



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

December 12, 2012

Michael Griffith
City of Columbus
Department of Sewerage and Drainage
1250 Fairwood Ave
Columbus, Ohio 43206

**RE: Construction Storm Water Inspection at 5th Avenue Dam Removal Project
Permit Number: 4GC03818*AG**

Dear Mr. Griffith

This letter is written regarding a storm water inspection I conducted at the 5th Avenue Dam Removal Project located in Columbus, Ohio on November 29, 2012. The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate compliance with the General Storm Water Permit associated with Construction Activities. During the inspection, I noted the following issues associated with construction activities at this site:

Sediment and Erosion Control:

During the inspection, I noted the 5th Avenue dam was completely removed and restoration activities are currently ongoing. The site appears to be completely void of any functional sediment or erosion control. I understand this site is subject to complex restoration activities directly adjacent to the Olentangy River; however failure to implement any sediment and erosion control will result in direct violations of the General Storm Water Permit. At this time, I am requesting an onsite meeting with the appropriate personnel to address the following sediment and erosion controls to ensure compliance concurrent with all restoration activities:

1. Installation of perimeter controls along the contour.
2. Installation of berms and/or basins to minimize sediment loss concurrent with restoration activities adjacent to the Olentangy River
3. Appropriate dewatering activities to ensure there are no turbid discharges to the Olentangy River.
4. Implementation of appropriate temporary and permanent stabilization is required by the permit. The general permit mandates erosion control for all barren areas resulting from construction activities. All barren and idle areas in excess of 21 days must be protected from erosion with a temporary cover. Given the time of year, a crimped mulch cover or equivalent is expected.

5. The permittee must stabilize with temporary and/or permanent measures, all drainways associated with culvert discharges entering the Olentangy River.
6. Construction sequencing should be considered to minimize sediment laden discharges to the Olentangy River as a result of a precipitation event.

Alternative Post Construction Requirement:

- Please be aware we have been approached by Ohio State University regarding restoration activities at this site and how they may pose as an alternative to the required post construction mandate of the General Permit for future development on campus. Ohio EPA will evaluate all post construction alternatives, provided the restoration serves as an equivalent and meets with your approval, given the city of Columbus is the permittee. Please be aware there are several factors which must be evaluated in the event this alternative is pursued. The location of storm water outfalls in association with the type of restoration is a key component in this review, in addition to other site specific design. I have copied OSU on this correspondence to provide notification that we must meet and approve the design should they pursue this option.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the inspection, please do not hesitate to contact me at our Central District Office at 614-728-3844 or email at harry.kallipolitis@epa.state.oh.us. Please contact me within seven days from receipt of this letter to schedule a follow up inspection.

Sincerely,



Harry Kallipolitis
Storm Water Coordinator
Ohio EPA
Division of Surface Water

c: Jeff Bohne, Water Quality Supervisor, DSW / CDO
Mike Gallaway, DSW/CDO
Mike Sapp, DSW/CDO
Russ Gibson DSW/CO
Bill Fischbein, OEPA/Legal
William Shkurti, Senior Vice President for Business and Finance The Ohio State University