement Supervisor Division of Surface Water Central District Office