



years and moving forward

Governor  
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Director

January 23, 2013

Phil Pearce, Branch Manager  
Central Ohio Farmers Co-op - Mount Vernon Bulk Plant  
502 West Gambier St.  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

**Re: Central Ohio Farmers Co-op - Mount Vernon Bulk Plant  
NPDES Permit 4IN00170/ OH0121461  
Reconnaissance Inspection  
Knox County**

Dear Mr. Pearce:

On November 20, 2012, a Reconnaissance Inspection was conducted at the Central Ohio Farmers Co-op - Mount Vernon Bulk Plant. Present for the inspection were you and Steve Hollis representing Central Ohio Farmers Co-op 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 since the previous inspection was conducted in October 2011. The inspection raised a number of concerns which must be addressed in the following areas:

- **Outfall Signage** - A sign is required that identifies the location of the permitted outfall to the unnamed tributary to the Kokosing River. Please have this sign posted within the next 30 days and submit a photograph of the sign to this office following installation.
- **Pond Repair** - The previous inspection noted a problem with the embankment in the northeast corner of the pond where the bank had slipped or sunk relative to the embankment around the rest of the pond. During this inspection, it appeared that sand was placed under the liner and along the bank to raise the corner of the pond. I would recommend that clay or some other suitably compactable material be used to permanently correct the slippage in the northeast corner of the pond.

If you have any questions or comments concerning the enclosed inspection report, please contact me at (614) 644-3848 or e-mail at [mike.sapp@epa.state.oh.us](mailto:mike.sapp@epa.state.oh.us).

Sincerely,

Michael Sapp  
Compliance and Enforcement Unit  
Division of Surface Water  
Central District Office

cc: Michael Sapp

MS/nsm Farmers Co-op Mt Vernon 12

**NPDES Compliance Inspection Report**

**SECTION A: NATIONAL DATA SYSTEM CODING**

Permit #	NPDES #	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
4IN00170	OH0121461	FI	S	
Inspection Date	Entry Time	Exit Time	Notice of Violation	Significant Non-Compliance
11/20/2012	9:50 AM	10:20 AM	No	No

**SECTION B: FACILITY DATA**

Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Permit Effective Date
Central Ohio Farmers Co-op - Mount Vernon Bulk Plant 309 Tilden Ave. Mount Vernon, OH 43050	7/1/2012
	Permit Expiration Date
	6/30/2017
Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representatives	Phone Numbers
Phil Pearce, Branch Manager Steve Hollis, Facility Manager	(740) 392-4966
Name and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number
Phil Pearce, Branch Manager	(740) 392-4966

**SECTION C: AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION**

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

S	NPDES Compliance	
S	Operations & Maintenance	Please provide for permanent repair of slippage in northeast corner of containment pond.
S	Facility Site Review	
S	Collection System	
S	Flow Measurement	
S	Receiving Waters	
N	Laboratory	

Comments:

**Signatures**

 12/18/12	
Michael Sapp, Inspector Compliance & Enforcement Division of Surface Water Central District Office	Date Erin Sherer, Reviewer Compliance & Enforcement Supervisor Division of Surface Water Central District Office

**Compliance Data for Central Ohio Farmers Co-op - Mount Vernon Bulk Plant \* between 10/1/2011  
to 11/1/2012**

**Summary**

Permit Effluent Limit Violations: 0

Permit Effluent Code Violations: 0

Permit Effluent Frequency Violations: \* 0

Compliance Schedule Violations: 0

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**  
**Central Ohio Farmers Co-op, Inc.**  
**Mount Vernon Bulk Petroleum Plant**  
**4IN00170\*CD – OH0121461**

The Central Ohio Farmers Co-op – Mount Vernon Bulk Plant, located 309 Tilden Street in Mount Vernon, is a bulk distributor of heating oil, gasoline, on and off road diesel fuel. This facility receives bulk product which is stored in one of five above ground storage tanks (4-16,000 gallon tanks and 1-30,000 gallon tank). The facility receives bulk material from tanker trucks (1-2 tankers/day) and distributes smaller quantities for distribution in tank wagons (3-4/day). Product is delivered within a 20 mile radius from the City of Mount Vernon.

The facility is equipped with a central loading and unloading rack/pad for the receiving and distribution of fuels. Receiving is processed at ground level on a concrete pad equipped with a drain to an oil-water separator. Loading for distribution occurs overhead at the top of the transport vehicles. The drains in the loading pad flow by gravity to the oil/water separator.

Storm water collected in the secondary containment area is transferred to the oil/water separator by manually lowering a drain valve. The separator is equipped with a rope skimmer and oil storage tank for the captured oil. Flow from the oil/water separator is pumped to a small containment pond of the east side of the property. The pond is lined with a geosynthetic liner and is equipped with a capped inverted siphon at the outfall.

At the time of the inspection, the following general observations were made regarding the operational practices at the facility:

1. Visual inspections and oil depth measurements in the oil/water separator are performed on a monthly basis. It has not been necessary to remove oil from the separator since Farmers Co-op took over operations of the facility from BP.
2. The base of the secondary containment area was modified in July 2012 when a concrete base was poured.
3. No NPDES permit violations have occurred at this facility since the last inspection was conducted in October 2011.
4. Samples are collected from a hydrostatic siphon on the east side of the pond. The siphon is comprised of a ductile iron pipe with a capped end. During the previous inspection, a crack was observed in the ductile iron pipe which allowed water to constantly seep out of the pipe. This pipe was repaired shortly after the inspection was performed last year.

5. The previous inspection noted a problem with the embankment in the northeast corner of the pond where the bank had slipped or sunk relative to the embankment around the rest of the pond. During this inspection, it appeared that sand was placed under the liner and along the bank to raise the corner of the pond. I would recommend that clay or some other suitably compactable material be used to permanently correct the slippage in the northeast corner of the pond.
6. Effluent samples are analyzed by Alloway Labs. Alloway also estimates the discharge flow at the time of sample collection. Flow is estimated using a quart jar and a stopwatch. Effluent flows range from 487-5400 gpd. The average flow is approximately 1800 gpd.
7. No tank draw waters or hydrostatic test waters are discharged from this facility.
8. Part II. H. of your effective NPDES permit requires a sign that identifies the location of the permitted outfall to the Kokosing River. The installation of outfall signage was required on or before November 1, 2012 (see page 5 of your effective permit). Please have this sign posted within the next 30 days. The sign must comply with the following requirements:
  - The marker shall consist, at a minimum, of the name of the establishment to which the permit was issued, the Ohio EPA permit number, and the outfall number and a contact telephone number. The information shall be printed in letters not less than two inches in height.
  - The marker shall be a minimum of 2 feet by 2 feet and shall be a minimum of 3 feet above ground level. The sign shall not be obstructed such that persons in boats or persons swimming on the river or someone fishing or walking along the shore cannot read the sign. Vegetation shall be periodically removed to keep the sign visible.